



TOWN OF BALDWIN, MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN  
534 PEQUAWKET TRAIL, WEST BALDWIN, ME 04091



### Boston Post Cane Policy

The purpose of the Baldwin's Boston Post Cane is to recognize and honor the oldest living resident of the Town of Baldwin. The purpose of this policy is to codify and standardize the traditions that have applied over the years to selecting the town recipient. In keeping with the original intent from the Boston Post Newspaper, the town awards the Boston Post Cane to the oldest citizen eligible to vote in the town of Baldwin Maine. Originally, only the oldest man eligible to vote in the town could receive the post cane, but the Boston Post Newspaper changed that requirement in the 1930s to include women.

The following guidelines shall be to determine the next recipient, recipient's rights and responsibilities, and the turnover process for the Boston Post Cane:


- The holder must reside\* in Baldwin and be eligible to vote in town/state/federal elections.
- The holder must have resided in Baldwin for a minimum of the last 15 years.
- The holder may retain Baldwin's Boston Post Cane if they become a resident of a nursing home or live with their family in another town if the person lived a majority of their lifetime in Baldwin.
- Persons holding the cane or their caregiver must notify the Town Clerk and the Baldwin Historical Society of a change in address.
- Once the cane is presented to an individual, that individual can hold the cane until their death regardless of whether or not another resident becomes eligible.
- Upon the death of the holder, the holder's family shall return the cane to the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days and it shall be duly transmitted to a new holder pursuant to these guidelines.


\*The term "reside in Baldwin" refers to a person who has physically resided at a fixed, permanent, and principal home within the town borders of Baldwin, Maine. Maintaining an address, voting eligibility, and/or car registration are also indications of residency.

As of March 2016, the original cane will be retired and put in the custody of the Baldwin Historical Society (BHS) for safe keeping and display. A replica of the original cane will be presented to future recipients by the members of the Baldwin Board of Selectmen in an appropriate public ceremony agreed upon by the recipient. Until such time as the Board of Selectmen deem otherwise, when not in the custody of a recipient, the replica cane will also be in the custody of the BHS. The BHS shall maintain an ongoing historical record of past and current recipients and shall also assist the Board of Selectmen in determining the next recipient when the need arises.

Sincerely,  
Baldwin Selectmen

  
Robert Flint – Selectman

  
Jeffrey Sanborn – Selectmen

  
Dwight Warren - Selectmen