

Town of Blue Hill
**2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT**

(The official posted Warrant may have minor changes, which would be mentioned at the Annual Town Meeting if applicable)

State of Maine, County of Hancock
Town of Blue Hill

To: Jeff Milliken, a resident of said Blue Hill, in said County.

Greetings: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to warn and notify the voters of Blue Hill, in said County, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the auditorium at the Town Hall, Blue Hill, on Friday, April 5, 2024, at 9:30 am, then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

***NOTE:** Articles 2 and 3 are set out in a written ballot to be acted upon Friday, April 5. The polls will be open for voting in the auditorium at the Town Hall at 10:00 am and close at 8:00 pm. The meeting will reconvene Saturday, April 6, 2024 at the Blue Hill Consolidated School gymnasium at 9:00 am and will run until adjourned by the moderator.*

ARTICLE 2. Election of officers

ARTICLE 3. GSA Excess Charge

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$185,300 from Property Tax in Excess Tuition Charges for George Stevens Academy (in excess of the maximum tuition and Insured Value Factor payments set by the state) and authorize the School Committee to pay George Stevens Academy during the school fiscal year 2024-2025 an additional \$1,700 per student, for up to 109 students, the maximum number of Blue Hill students estimated to attend George Stevens Academy during the 2024-2025 school year. All such amounts appropriated will be additional local funds which exceed the state's Essential Programs and Services allocation model for this purpose.

ARTICLE 4. To authorize the moderator at their discretion, to dispense with the complete reading or re-reading of an article and allow the Town to vote by written ballot upon a request from 10 or more voters.

ARTICLE 5. To authorize the moderator to continue their responsibilities until all articles have been received and verified as to the outcome.

EDUCATION ARTICLES

ARTICLE 6. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Regular Instruction. (Elementary Instruction Program, Secondary Instruction Program, Alternative Education, English as a 2nd Language, Gifted and Talented)

School Committee Recommends: \$4,338,358.74
Budget Committee Recommends: \$4,338,358.74

ARTICLE 7. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Special Education. (Special Education Programs and Administration)

School Committee Recommends: \$1,054,953.14
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,054,953.14

ARTICLE 8. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Other Instruction. (Co-curricular, Extra-curricular, Summer School)

School Committee Recommends: \$60,993.18
Budget Committee Recommends: \$60,993.18

ARTICLE 9. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Student and Staff Support. (Guidance Services, Health Services, Library Services, Instructional Technology, Instructional Staff Training, Curriculum Development)

School Committee Recommends: \$358,119.41
Budget Committee Recommends: \$358,119.41

ARTICLE 10. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for System Administration. (School Board Services, Office of the Superintendent Services)

School Committee Recommends: \$202,308.98
Budget Committee Recommends: \$202,308.98

ARTICLE 11. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for School Administration.

School Committee Recommends: \$331,253.26
Budget Committee Recommends: \$331,253.26

ARTICLE 12. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Transportation and Buses.

School Committee Recommends: \$351,191.14
Budget Committee Recommends: \$351,191.14

ARTICLE 13. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Facilities Maintenance. (Maintenance/Custodial, Capital Enhancement & Improvement, Capital Renewal & Renovation)

School Committee Recommends: \$465,733.42
Budget Committee Recommends: \$465,733.42

ARTICLE 14. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments

School Committee Recommends: \$127,492.33
Budget Committee Recommends: \$127,492.33

ARTICLE 15. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for All Other Expenditures, including the food service program, with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the food service program.

School Committee Recommends: \$49,197.91
Budget Committee Recommends: \$49,197.91

ARTICLE 16. To see what sum the town will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and to see what sum the town will raise as the town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

**School Committee Recommends that \$4,688,144.15 be appropriated
and \$4,237,881.35 be raised.**
**Budget Committee Recommends that \$4,688,144.15 be appropriated
and \$4,237,881.35 be raised.**

State-Mandated Explanation: The town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

ARTICLE 17. (Written Ballot Required). To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model as required to fund the budget recommended by the school committee.

School Committee and Budget Committee Recommend \$2,649,257.36 for additional local funds and give the following reason for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$2,649,257.36**: in order to maintain current programs and offerings.

State-Mandated Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the town's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Blue Hill Public Schools budget for educational programs.

ARTICLE 18. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 from the town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, local funds for debt service on non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

School Committee Recommends: \$7,339,601.51
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,339,601.51

ARTICLE 19. To see what sum the Town will raise for the BHCS Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.

School Committee Recommends: \$20,000.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,000.00

ARTICLE 20. To see what sum the Town will raise for the BHCS Technology Reserve Fund.

School Committee Recommends: \$5,000.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,000.00

ARTICLE 21. To see what sum the Town will raise for the new Pre Kindergarten Reserve Fund.

School Committee Recommends: \$200,000.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$200,000.00

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will appropriate \$600,000 for payments to be made on behalf of other School Union 93 towns, representing their shares of the School Union's costs, to be fully reimbursed by payments to be received from these other towns.

School Committee Recommends: \$600,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$600,000

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend state and federal funds and other receipts to operate the schools for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

School Committee Recommends
Budget Committee Recommends

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES

The Town has adjusted its financial accounting at the beginning of 2024 to better align the revenue and expense accounts with the various Town departments and to eliminate “unclassified” account groups. In connection with these changes, the 2023 figures were also adjusted to match the new account map. Therefore, the 2023 Appropriation figures shown below do not necessarily match the values shown in the 2023 Warrant. The amounts of any overdrafts, as identified in Article 61, were calculated using the 2023 appropriations—as approved last year—and the 2023 expenditures according to the previous account map.

General Government/Town Administration

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$492,100 from Property Tax, appropriate \$125,000 from State Subsidy, Fees, and Interest Income for General Government/Town Administration (Town Administrator, Town Office, General Government, Elections, tax assessing, mapping and quarterly review activity, municipal insurance, and General Assistance).

2023	2023	2024	2024
<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 545,650	\$ 521,717	\$ 617,100	\$ 617,100

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 from Property Tax and to appropriate \$4,060 from restricted donation balances carried forward for the Town Administrator’s Discretionary Fund.

2023	2023	2024	2024
<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 6,000	\$ 941	\$ 5,060	\$ 5,060

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$250,100 from Property Tax to pay principal and interest due on Municipal Bonds and Notes.

	2023	2023	2024	2024
	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
2011 Sewer Ext.	\$ 102,394	\$ 102,394	\$ 102,400	\$ 102,400
2015 Refinance	91,835	91,344	92,000	92,000
2012 Bridge	15,732	15,412	15,700	15,700
2024 Mtn. Rd.	0	0	30,000	30,000
2024 WWTP	<u>20,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

Total \$ **229,961** \$ **209,150** \$ **250,100** \$ **250,100**

Enforcement & Public Safety

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$79,500 for the Fire Department, Forest Fire Suppression, and Civil Emergency Management from Property Tax and appropriate \$14,800 from rental funds received from Peninsula Ambulance Corps.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 92,240	\$ 80,700	\$ 94,300	\$ 94,300

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$14,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$36,000 from Unassigned Funds for Fire Department Relocation Planning (with any unexpended funds lapsing into a Fire Department Relocation Reserve) and appropriate \$100,000 from Unassigned Funds for the Fire Truck and Equipment Reserve.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 380,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$78,100 from Property Tax and appropriate \$15,500 from Fees for other Public Safety and Emergency Services, including the Hancock County RCC-911 dispatch service, Law Enforcement, Code Enforcement/Plumbing Inspector, Animal Control, 911 Signs and Streetlights.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 108,510	\$ 84,430	\$ 93,600	\$ 93,600

Facilities

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$46,000 from Property Tax, and appropriate \$9,000 from Rental Income for Town building operating costs.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
-------------------------------------	--------------------------------	--	--

\$ 42,000 \$ 40,576 \$ 55,000 \$ 55,000

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$32,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$53,000 from Unassigned Funds for upgrades and repairs to the Town Hall and Stavola building (generator, heat pumps, improvement reserve, and Stavola building exterior).

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 55,000	\$ 94,139	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$461,500 from Property Tax, and appropriate \$675,000 from Excise Tax and \$50,000 from State Subsidy for the Highway Department sidewalks, road maintenance, snow/sand removal.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 886,918	\$ 650,203	\$ 1,186,500	\$ 1,186,500

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$30,000 from Property Tax, appropriate \$330,000 from Unassigned Funds, and renew \$2,000,000 appropriated at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting (Article 33) for road improvements and reconstruction of Mountain Road and engineering and planning for future road reconstruction.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 2,070,200	\$ 53,657	\$ 2,360,000	\$ 2,360,000

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$32,500 from Boat Excise Tax, Mooring Fees and Dinghy Tie-up Fees and \$3,900 from the Marine Resources Reserve to support Marine Resource activities, including Harbormaster and Shellfish Warden wages and activities, and routine maintenance and operational expenses for the Town’s wharves, with any unexpended balance to lapse to the Marine Resources Reserve.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 38,300	\$ 23,016	\$ 36,400	\$ 36,400

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$75,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$47,000 from the Marine Resources Reserve for Marine Capital Investment and Float Replacement, with such amounts available, without further appropriation, through December 31, 2025.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 65,500	\$ 18,000	\$ 122,000	\$ 122,000

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$149,200 from Property Tax for Public Works Wages and Operating Expenses.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 0	\$ 52,736	\$ 149,200	\$ 149,200

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 from Property Tax for Public Works Equipment.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 0	\$ 141,651	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000

Parks, Recreation & Cemeteries

ARTICLE 38. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$31,500 from Property Tax and appropriate \$10,000 from the Parks and Recreation Reserve for the Town parks, public fields, lawns, trees, and recreation program, with any unexpended balance to lapse to the Parks and Recreation Reserve.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 189,700	\$ 130,735	\$ 41,500	\$ 41,500

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 from Property Tax and to appropriate \$3,000 from donated funds and \$20,000 from Unassigned Funds for the Care, Upkeep and Capital Improvement of Cemeteries.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 65,000	\$ 14,983	\$ 28,000	\$ 28,000

Sanitation

ARTICLE 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$335,000 from Property Tax for Blue Hill's share of the cost of operating the Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Program.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 270,000	\$ 269,899	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000

ARTICLE 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$16,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$274,300 from Sewer Fees to fund the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation and for Disposal of Septic Tank Sludge.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommends</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 254,300	\$ 275,174	\$ 290,300	\$ 290,300

Boards & Committees

ARTICLE 42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 from Property Tax for Select Board wages and operations and for Planning Board expenses.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommendations</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 52,000	\$ 76,371	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000

ARTICLE 43. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$50,000 from Unassigned Funds and authorize the Select Board to expend up to \$50,000, as they deem advisable, to meet Unanticipated Expenses and Emergencies.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommendations</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 25,000	\$ 23,289	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000

ARTICLE 44. To see if the Town will appropriate up to \$10,000 of Unassigned Funds for Property Tax Abatements.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommendations</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 0	\$ 3,371	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000

ARTICLE 45. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$14,000 from Unassigned Funds, for Town property surveys.

2023 <u>Appropriation</u>	2023 <u>Expended</u>	2024 <u>Select Board Recommendations</u>	2024 <u>Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 14,000	\$ 2,600	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000

Note: Previous Annual Town Meeting Warrants included an article raising and appropriating Hancock County Tax. This article was not included this year since the Town is obligated to pay this regardless of Town vote. The amount of the 2024 County Tax is approximately \$450,000. The 2024 municipal budget also includes \$20,732 of expenditures funded by prior year appropriations carried over.

Third-Party Donation Requests

ARTICLE 46. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$80,968 from Property Tax for the Peninsula Ambulance Corps.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommendations</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 73,988	\$ 73,988	\$ 80,968	\$ 80,968

ARTICLE 47. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$99,500 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Public Library.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommendations</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 90,500	\$ 90,500	\$ 99,500	\$ 99,500

ARTICLE 48. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$3,000 from Property Tax for the East Blue Hill Public Library.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommendations</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000

ARTICLE 49. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$4,500 from Property Tax for Northern Light Home Care and Hospice.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommendations</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommendations</u>
\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500

ARTICLE 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$20,000 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Family YMCA/Lawrence Family Fitness Center.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000

ARTICLE 51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,000 from Property Tax for the Eastern Area Agency on Aging.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 1,794	\$ 1,794	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000

ARTICLE 52. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1,500 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Historical Society.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500

ARTICLE 53. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,600 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Society for Aid to Children.

<u>2023 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600

ARTICLE 55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$13,135 from Property Tax for Downeast Community Partners.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommendations</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommendations</u>
\$ 10,888	\$ 10,888	\$ 13,135	\$ 13,135

ARTICLE 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,350 from Property Tax for the WIC Program.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommendations</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommendations</u>
\$ 2,350	\$ 2,350	\$ 2,350	\$ 2,350

ARTICLE 57. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1,500 from Property Tax for Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommendations</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommendations</u>
\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500

ARTICLE 58. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$698 from Property Tax for the LifeFlight Foundation.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommendations</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommendations</u>
\$ 698	\$ 698	\$ 698	\$ 698

ARTICLE 59. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1,000 from Property Tax for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000

ARTICLE 60. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$550 from Property Tax for Downeast Transportation.

<u>2023</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 550	\$ 550	\$ 550	\$ 550

ARTICLE 61. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1,252,182 from Unassigned Funds to cover the following overdrafts/shortfalls from the amounts appropriated for 2023 and, for Education items, for the 2022-23 school year as explained below.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Overdraft/Shortfall</u>
Education*	\$ 1,102,134
Public Works	98,887
Town Hall	29,055
WWTP Operations	14,549
Recreation	<u>7,557</u>
Total	\$ 1,252,182

*Paid from state and federal grants and reimbursements from other Union 93 towns

ARTICLE 62. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to fix compensation of labor, trucks, and equipment for Town services for fiscal year 2024.

ARTICLE 63. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amounts of money and the interest to be used for Perpetual Care of Cemetery Lots.

Seaside Cemetery	
D. Hunt	\$ 5,000
S. Farrar	500
R. Yardy	500
D. Pile	400
M. Anderson	400
R. Yardy/Scott	500
A. Stanton	500
E. Thors	500
B. Becton	500
Mountain View Cemetery	
D. Carter	200
J. & P. Astbury	200
Total	\$ 9,200

ORDINANCE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 64. Shall the Town of Blue Hill Harbor Ordinance be amended by deleting the words shown in strikethrough and adding the words shown in underline, as follows?

Section 5. Harbormaster

5.1 Appointment

The Select Board shall appoint a Harbormaster annually for a one-year term beginning ~~May~~ January 1 and ending ~~April 30~~ December 31...

...

Section 6. Moorings and Outhauls

...

6.6.1 ...Otherwise, its owner must immediately cease all use of the mooring and remove all ground tackle within fourteen (14) days (or such other period of time the **Harbormaster** determines to be reasonable) of 1) informing the **Harbormaster** of non-renewal or 2) ~~of~~ the expiration of the previous year's mooring permit, whichever comes earlier}.

Explanation: The Marine Resource Committee and the Select Board believe that a calendar year appointment would allow the Harbormaster to better participate in the development of the annual budget and each year's permit policies and provide time to prepare for the spring/summer peak boating season. The changes to 6.6.1 correct typographical errors in the ordinance.

ARTICLE 65. Shall the Blue Hill Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance be amended by adding the following to Section E. Exemptions?

E. EXEMPTIONS

...

12. Pesticides used for the control of non-native insects, diseases, plants, or other organisms, when used in the manner specified by the manufacturer.

Explanation: This amendment is proposed to enable individual property owners and the Town to protect trees and other important natural resources from non-native insects, diseases or plants which may threaten the survival of those trees or resources. Without this action, the Town is likely to lose many of its heritage elms and other large, outstanding trees.

ARTICLE 66. Shall an ordinance entitled “Blue Hill Shoreland Zoning Ordinance,” and further incorporating any amendments adopted at this Town Meeting, be enacted to replace the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for the Municipality of Blue Hill?

Note: A copy of the proposed amendments to the ordinance is attached to the posted warrant and copies are available at the Town Office and at <https://bluehillme.gov>.

ARTICLE 67. Shall an ordinance entitled “Blue Hill Commercial Site Plan Review Ordinance (2024 amendment)” be enacted?

Note: A copy of the proposed amendments to the ordinance is attached to the posted warrant and copies are available at the Town Office and at <https://bluehillme.gov>.

OTHER ARTICLES

ARTICLE 68. To see if the Town will vote to accept a gift of land from Maine Coast Heritage Trust, being Blue Hill Tax Map 6, Lots 1 and 2, specifically being a small lot next to the causeway in South Blue Hill and two barred islands, subject to a reserved Conservation Easement to be held by Maine Coast Heritage Trust, providing that the property will be held by the Town in its current configuration in perpetuity and be available for recreational uses and commercial fisheries access to the shore.

The complete text of the reserved Conservation Easement is attached to the posted warrant and copies are available at the Town Office and at <https://bluehillme.gov>.

ARTICLE 69. To see if the Town will vote to (1) authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepaid taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 506; (2) fix the annual interest rate at 8.00% on overdue property taxes, tax liens, and tax acquired property; (3) set the date of October 15, 2024 for property tax payments after which interest will accrue on unpaid taxes; (4) authorize the Select Board to sell and repurchase lots in the Town’s cemeteries and accept payments for said lots; and (5) authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed 4/12 of the amount assigned to each budget category of the 2024 Annual Budget during the period from January 1, 2025 to the 2025 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 70. (Written Ballot Required) To see if the Town will vote to increase the municipal property tax levy limit of \$1,678,903 established by the state in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles results in a tax commitment that is greater than this property tax limit.

GIVEN UNTO OUR HANDS at Blue Hill, Maine this __th day of March 2024.

/s/ Ellen Best
Ellen Best

/s/ Sean Dooley
Sean Dooley

/s/ James Dow
James Dow

/s/ D. Scott Miller
D. Scott Miller

A majority of the Municipal Officers of Blue Hill, Maine.

Attest: A True Copy:

/s/ Julie Atwell
Julie Atwell, Town Clerk

The Registrar of Voters hereby gives notice that she will be in session at her office Monday, April 1, 2024 from 8:00am to 9:00pm for the purposes of revising and correcting the list of voters.

Attest:

/s/ Julie Atwell
Julie Atwell, Town Clerk