

Street Light Policy

6-16-09

Bar Harbor Town Council

In order to standardize the way in which the Town Council authorizes the installation and removal of street lights, the Town Council hereby adopts the following “Street Light Policy”:

Installation

1. Installation of a street light must be authorized by the Town Council. A request for a light may be initiated by a request from the Town Manager or by a petition from the owners of at least four homes and/or businesses who will be served by the light.
2. A petitioned light must serve a minimum of four homes and/or businesses.
3. A petitioned light must be placed on an existing pole or, if a pole is not present, a pole installed at the expense of the petitioners.
 - A. Since it is illegal for the Town to expend money on a private way, the pole must be located on a public right-of-way.
4. All new lights shall be 4000 lumen high pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures, except that Council may authorize a brighter light in business districts.
5. A new light shall not be placed within 170 feet of an existing light, except in business districts, where they may be placed as close as required for safe foot passage.

Removal

1. A street light may be removed only upon authorization by the Town Council.
2. Removal of a street light must be requested in writing, either by a citizen or the Town Manager.
3. Public notice of the requested removal shall be given by the most cost-efficient means, either by first class letter to four property owners in the immediate vicinity of the light or by publication in the newspaper.
4. Prior to approval, Council shall hold a public hearing to accept comments on the requested removal.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

3-15-88 Adopted by Town Council
3-3-09 Council requested staff to draft revision for light removal
6-16-09 Council adopted revision.

It should be noted that, as of May 2009, the cost to the Town for the rental and operation of our standard 4000 lumen, 50 watt HPS street light for one year is about \$105.