

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, September 9, 2024
Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 5:31pm

Determine quorum and meeting attendance – E. Best (Chair), B. Adams, J. Dow, S. Miller, J. Wootten, J. Atwell (Town Administrator), Sarah Lavallee (Town Clerk), Z. Pulitzer (Minute Taker).

Approval of Minutes

Review of the August 26 and September 4 minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

Public Comments

Randy Curtis shared the Climate Vulnerability Assessment flyer about the upcoming September 11, 2024, meeting. It will not be a recorded meeting.

Business

1 Letter of Support - Fish Passage Grant

J. Dow and S. Miller made comments on the letter. J. Dow moved to approve the letter of support and for E. Best to sign; B. Adams seconded. Vote passed 5/0.

2 Soccer Goal Net

Josh Astbury on behalf of the YMCA (children's soccer program) asked the town to purchase 4 aluminum soccer goals and nets. These would meet usage and frequency standards unlike the existing goals. Although the cost would be \$1,300 each, Astbury indicated they are much more substantial in construction and should last for many years. S. Miller moved to authorize up to \$5,500 from the “unanticipated expenditures and emergencies” fund to buy the goals and nets; The vote passed 5/0.

S. Miller asked to revisit the Town’s understanding with the YMCA as part of the 2025 budget process to ensure agreement as to responsibility for equipment purchases and maintenance.

3 Subdivision Fees

E. Best commented on revisiting the Town's Fee Schedule as related to the current Subdivision Ordinance. The goal of the Board would be to keep flexibility in the fee amounts and their respective accounts. As of now, the ordinance provides for preliminary plan fees, final plan fee and escrow account fee but the “escrow account fee” is not identified in the Fee Schedule. S. Miller will give a more detailed explanation of this next week.

4 Traffic Ordinance

Scott Miller suggested setting a Public Hearing date for the Traffic Ordinance. A meeting date of October 2, 2024, at 6pm was determined, with policies to be finalized by then. The meeting will be advertised on the sign in front of the Town Hall and in the Weekly Packet. The Board should review the draft ordinance before next Monday's meeting so the text can be finalized and published for the public to review.

5 "Street Tree" Policy

Scott Miller discussed that the agreed upon verbiage with Tree Warden, Phil Norris concerning the policy be put on the Town's website. He suggested getting public feedback prior to approval.

6 Town Bench on Blue Hill Mountain

Blaise DeSibour would like to donate a granite bench, dedicated to Art Newkirk, to be placed on Town property at Blue Hill Mountain. The family will maintain it. It was approved.

7 Review Bank Account Signers

J. Atwell asked for a motion to update bank signers at Bar Harbor Bank and Trust. Upon her request, S. Miller moved to amend the authorized signatories on all Town accounts with the bank to replace Michelle Rockwell with Julie Atwell and to remove all other signers except to retain Derek Perkins as an authorized signer on the school account; B. Adams seconded. The vote passed 5/0.

Other Business

- A request to send a letter of appreciation to a person retiring from the Army was made to the Board. Upon investigation, it appears that the prospective retiree may have been born at Blue Hill Hospital, but that her family lived in Franklin, Maine. J. Atwell was asked to provide this information to the requesting officer and to indicate that the Board did not think it would be meaningful for a letter to come from the Town of Blue Hill.

- J. Dow received designs for new town signs and would like the authority for their purchase. Two signs for The Nub would cost \$225.00 total. One sign, which has two parts, for Seaside Cemetery would cost \$470.00. He would like to work with J. Atwell on the purchase order with funding coming out of the Park account. S. Miller moved to approve; B. Adams seconded. The vote was passed 5/0.

- J. Atwell presented an update on the current budget status as of September 9, 2024. The Town is at 99% of its projected revenue and 75% of projected excise tax. Wages are below budget.

Executive Session

S. Miller moved to enter executive session at 6:20pm per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) Personnel Matters; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.

A motion was made to exit the Executive Session at 7:10pm.

S. Miller made a motion to authorize J. Atwell to offer Lori Sitzabee a full-time Finance Assistant position; J. Wootten seconded. All approved.

S. Miller made a motion to authorize the sale of a float for at least \$100; J. Wootten seconded. All approved.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:15, seconded. All approved.