

**Town of Blue Hill**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Minutes**

**Called the meeting to order at 5:32pm**

1. **Quorum and meeting attendance-** E. Best (remote); J. Dow; S. Miller; B. Smythe; S. Dooley; N. Nadeau, Town Administrator; B. Farnham, CEO; J. Milliken; P. Kelly; M. Dennison (Blue Hill Fire Chief); B. Adams (Road Commissioner); K. O'Dell; J. Chapman; J. Drake; M. Snowden; and the press.
2. **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023-** B. Smythe moved to approve the minutes as distributed. J. Dow seconded. Approved 4-0.
3. **Public Comment-**

Kate O'Dell, co-captain of Flash, expressed her interest in the park guidelines. N. Nadeau explained that he is still in the process of drafting the guidelines and will be taking any public input before the final draft is completed, most likely at a future Select Board meeting.

The Board expressed recognition to Jeff Milliken for facilitating as the moderator at the town meeting and would invite him to moderate the next town meeting.

**Business:**

1. **Fire Company Payment Schedule** – First payment is not due to the builder until they have received the chassis. There is no set date to receive the chassis due to labor and material shortages. M. Dennison called the company responsible for building the new fire truck to lock in the price promptly after it was approved at Town Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The Select Board will sign the agreement with the Fire Company for their contribution to the new fire truck's cost at next week's meeting.
2. **Haley Ward Bid Package Review with Justine** – Justine Drake, a civil engineer and project manager for Haley Ward attended the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have had regarding the reconstruction of the Mountain Road. J. Drake explained that they have proposed sloped granite curbing to prevent damage caused by snowplows during the winter months. It is the more costly alternative, but given the current conditions of the Mountain Road, they feel the more stable option. J. Dow expressed that he would prefer the contractors review the project on site due to the condition of the road. J. Drake recommended that the Town make this an open bid, which would mean any contractor could bid on the project. That is the best option to receive as many bids as possible. J. Drake explained that the Town does not have to move forward with the lowest bidder; they [the Town] have the option to pick whichever bid they want regardless of price. Once the Town has picked a contractor, Haley Ward will move forward with checking all licensing, insurance documents, and bonding from the contractor of choice and make a recommendation to the Town. S. Miller asked for a revision of the language in the bid package that states "If Owner awards the contract for the Work, such award shall be to the responsible Bidder submitting the lowest responsive Bid" - to ensure the Town can be more certain that they are not obligated to pick the lowest bidder. J. Drake recommended the Board consult with the Town attorney to be sure there will be no added liability from a legal standpoint with the revision on that wording. Haley Ward can make adjustments to the project manual at the Board's request.

3. **Discussion regarding Post-Town Meeting follow-ups** – S. Miller asked N. Nadeau to reach out to the town attorney to get direction on the next steps regarding SolAmerica’s application due to the language voted on at the town meeting. E. Best suggested that the Town should give SolAmerica a formal notice of the status of their application. J. Dow recognized the town staff and how smoothly the town meeting went. All elected officials have 7 days to get sworn in and all newly (never served before) elected officials have 60 days to complete FOAA training. N. Nadeau will draft a letter to the United States Army Corp of Engineers officially declining the harbor dredging project. S. Miller would like to have clean copies of the Commercial Site Plan Review Ordinance and Subdivision Ordinance with the approved amendments to review at the next Select Board meeting.

J. Milliken moved to call the Town Meeting to order. S. Miller moved to adjourn the town meeting to Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 11am. J. Dow seconded. Approved.

4. **Village Wharf Crane discussion** – J. Dow feels as though the town should remove the crane from the wharf, given the Town vote not to pay for needed repairs and given the absence of any fishermen speaking in defense of the crane. B. Smythe disagreed and believes that it will get used. It is not being used as it was in the past because the hoist did not work; he provided photos from 2017 showing what it looked like when it was working. The use of a chain fall is another possibility. N. Nadeau thought we should proceed slowly to see if there is any response from the community that is most likely to utilize it. S. Miller is going to meet with the Marine Resources Committee and get their opinion on the situation and relay to the Board at the next meeting as to what steps they feel should be taken regarding the crane. S. Dooley felt that a timeline should be in place if the agreement is to disassemble the crane. B. Smythe identified that the fishing community should be involved – they use it and will in the future.
5. **Speed Limit Signs** – S. Miller talked about the issue that was brought up at the town meeting. B. Adams explained that he and N. Nadeau have speed sensor signs ready to be placed. Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) has a database that shows the correct speed limits for all roads. S. Miller would like the town to align the current speed limit signs to the actual speed limits. S. Miller volunteered to find the discrepancies within the town and report back to the Road Commissioner and Town Administrator at a later date to review the findings.

#### **Administrator Business**

1. **Public Works Foreman Job Description** – N. Nadeau distributed the draft job description for the Public Works Foreman to the Board for review. N. Nadeau and B. Adams have been working on sourcing equipment for purchase and to lease.
2. **Authorize N. Nadeau to place initial order for new fire truck** – S. Miller moved to authorize the Town Administrator to place the order for the new fire truck. S. Dooley seconded. Approved 5-0.

**J. Dow moved to go into Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A 405 § (6)(A) – Personnel Matter at 6:38pm. S. Dooley seconded. Approved 5-0**

**The Board exited executive session at 7:01pm**

**J. Dow moved to authorize the Town Administrator to offer a letter of employment, subject to the Town’s standard hiring practices, to M. Snowden for the position of Deputy Town Clerk. S. Dooley seconded. Approved 5-0**

**Other Business**

**Updates/Reminders**

- a. Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee – Wednesday April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm
- b. Select Board Meeting – Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm
- c. Climate Resilience Committee – Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm

**Warrant signatures-** Warrant signed.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:19pm**