

## Town of Blue Hill

### Select Board Meeting Tuesday, October 10, 2023 Minutes

#### Executive Session

The Board went into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6)(E) at 5:01pm and exited at 5:41pm. No action was taken by the Board immediately following its exit from the Executive Session.

#### Call to Order and Preliminary Items

1. **Quorum and meeting attendance** – E. Best (Chair, Online), S. Miller, B. Smythe, S. Dooley, J. Atwell (Town Administrator), M. Rockwell (Treasurer), J. Milliken (Climate Resilience Committee), R. Curtis (Climate Resilience Committee)
2. **Approval of Select Board Minutes of October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023** – B. Smythe moved to approve the minutes; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 4-0 Approved.
3. **Public Comment** – R. Curtis advised the Board that Allen Kratz had briefed the Climate Resilience Committee concerning the application for a grant to support a Rainbow Trout initiative. He mentioned that Surry likely would be the fiscal agent (they will confirm at an October 11 meeting). Curtis indicated that the grant program does not require financial commitment by the Town of Blue Hill. He mentioned that, if the Board was not able to move quickly, there are other grant programs whose deadlines are in 2024. In order to participate in the proposed four-town application, a letter of support (supplied in draft form) would need to be executed on behalf of the Town by Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. S. Miller suggested that he would like the Board to have a bit of time to review and have a meeting on or before Friday to discuss and vote. (A meeting was subsequently scheduled for Oct. 12 to discuss and vote on this matter.)

#### Business

1. **Holiday Event – Follow-up** – J. Atwell advised the Board that the office staff were excited about the opportunity to have a tree lighting event and some activities for the kids. Lori Sitzabee has expressed interest in assisting. After some discussion it was determined that the weekend of December 1 would be the best time, so as not to conflict with other planned events. The Board felt the Town should support the event, but that someone needed to take the lead, with Town staff in a supporting role. J. Atwell will discuss this with Lori Sitzabee and Chrissy Allen and get back to the Board.
2. **Traffic Ordinance Review** - S. Miller asked the Board to consider what they want included in the ordinance. He expressed the view, for example, that a list of crosswalks was not helpful—it didn't provide for enhanced enforcement beyond state law and would require continuous updating as the Town changes. He felt the ordinance should be primarily concerned with, for example, where parking is prohibited. He noted that other towns' traffic ordinances include parking, provisions about blocking town roads, and other matters. B. Smythe agreed to assemble some precedent traffic ordinances from other, similar or nearby towns.

A discussion arose concerning Haley Ward. E. Best and S. Miller are upset that things are not getting done as promised by Haley Ward. The Board requested an update on Monday, Oct. 2 that Haley Ward review costs and consider adjusting its fees, which they agreed to do, and have not received a response. B. Smythe will reach out to them.

3. **Planning Board Appointment (Hurvitt replacement)** – M. Hurvitt has resigned her seat on the Planning Board. Her term ran until 2024. The Board discussed filling the vacancy with alternate member Matthew Martin and then finding a new alternate. The Board would like to get some suggestions from the current Planning Board members as well. S. Miller agreed to discuss this with Planning Board Chair W. King and, if appropriate, to approach M. Martin to assess his willingness to serve if appointed.
4. **Public Works – Salary Review** –E. Best moved to authorize a \$1/hour raise effective October 1, B. Smythe seconded. Vote: 4-0 Approved.

There was further discussion concerning Kowalski's expectation of 4 weeks of vacation. This was tabled for a later discussion.

### **Meeting Updated/Reminders**

1. **Marine Resources Committee Meeting** – Tuesday, October 10 @5:30pm Fire Station
2. **Planning Board Meeting** – Wednesday, October 11 @5:30pm Town Hall
3. **Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting** – Thursday, October 2 @4:00pm Town Hall
4. **GSA Budget Review Committee Meeting** – Thursday, October 12 @5:30pm Town Hall
5. **Select Board Meeting** – Monday, October 16 @5:00pm Town Hall

### **Executive Session**

Pursuant to Title 1 MRS sec 405 (6) (C) —consideration of real property

Pursuant to Title 1 MRS sec 405 (6)(A)—Personnel

A motion to go into executive session was made at 6:33pm. The executive session was completed at 6:40pm. S. Dooley moved to adjust the health insurance coverage for the Town Administrator to provide that the Town cover 80% and the employee cover 20% of the cost of any coverage chosen (single, 2-person, family) and that any employee contributions taken will be retroactively adjusted to align with this cost split. Seconded by S. Miller.

Vote: 4-0 Approved.

### **Sign Disbursement Warrants**

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.