

**Town of Blue Hill**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Minutes**

**Called the meeting to Order at 5:30pm**

- 1. Quorum and meeting attendance-** E. Best; B. Smythe; S. Miller; S. Dooley; J. Dow (via video conference); M. Rockwell, Treasurer and members of the public.
- 2. Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of July 17<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>** – S. Miller moved to approve the Minutes of July 17<sup>th</sup> as presented, B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to approve the Minutes of July 22<sup>nd</sup>, B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.

**3. Public Comment** – Allen Kratz spoke with the Select Board and other meeting attendees concerning resolutions urging funding from NOAA to mitigate the effects of extreme heat. He presented a handout with proposed verbiage to ask the State of Maine to include a proposed scope of work like the one presented to the Board. Judy East (Maine DACF) is taking the lead in this fight against climate change. Mr. Kratz states there is \$575 million for coastal communities to fight climate change and he would like to see the Town of Blue Hill and the surrounding communities support this endeavor. This is an all-encompassing wish list with no promises, that may make us more competitive.

J. Wooten, the Chair of the Marine Resource Committee addressed the Board stating that the finger floats would be put in for the Blue Hill Maritime Heritage Festival. They discussed using buoys/mooring balls with signage for the slow wake zone. The cost would most likely be under \$1,000 and he would like to put them out this year. S. Miller said if it was under \$1,000 to go ahead (there was no objection from the other Board members).

S. Miller discussed old electronic equipment in the town hall, stating that some have value, but most do not. He would like to post them for sale on the town's website by taking the best offer and whatever doesn't sell should be taken to the transfer station reuse room. S. Miller thought it would let the Town's people have an opportunity to purchase them. There was no objection to this action.

**Business**

- 1. Town Clerk Appointment** – E. Best discussed offering Kelly Herrick the position of Town Clerk. S. Miller moved to appoint Kelly as the Town Clerk, B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
- 2. Liquor License Hearings (5:45 pm)** –
  - a. Siam Sky LLC (renewal)** –There were no comments offered during the hearing. S. Miller moved to approve the application; B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.

- b. Blue Hill Bed and Breakfast LLC (renewal)** –There were no comments offered during the hearing. S. Miller moved to approve the application; B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
  - c. Blue Hill Café (renewal)** – There were no comments offered during the hearing. E. Best review the application with the Board. S. Miller moved to approve the application; B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
  - d. Special Amusement Permit – Barn Castle Hotel & Restaurant** –There were no comments offered during the hearing. S. Miller moved to approve the application; B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
- 3. Review of Public Works Financial Plan/Equipment Purchase**  
S. Miller expressed his concern with keeping the commitment to the Town concerning funding the Public Works Department out of savings from other areas, including external contractors for the same work.

S. Miller stated that the Board needed to work with Ben Adams and M. Rockwell to see where we are and understand what realistically the savings would be.

The new loader has a 5-year lease, which the Board can't sign without a town vote. It has been delivered to the town, but the lease has yet to be signed. The previous Town Administrator (N. Nadeau) signed a purchase order Thursday, the loader was delivered Thursday and on Friday they received the lease terms. The Board's choices currently are to hold a special town meeting for the town to vote; send it back and pay a restocking fee; or to pay cash for it. J. Dow said that he wants it to make sense financially and that he wanted to talk with B. Adams and M. Rockwell.

B. Adams explained that there were some unknowns, but that he and N. Nadeau had gone over the financials and found which expenses could be eliminated or reduced with a public works crew. The Board will review N. Nadeau's files and see if they can find this document. B. Adams also said that he would get in touch with the vendor and explain our situation to see if there is something that can be done on their end. He also mentioned that under the lease, the vendor would be responsible for any repairs, etc.

The Board would like to know what the cost would be to take the equipment back and how long they have to make a final decision.

- a. Other Business** – S. Miller discussed the Board's "To Do List" and wanted to know what actions may be necessary to take care of various items on the list. Some of the items were a request to use the AA Field through the My Rec website; quote on proposed heat pumps; MDI Porta Potty cost of extra unit; boiler replacement or repair for the town hall; probationary employee taking time off (they decided without a vote that it was okay without pay); East Blue Hill speed bumps or speed complaints; ditch on Jay Carter Road (B. Adams stated there is no driveway impacted, the resident is upset that they can't walk easily over the ditch now; but ditching needed to be done to prolong the life of the road); Devil's Half Acre public hearing – parking concerns and speed on Mill street. The Board discussed the need for enforcement.

4. **Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter** – B. Smythe moved to go into executive session; S. Miller seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.

The Board closed the executive session at 7:04 pm.

S. Miller moved to change payroll rates as determined in executive session; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.

#### **Other Business**

5. **Meeting Updates/Reminders** –
  - a. **Select Board Meeting – Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> @ 5:30pm**

**Warrants Signed** – The Board signed warrants.

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.