

Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, August 7th, 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; K. Herrick, Town Clerk; J. Chapman & M. Dennison, Fire Department; Carrie Jeffrey, Press from Weekly Packet; Josh Astbury, Mike Astbury & Matt Montgomery, YMCA.
2. **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of July 31st**- S. Miller moved to approve the Minutes for July 31st as presented, B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved. S. Miller moved to approve the Minutes for August 5th meeting, B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
3. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

Business

1. **Fall soccer program** – There was discussion about the possibility of the YMCA running the upcoming fall soccer program for the town. Representatives from the YMCA explained the YMCA would handle all aspects of the program, such as online, in person and phone registrations, promotion of the program, scheduling, management of the volunteers, ordering/paying for equipment, lining the field, and issuing scholarships. The YMCA will report to the town and share the number of kids participating, scholarships issued as well as provide feedback from parent surveys. S. Miller requested a copy of an agreement between the YMCA and another town. It is unclear if we will have a Recreation Director or the Summer Camp Volunteers for this fall. When asked about rates, they suggested Blue Hill residents would pay \$50.00. If kids are from the peninsula, YMCA members would pay the same as Blue Hill residents. Nonresidents would pay more. S. Miller questioned the member's rate. The YMCA prefers to have a member's rate to increase membership. When asked if a Basketball program would work the same way, the YMCA said it would be the same process except they do not know if the fees would remain the same because of equipment needs, jerseys, etc. S. Dooley asked that the administrative process be expedited, and E. Best asked the YMCA to prepare an agreement. Once received, the agreement will be added to the next meeting agenda for a vote. The YMCA said if they were then allowed to move forward, the registrations could start two days after that. S. Miller added he would like them to prepare agreements for all three seasons. Discussion only, no motion was made.
2. **Review and signature on Seaside Cemetery sale** – J. Dow inquired on who has checked the availability of this plot. K. Herrick said she checked the maps, asked town staff to look over the deeds and she spoke with Sexton Bobby Carter who approved the sale of this plot. B. Smythe moved to approve the motion; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
3. **Discharge of tax liens** – E. Best explained in June, liens were placed on the "Unknown Owner" lots in error. She asked that out of the four unknown owner lots, two of the liens could be discharged since these properties have been claimed and proof of ownership has been shown. Ellen represents one of the owners. She wanted to inform the board so there

is no conflict. Based on the statements from J. Dow and E. Best that the liens should never have been placed on any of the four properties, S. Miller and S. Dooley recommended all four liens should be discharged since they were liened in error. The board will ask the Treasurer, M. Rockwell to process the paperwork to release the liens. Discussion only, no motion was made.

4. **Sale of surplus computer equipment** – S. Miller announced the town has computer equipment that is no longer needed, which includes several desktop computers, external and internal storage devices, networking equipment and a monitor. The town has decided to offer the equipment for sale by bid to Blue Hill residents & taxpayers. There is a list of equipment and bid details on the town's website as well as in the office. The deadline for the bid is August 14, 2023, at 4:00pm. Discussion only, no motion was made.
5. **Stipend for Town Clerk** – After some discussion in the past few weeks, S. Miller moved to approve a \$4,000 stipend for the Town Clerk, provided the Town Clerk is an hourly - not a salaried employee – and to be paid 50% promptly after the November Election and 50% promptly after the Town Meeting; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
6. **Appointment of members to the Marine Resources Committee, the Board of Appeals, and the Budget Committee** – Geoffrey Anthony and Kipp Quinby were appointed to the Marine Resources Committee. Randy Curtis was appointed to the Board of Appeals and Aran Lawrence was appointed to the Budget Committee. S. Miller moved to approve the appointments; J. Dow seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
7. **Review and signature on Catering Permit – Bar Harbor Catering Company** – The board questioned the lack of a required diagram that was to be submitted with the application. Only an overhead view of the land/building was provided, and it did not depict where alcohol would be stored and consumed. S. Miller requested a sufficient diagram be provided to the town clerk and if provided, the town clerk can release the signed application. S. Miller moved to approve the motion; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.
8. **Review and signature on Blue Hill Fair Ellsworth Lions Club Gaming License** – E. Best explained to the board this application is submitted each year for the Blue Hill State Fair. This application allows the Ellsworth Lions Club to provide games of chance at the fair. J. Dow moved to approve the application; B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved.

Department Status Reports (Sound Bites)

1. **Cemetery Update** – J. Dow gave an update on the burial issue at Seaside Cemetery. The local newspapers had been sent a press release with the town's apology to the families involved.

Executive Session (pursuant to 1 M.R.S. 405(6)(A)—Personnel Matter) – S. Miller made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:19pm; J. Dow seconded. Vote: 5-0 Approved. No action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.