

**Town of Blue Hill  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Called the meeting to Order at 3:08pm.**

1. **Quorum and meeting attendance** – Board Members: J. Dow, S. Miller, S. Dooley, Town Administrator, J Atwell, Treasurer, M Rockwell
2. **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023** – S. Miller moved to approve the December 11<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended; S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.
3. **Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

**Business**

1. **Proposed Warrant Article 2628 supporting carbon fees – David Dietrich** – David Dietrich, a recently appointed member of the Climate Resilience Committee, ran the Town of Blue Hill’s wastewater treatment facility for 17 years and remembers the Clean Water Act back in the 70s. He expressed his concerns to the Board about sea level rise and the risks associated to our wastewater facility and the community in general. Dietrich noted that there is a desire to see federal legislation enacted to establish a price for carbon emissions as an efficient method for reducing overall emissions and slowing the pace of climate change. He has spoken with Representative Golden’s office on the subject; according to Dietrich, Golden would like a better understanding of support in the Second District for such legislation. Dietrich requested that the Select Board place a warrant article expressing such support for a vote at the Annual Town Meeting; if approved, Blue Hill would join 28 other towns in Maine in supporting carbon pricing legislation. S. Miller expressed support for carbon pricing as a mechanism, but indicated he doesn’t believe the Town Meeting is the appropriate forum to address this—he suggested a “straw poll” distributed at the time of the Town Meeting instead. The Board had some discussion and recommended a straw poll on the Friday before Town Meeting.
2. **Appointed Positions** – S. Miller motioned to reappoint John Richardson and Carolyn Mor to three-year terms on the Budget Committee. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.  
S. Miller moved to reappoint Ben Adams to a one-year term ending 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that he is willing to continue to serve in the role. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.  
S. Miller moved to reappoint Kelly Herrick to a one-year term as the Town Clerk and a two-year term as the Registrar of Voters, subject to confirmation that she is willing to continue to serve in these roles. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.  
S. Miller moved to reappoint Bryce Emerson as the Code Enforcement Officer and the Plumbing Inspector through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that she is willing to continue to serve in these roles. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.  
S. Miller moved to reappoint Bryce Emerson as the e911 addressing officer and the health officer through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that she is willing to continue to serve in these roles. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to reappoint Michelle Rockwell as the Treasurer through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that she is willing to continue to serve in the role. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to appoint Julie Atwell as the Public Access Officer through 12/31/24. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to reappoint Carol Ann Cutler as the Animal Control Officer through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that she is willing to continue to serve in the role. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to reappoint Matt Dennison as the Fire Chief through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that he is willing to continue to serve in the role. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to reappoint Steve Bechard as the Shellfish Warden through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that he is willing to continue to serve in the role. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

S. Miller moved to reappoint Phil Norris as the Tree Warden through 12/31/24, subject to confirmation that he is willing to continue to serve in the role. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.

No action was taken at the meeting with respect to the appointments of the Town Tax Collector, Marine Resources Committee members, Cemetery Sexton, or Harbormaster (whose term ends in April 2024 under a Town ordinance).

- 3. Town Administrator Authorizations for Bar Harbor Bank & Trust and First National Bank** – S. Miller moved to designate Julie Atwell as an authorized signatory on all Town bank accounts both at Bar Harbor Bank and Trust and First National Bank. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.
- 4. Spreading Field Licenses** – S. Miller moved to terminate the Towns two land spreading licenses, based on the recommendation of Olver and Company. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 3/0 Approved.
- 5. Town Hall Rental Policy** – J Atwell requested clarification on the rental policy for the Town Hall and its use. No action was taken. S. Miller would like to see all of our fees consolidated to fee schedule and removed from all ordinances and documents to avoid any confusion or possible improper fees charged. Some documents have the fees embedded in them and most are outdated.

### **Meeting Updates and Reminders**

- Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> Town Hall and Transfer Station Closed for Christmas holiday.
- Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, Solid Waste Committee Meeting 4pm at the Blue Hill Town Hall
- Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, Select Board Meeting at the Blue Hill Town Hall at 3pm
- Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Town Hall and Transfer Station Closed for New Year's
- Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, Select Board Meeting at the Blue Hill Town Hall at 5:30pm.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.