

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 12, 2024**

Called the meeting to Order at 5:30 pm

1. **Quorum and meeting attendance** – E. Best (Chair), J. Dow, S. Miller, S. Dooley, M. Rockwell (Treasurer), J. Milliken (Climate Vulnerability), Janice Snow (School Committee Chair), D. Perkins (Union 93 Superintendent), P. Norris (Tree Warden), and the press.
2. **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of January 22, 24, 29, 31, February 5 and 7th** – S. Miller moved to approve the minutes from January 22, 24, 31, and February 5 and 7th and to table the minutes from January 29. S. Dooley seconded. Vote: 4/0 approved.
3. **Public Comment** – No public comment.

Business

1. **Union 93 Superintendent** – D. Perkins reviewed the Cost Center Summary and warrant articles for the upcoming Town Meeting in April, with the Board. One of the articles is to request \$200,000 for a Pre-Kindergarten Reserve Fund. Derek states that currently they have 16 pre-k students and 11 children on the wait list to attend. They are having a survey done to see what would be needed to add additional space to the current building for additional pre-k services.
2. **Dutch Elm Proposal – Phil Norris** – P. Norris has been working with Marcia McKeague and a representative from Hawkes Tree Service on the Town's street trees. They've identified a pesticide that can be injected into the Elm trees to protect them from Dutch elm disease. The cost is approximately \$8/inch of tree diameter. The Town's Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance would need to be amended to allow for the use of pesticides. Norris also would like to have the Town split the cost with homeowners for the protection of these trees. He would like a clear policy of who pays and when. He proposes that we inject 30 trees this year, 30 the next, and the remaining town trees the following year.
3. **Hancock County Hazard Mitigation Plan** – S. Miller reviewed the plan and made a motion to adopt the resolution as submitted, provided the table on C2 is corrected. J. Dow seconded. Vote: 4/0 approved.

Other Business

1. **YMCA/Recreation Department Update** – The Y is ready to take over the recreation program. We will need to set up a contract. Zach from the YMCA requested from the Board \$10,000 in addition to the \$20,000 they've requested annually for support to run the summer camp program. The Board asked how many campers they would serve, and the maximum is 26. Blue Hill would get three weeks priority sign up and then enrollment would be open to other towns. The cost would be \$175 for Blue Hill residents and YMCA members and \$200 for non-Blue Hill residents who are not members of the YMCA. S. Miller moved to approve \$10,000 from the recreational budget to support the summer camp program. J. Dow seconded. Vote: 4/0 approved.
2. **Real Estate – Maine Coast Heritage Trust** – Maine Coast Heritage Trust has offered shore front property to the Town as a gift. The offer is subject to restrictions, such as

being open to the public for recreational usage and a conservation easement. The easement would need to be drafted to ensure that the Town could charge a user fee if needed for the future. The Board discussed possible future use and whether or not we should plan for improvements (such as a parking lot). There was much discussion over how the Town should manage this property.

3. **Blue Hill Country Club Causeway** – Ben Wooten spoke to the Board about possibly donating a piece of property on the causeway to the Town, due to rising salt water. The Board referred him to the Climate Vulnerability Committee.

Executive Session

1. **1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter** – The Board went into executive session at 6:50 pm. No action was taken.

Meeting Updates/Reminders

2/13/2024 – Marine Resource Committee Meeting

2/14/2024 – Planning Board Meeting

2/19/2024 – Closed – President’s Day Holiday

2/20/2024 – Select Board Meeting

Adjourn