

TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP
AGENDA
July 9, 2025
6:00 PM

The Zoom Link to the meeting is provided below for those wishing to attend virtually:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7495106748>

1a. Call to Order

Council Chair; John Trask _____, Vice Chair: Stephen Clay _____.

Councilors; Marscella Ireland _____, Jared McCarthy _____, Daniel Summers _____, Gordon Street _____, and Sheldon Hanington _____.

1b. Pledge of Allegiance

- 2. Open Forum:** The Council will allow Lincoln residents and/or Lincoln taxpayers to comment prior to Council action on agenda items. Open Forum questions should be forwarded to the Town Office by mail, or emailed to Town Clerk Ann Morrison at Questions@lincolnmaine.org. Please have your questions/comments in by 5:00pm the day of the meeting. If you have any questions, please call 794-3372. General requests may be made in Open Forum during the regular meeting but will not be acted upon in the same meeting.

Individuals wishing to be heard by the Council will be recognized by the Council Chair. After identifying themselves, the speaker may make brief comments and may not repeat previous statements made. The speaker must limit themselves to the item under discussion. The speaker must observe rules of common etiquette. The Council Chair may set a time limit on the length of public comment and/or a time limit for individual speakers.

The Council Chair reserves the right to stop any public comment that is contrary to these rules and any Councilor may call Point of Order during the discussion. Any person who disrupts a Council meeting may be required to leave in order to maintain orderly consideration of the matters for which the meeting was called.

- 3. Discussion: Food Sovereignty**
- 4. Discussion: Pilots Building at the Airport**
- 5. Any other items a Councilor would like to discuss**
- 6. Adjourn**

SUGGESTED MOTION: Move to adjourn the meeting at _____pm.

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ VOTE: _____

Upcoming Meetings and other Noteworthy Items:

July 4 th	Happy Independence Day! No Farmer's Market.
July 9 th	Finance Committee-Payroll-4:30pm
July 10 th	Finance Committee- Warrant- 4:30pm
July 11 th	Farmer's Market-Veteran's Square- 10am to 2pm
July 16 th	Finance Committee-Payroll-4:30pm
July 17-20	Loon Festival events- see website and Facebook for details
July 22 nd	Planning Board- 6:00pm
July 23 rd	Finance Committee-Payroll-4:30pm
July 24 th	Finance Committee- Warrant- 4:30PM
July 25 th	Farmer's Market-Veteran's Square- 10am to 2pm
July 25 th	Nominations Papers Become Available for November election
July 30 th	Finance Committee-Payroll-4:30pm

*Meetings and other noteworthy items are subject to change without notice. *

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY ORDINANCE

Town of Alna, Maine

1. **Authority and Purpose:** This Ordinance is intended to provide Alna residents unimpeded access to local food and to reduce governmental regulation of local foods to the extent permitted by home rule authority under 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3001, the Constitution of Maine, Article VIII, Part Second, and pursuant to 7 M.R.S. § 281 et seq.
2. **Definitions:** As used in this ordinance, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the meanings stated below:
 - A. **Direct Producer-to-Consumer Transaction:** A face-to-face transaction involving food or food products at the site of production of those food or food products.
 - B. **Food or Food Products:** Any food or food product intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, milk or milk products, meat or meat products, poultry or poultry products, fish or fish products, seafood or seafood products, cider or juice, acidified foods or canned fruits or vegetables.
 - C. **State Food Law:** Any provision of Title 7 or Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes, or rules adopted under Title 7 or Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes, that regulates direct producer-to-consumer transactions.
3. **Exemption from Licensure and Inspection:** Producers and processors of local food intended for direct producer-to-consumer transactions in the Town of Alna shall be exempt from state licensure and inspection under state food laws. In accordance with Section 284 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the State of Maine shall not enforce state food laws with respect to direct producer-to-consumer transactions.
4. **Exception for Meat and Poultry Inspections:** In accordance with Section 285 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the exemption provided in Section 3 of this Ordinance does not apply to any meat or poultry product inspection and licensing requirements that are specified under applicable federal acts.
5. **Effective Date:** This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption at Town Meeting.

Food Sovereignty and Meat and Poultry Products Factsheet

Food sovereignty is generally defined as a food system in which the people who produce, distribute, and consume food also control the mechanisms and policies of food production and distribution. In 2017, the Maine State Legislature passed legislation that allows municipalities to adopt local food sovereignty ordinances that supersede certain state food laws and allow for some local food production without licensure by the State of Maine. Maine also ratified a constitutional amendment in 2021 that enshrined an individual's right to grow, raise, harvest, produce, and consume food of their own choice for sustenance and well-being.

However, meat and poultry products are specifically exempted from food sovereignty ordinances due to the inherent food safety hazards associated with the production of these products (7 M.R.S.A. § 281-286, 7 M.R.S.A. §285). **All meat and poultry production must be conducted under State licensure or registration and in accordance with the statutes (22 M.R.S.A. Chapter 562-A and Chapter 551).**

What if my municipal ordinance specifically exempts meat and poultry products?

State statutes supersede any municipal ordinances regarding meat and poultry production and licensure. There are **no exceptions** for production of meat and poultry entering commerce from State of Maine statutes.

What if I am producing meat and poultry products at home, for my own family (not for sale)?

State statutes do not and have never regulated the processing of meat and poultry products on your own property for your own personal use. However, you will want to ensure that your production of products at home for your own use does not violate any local ordinances or environmental statutes (dumping of offal near waterways, for example).

Does Food Sovereignty affect the animals I have slaughtered and processed under the custom exemption, retail and poultry exemptions?

No. These are exemptions from certain statutes of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) that allow production of specific products without continuous (daily) inspection by the State or USDA-FSIS. They are **not** exemptions from State of Maine statutes. They do not exempt custom exempt operators, poultry exempt operators, or persons selling poultry exempt products or live animal shares from all applicable state statutes for sanitation, humane handling and licensure or registration.

For any further questions about how Food Sovereignty affects meat and poultry products, please contact the Maine Meat and Poultry Inspection program at (207) 287-7512.

TOWN OF READFIELD FOOD SOVEREIGNTY ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Town of Readfield wishes to encourage the local production and sale of food and food products;

WHEREAS, regulation of the local production and sale of food and food products can be unduly burdensome to producers; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Legislature has provided municipalities with home rule authority to exempt direct producer-to-consumer transactions of food and food products from regulation;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Town of Readfield, that the Following Food Sovereignty Ordinance is hereby enacted:

1. Authority and Purpose: This Ordinance is intended to provide Readfield residents unimpeded access to local food and to reduce governmental regulation of local foods to the extent permitted by home rule authority under 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3001, the Constitution of Maine, Article VIII, Part Second, and pursuant to 7 M.R.S. § 281 et seq.
2. Definitions: As used in this ordinance, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the meanings stated below:
 - A. Direct Producer-to-Consumer Transaction: A face-to-face transaction involving food or food products at the site of production of those food or food products.
 - B. Food or Food Products: Any food or food product intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, milk or milk products, meat or meat products, poultry or poultry products, fish or fish products, cider or juice, acidified foods or canned fruits or vegetables.
 - C. State and Town Food Law: Any provision of Title 7 or Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes, or rules adopted under Title 7 or Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes, or provision of the Town of Readfield Land Use Ordinance that regulate direct producer-to-consumer transactions.
3. Exemption from Licensure and Inspection: Producers and processors of local food intended for direct producer-to-consumer transactions in the Town of Readfield shall be exempt from State and Town licensure and inspection under State and Town Food Laws. In accordance with Section 284 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the State of Maine and the Town of Readfield shall not enforce State and Town Food Laws with respect to direct producer-to-consumer transactions.

4. Exception for Meat and Poultry Inspections: In accordance with Section 285 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the exemption provided in Section 3 of this Ordinance does not apply to any meat or poultry product inspection and licensing requirements that are specified under applicable federal acts.

ENACTED: _____

CERTIFIED BY: _____
Signature

CERTIFIED BY: _____
Printed Name

Title

City of Bangor, ME
Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Chapter 125. Food Sovereignty

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Bangor 7-25-2022 by Ord. No. 22-255.
Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 125-1. Title and authority.

This chapter is titled "City of Bangor Food Sovereignty Ordinance" and is enacted pursuant to the home rule authority under 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3001; the Constitution of Maine, Article VIII, Part Second; and 7 M.R.S.A. § 281 et seq.

§ 125-2. Purpose statement.

[Amended 10-24-2022 by Ord. No. 22-350]

The purpose of this chapter is to:

- A. Preserve Bangor residents the ability to produce, process, sell, purchase and consume locally produced foods;
- B. Ensure the preservation of family farms and traditional foodways through small-scale farming and food productions;
- C. Improve the health and well-being of citizens of Bangor by reducing hunger and increasing food security through improved access to wholesome, nutritious foods by supporting family farms and encouraging sustainable farming and fishing; and
- D. Promote self-reliance and personal responsibility by ensuring the ability of individuals, families and other entities to prepare, process, advertise and sell foods directly to customers intended solely for consumption by the customers or their families.

§ 125-3. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

DIRECT PRODUCER-TO-CONSUMER TRANSACTION

A face-to-face transaction involving food or food products at the site of production of those food or food products.

FOOD or FOOD PRODUCTS

Food or food products intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, milk or milk products, meat or meat products, poultry or poultry products, fish or fish products, seafood or seafood products, cider or juice, acidified foods or canned fruits or vegetables.

SITE OF PRODUCTION

A premises controlled by the producer where food or food products are produced, that is, a farm, homestead, or home kitchen. The term does not include a farmers' market, community

social event, or other public venue that does not occur at the site of production.
[Amended 10-24-2022 by Ord. No. 22-350]

STATE AND CITY FOOD LAW

Any provision or rule of Title 7 or Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes, or any provision of the City of Bangor Code that regulates direct producer-to-consumer transactions.

§ 125-4. Food sovereignty license.

[Added 10-24-2022 by Ord. No. 22-350^[1]]

- A. No person shall conduct any direct producer-to-consumer transactions without first obtaining a food sovereignty license.
 - B. Fees. Fees for a food sovereignty license shall be set by Council Order in the City's Schedule of Fees.
 - C. Application process. An application for a Food Sovereignty license shall be completed and submitted on an application form prescribed by the City Clerk.
 - D. City Clerk action on application.
 - (1) Upon receipt of a complete application, the City Clerk or designee shall forward the application to such City departments as they may deem appropriate in order to determine whether a food sovereignty license may be granted.
 - (2) The City Clerk or designee shall consider the application within 90 days.
 - (3) If the City Clerk or designee finds that the applicant meets the requirements of the application, the City Clerk or designee shall cause to be issued a food sovereignty license.
 - E. Term. The food sovereignty license shall be valid for one year, unless suspended or revoked.
- [1] *Editor's Note: This ordinance also renumbered former § 125-4 as § 124-5.*

§ 125-5. License and inspection exemptions.

- A. Producers or processors of food or food products intended for direct producer-to-consumer transactions in the City of Bangor shall be exempt from state and City licensure under state and City food laws. In accordance with Section 284 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act,^[1] the State of Maine and the City of Bangor shall not enforce state and City food laws with respect to direct producer-to-consumer transactions unless otherwise provided for under this chapter.
[Amended 10-24-2022 by Ord. No. 22-350]
[1] *Editor's Note: See 7 M.R.S.A. § 284.*
- B. Pursuant to 7 M.R.S.A. § 285, the exemption provided in § 125-4A above does not apply to any transactions involving meat, meat products, poultry or poultry products, as those terms are defined in 22 M.R.S.A. § 2511. All such transactions remain subject to state inspection and licensing under applicable federal acts.

§ 125-6. Suspension or revocation of license.

[Added 10-24-2022 by Ord. No. 22-350^[1]]

After notice and opportunity for hearing, the City Clerk or designee may suspend or revoke a food sovereignty license for either violation of or failure to comply with any of the provisions of this article

or with the provisions of any other applicable code or ordinance.

[1] *Editor's Note: This ordinance also renumbered former § 125-5 as § 125-7.*

§ 125-7. Severability.

To the extent that any provision of this chapter is deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be removed from the chapter and the balance of the chapter shall remain valid.