

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2024
Minutes**

Called the meeting to order at 5:31pm

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

Approval of Minutes

E. Best made a motion to approve the minutes of September 9 and September 16 as edited. S. Miller seconded. Vote passed 5/0.

Public Comments

- The GEI contract will end on December 31 for Brooksville, Blue Hill, and Surry. The Board will arrange to meet with them in person, so that they have an opportunity to get an overview of the final report. There will be an oral and written report. It is hoped that the written report will be available at least a week before the face-to-face meeting.

- Cynthia Winnings inquired about ensuring that the paving company kept her 4-5ft grass patch next to the sidewalk. She also inquired about ideas for a curb. B. Adams confirmed that the grass patch will not be touched, and there will be no curbing. E. Best requested that the ditch in front of her office (full of sand) be fixed, and B. Adams contacted the paving company to do so.

Business

1 Marine Resources, Maine Coastal Program – Contract

S. Miller reported that, other than an incorrect email address for Julie, the contract seemed consistent with expectations. The contract requires the Town to identify whether it will be required to prepare a “single audit” as a result of federal grant monies—it has been confirmed that the Wastewater Treatment Plant project will not be included this year, and J. Atwell is checking to see if school grants will trigger a single audit. As an aside, the Maine state grant team will be on site to visit the wharves on Friday, September 28 at 3:30pm. S. Miller moved to authorize J. Atwell to sign the contract on behalf of the Town. J. Dow seconded. Vote passed 5/0.

2 Popular Public Meeting Audio/Video (e.g., last week’s Planning Board meeting)

The public was frustrated that it was difficult to hear in the last meeting, and one of the possible suggestions was for the town to invest in a “proper” audio system. S. Miller indicated that requesting use of New Surry Theatre’s equipment and compensating someone from that organization to handle the equipment. A third possibility would be to hold the meetings in the Meeting Room, and limiting in person attendance to about 15 people, with any overflow directed to the auditorium, where one of the large televisions could be used to display the meeting. If offered during a public hearing, this would require someone designated to be upstairs to take questions. No action was taken.

3 Town Hall furnace repair

The Board received quotes for three repair/replacement scenarios and were inclined to pursue repair of both boilers for an estimated \$4,300. It was noted that parts for the boilers are not typically kept in stock by the local distributor and need to be ordered—with a lead time of about two weeks.

Another scenario was to replace both with two new boilers with parts that are very readily available for approximately \$20,000. However, it was finally decided that B. Adams would get in touch with Roy Boys Plumbing and both boilers would be repaired, rather than replaced. E. Best moved to approve the repair of both boilers; S. Miller seconded. Vote passed 5/0.

4 Current cash - investable funds

This matter was set to be discussed on October 15 since investing the Board wanted to discuss what it would be investing in after tax money came in.

Other Business

The graveling on Mountain Rd. is being finished now, and they may put the binder layer in this week or next week depending on when it rains. It will probably be done by the end of October.

Executive Session

E. Best moved to enter Executive Session at 5:55pm per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) Personnel; S. Miller seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.

A motion was made to exit the Executive Session at 6:21pm.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:22pm, seconded. All approved.