Gmail **Ryan michaels <rtgmich@gmail.com>**

Subject: Follow-Up on Public Comment & Evidence Submission – September 16, 2025

3 messages

Ryan michaels <rtgmich@gmail.com> Fri, Sep 19, 2025 at 8:00 AM
Reply-To: rtgmich@gmail.com
To: jbrooks@berwickmaine.gov, lchase@berwickmaine.gov, lcorliss@berwickmaine.gov, mlaterreur@berwickmaine.gov, cmorgan@berwickmaine.gov, vandrick@berwickmaine.gov, townclerk@berwickmaine.gov, Arthur Capello - Berwick Town Manager <townmanager@berwickmaine.gov>

Dear Members of the Berwick Town Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak during public comment at the September 16th Council meeting and for formally acknowledging receipt of the materials I submitted.

As noted in my remarks, my packet included:

- A printed **Exhibit Summary** (A–K)
- A **flash drive containing Exhibits A–K in full**
- **Video evidence from September 12, 2025** documenting Administrative Assistant Denise Dunn throwing my written complaint on the ground

In that statement, I respectfully requested the Council's attention to four areas:

1. Confirming that my harassment complaint is officially filed and under review.
2. Providing written answers to the questions outlined in **Exhibit H**.
3. Investigating the FOAA violations, selective enforcement, and retaliation documented in Exhibits A–J.
4. Reviewing the salary records in **Exhibit K** to evaluate whether taxpayer funds are being misused.

I believe each of these requests is important to ensuring transparency, accountability, and public trust. I would greatly appreciate hearing from the Council regarding **what steps may be taken and how I can expect to stay informed of progress.**

Thank you again for your time and for entering my submission into the official record. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Ryan Michaels
Berwick, ME
rtgmich@gmail.com
297 216 7955

Ryan michaels <rtgmich@gmail.com> Wed, Oct 1, 2025 at 1:32 PM
Reply-To: rtgmich@gmail.com
To: jbrooks@berwickmaine.gov, lchase@berwickmaine.gov, lcorliss@berwickmaine.gov, mlaterreur@berwickmaine.gov, cmorgan@berwickmaine.gov, vandrick@berwickmaine.gov, townclerk@berwickmaine.gov, Arthur Capello - Berwick Town Manager <townmanager@berwickmaine.gov>, opega@legislature.maine.gov, "Schleck, Peter" <Peter.Schleck@legislature.maine.gov>, Bonnie.bishop@hearst.com, robinson@themainewire.com, "Kielty, Brenda" <Brenda.Kielty@maine.gov>, Christine Alberi <ombudsman@cwombudsman.org>

Subject: **Urgent Follow-Up: FOAA Compliance & Accountability (Video Evidence Attached)**

Dear Members of the Berwick Town Council,

On **September 19, 2025**, I sent the Council a follow-up to my public comment at the September 16th meeting, along with exhibits documenting serious issues at the Berwick Police Department. That email went unanswered.

Today, I am respectfully renewing my request for a response.

To underscore the seriousness of these concerns, I am sharing this video of my FOAA submission I made today at the **Sanford Police Department**:
👉 https://youtu.be/ZLf9VqPhAK4

As you will see, the process was smooth, professional, and fully compliant with Maine's Freedom of Access Act. I received a signed and stamped receipt without any obstruction. This stands in stark contrast to Berwick, where I have been denied FOAA requests, told I am "not entitled" to submit them, and even had a written complaint thrown on the ground by an administrative assistant on September 12th.

The difference between departments just miles apart is striking — and troubling.

With the next Council meeting approaching, I respectfully ask:

1. For confirmation that my harassment complaint is filed and under review.
2. For written responses to the questions outlined in Exhibit H.
3. For an update on whether the FOAA violations and retaliation I documented are being investigated.
4. For confirmation that the Council has reviewed the salary records submitted in Exhibit K.

Transparency, accountability, and equal treatment under the law are not optional. They are essential to public trust. I ask for acknowledgment of this message and clarification of next steps before the Council convenes again.

Respectfully,
Ryan Michaels
Berwick, ME
207-216-7955
rtgmich@gmail.com

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Mike Laterreur <mlaterreur@berwickmaine.gov> Wed, Oct 1, 2025 at 2:52 PM
To: "rtgmich@gmail.com" <rtgmich@gmail.com>, Jeff Brooks <jbrooks@berwickmaine.gov>, Lisa Chase <lchase@berwickmaine.gov>, Linda Corliss <lcorliss@berwickmaine.gov>, Cyrus Morgan <cmorgan@berwickmaine.gov>, Val Andrick <vandrick@berwickmaine.gov>, Town Clerk <townclerk@berwickmaine.gov>, Arthur Capello - Berwick Town Manager <townmanager@berwickmaine.gov>, "opega@legislature.maine.gov" <opega@legislature.maine.gov>, "Schleck, Peter" <Peter.Schleck@legislature.maine.gov>, "Bonnie.bishop@hearst.com" <Bonnie.bishop@hearst.com>, "robinson@themainewire.com" <robinson@themainewire.com>, "Kielty, Brenda" <Brenda.Kielty@maine.gov>, Christine Alberi <ombudsman@cwombudsman.org>

Good Afternoon Mr. Michaels,

I had interpreted your initial email thanking the Select Board for allowing you to speak at our September 16th 2025 meeting and acknowledging receipt of documents as the action of you speaking and physically handing the packet to me, which I accepted, at the end of you expressing concerns during our public comment. Therefore, I did not realize you were looking for an additional acknowledgment.

To answer your question regarding process, here are the next steps.

The September 16th, 2025 meeting was the last Select Board meeting in the month. As with any requests from any resident, information that you have provided during a Public Comment, will be put on an agenda and discussed in an upcoming Select Board meeting in October.

The Select Board will review and follow up with you about your concerns, complaints, and any next steps needed after they meet.
If there is any additional information the members may like to decide on a specific concern, the Select Board may ask in the follow up.

As an informational piece: Since you and I have had a previous professional working relationship, I have recused myself from any conversation around voting or decisions that may be made in the following up with your concerns to ensure there is no bias for any individuals involved.

If you have any questions, need clarification, or have any additional information you would like to add, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Select Board.

Thank you,

Michael Laterreur
Select Board Chair
Town of Berwick
Mlaterreur@berwickmaine.gov

From: Ryan michaels <rtgmich@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 1:33:33 PM
To: Jeff Brooks <jbrooks@berwickmaine.gov>; Lisa Chase <lchase@berwickmaine.gov>; Linda Corliss <lcorliss@berwickmaine.gov>; Mike Laterreur <mlaterreur@berwickmaine.gov>; Cyrus Morgan <cmorgan@berwickmaine.gov>; Val Andrick <vandrick@berwickmaine.gov>; Town Clerk <townclerk@berwickmaine.gov>; Arthur Capello - Berwick Town Manager <townmanager@berwickmaine.gov>; opega@legislature.maine.gov <opega@legislature.maine.gov>; Schleck, Peter <Peter.Schleck@legislature.maine.gov>; Bonnie.bishop@hearst.com <Bonnie.bishop@hearst.com>; robinson@themainewire.com <robinson@themainewire.com>; Kielty, Brenda <Brenda.Kielty@maine.gov>; Christine Alberi <ombudsman@cwombudsman.org>
Subject: Re: Subject: Follow-Up on Public Comment & Evidence Submission – September 16, 2025
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