

**Town of Blue Hill  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, June 3, 2024  
Minutes**

**Called Meeting to Order at 5:31pm**

1. **Determine Quorum and Meeting Attendance** – E. Best (Chair), B. Adams, S. Miller, J. Wootten, J. Dow (Via online), J. Atwell (Town Administrator), M. Rockwell (Treasurer).
2. **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2024** – S. Miller moved to accept the minutes as edited; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
3. **Public Comment** – Many community members were present for the meeting. The Town recently received a document from the assessing agents stating the new property values. E. Best addressed the crowd explaining that the document was not a bill, merely a statement of the value that the assessing agent placed on the property during the town wide revaluation with an estimate of the new tax bill. Property owners were concerned with the increase in the values and requested information concerning how the numbers were determined. There was concern about the impact the increase in sales prices may have on the ability of local people and young people to live in Blue Hill. The Board recommended that residents make an appointment with the assessing agents to discuss their new valuations; the appointments are taking place during the week of June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Business**

1. **Property Tax Revaluation** – Residents received their new valuations via the mail this week from the assessor's agent. The Board was unaware these were being sent out. Many community members came to the Select Board meeting to voice their concerns about the increases in value. Board members encouraged residents to make an appointment with the agents during the week of June 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the new values. The Board informed members that the overall budget increase, which was voted on at the Town Meeting in April, was approximately 7%. The Board encouraged community members to attend the annual town meetings in April of each year.
2. **Public Hearing**
  - a. **Siam Sky, LLC (5:45pm)** – One comment in favor of the liquor license renewal was made at the public hearing. J. Wootten moved to approve the application; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
3. **Bids on Surplus Floats** – There were three bids:
  - a. Dana Black won lots 1 (\$502) & 4 (\$101)
  - b. Tim Pert won lot 2 (\$250)
  - c. Kip Quinby won lot 3 (\$25)
  - d. There was no qualifying bid on lot 5.
  - e. J. Wootten will follow up with the winners.
4. **Special Town Meeting Request – School** – The School Board has requested we hold a special town meeting in order to allocate a portion of the school's reserve funds for maintenance of the school building and to purchase laptops for the faculty. The Board would also like to draft a warrant article to include replenishing the Select Board Unanticipated Expenditures. They agreed to set the meeting for Monday, June 24.
5. **Seaside Cemetery**

- a. **Signage** – J. Dow would like to get a new sign set up and will work with J. Atwell.
6. **Public Works** – B. Adams and J. Atwell met with C. Kowalski and an employee candidate and would like to offer the position of a full-time, year-round public works employee. B. Adams moved to hire Anthony Ashton full-time at \$22/hour; J. Wootten seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
7. **Hancock County Planning Commission – 2 Reps & 1 Alternate** – S. Miller moved to send B. Adams and J. Wootten as representatives for Blue Hill to the Hancock County Planning Commission’s annual meeting; E. Best seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
8. **Haley Ward – Mountain Road Construction Monitoring & Admin. Proposal** – S. Miller moved to authorize J. Atwell to sign the proposal on behalf of the Town; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.

### **Other Business**

1. **Falls Bridge Celebration** – Ruth Miller emailed the Town about a possible celebration for the completion of the new Falls Bridge. The Board has no plans for a celebration but suggested that we should thank the Bridge Advisory Committee for all their hard work. The bridge is scheduled to be completed on or about July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

S. Miller moved to adjourn at 7:01pm after warrants are signed; J. Wootten seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.