

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2025
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:32 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

E. Best (Chair), S. Miller, J. Dow, J. Wootten, J. Atwell (Town Administrator), D. Goettler (Minute Taker).

Approval of Minutes

S. Miller moved to approve the minutes of January 6, 2025 as submitted. J. Dow seconded; vote passed 4/0.

Public Comment

Randy Curtis and Jeff Milliken from the Climate Resilience Committee told the Board that they recently missed an opportunity to apply for a DEP grant because they could not source matching funds before the deadline and suggested that the Board budget a standing \$10,000 reserve fund to match grants. S. Miller informed them that there is an existing \$50,000 fund for unanticipated expenses and that the DEP grant could have been matched from that fund.

Business

1. Liquor License Request – Barncastle

S. Miller moved to set a public hearing for Barncastle’s liquor license renewal for Monday, January 27, 2025, at 5:45 PM. J. Wootten seconded; vote passed 4/0. The Board determined that, due to the Monday holiday, there will be no Select Board meeting next week.

2. Transfer Town Funds

The Board discussed the balances held in various accounts and certificates of deposit at First National Bank and Bar Harbor Bank and Trust. S. Miller moved to authorize J. Atwell to transfer \$1,000,000 from the NOW account at First National to the checking account at Bar Harbor. J. Dow seconded; vote passed 4/0.

3. WWTP Line of Credit Extension

A one-year line of credit from First National Bank for the wastewater treatment plant, totaling \$2,750,000, is set to expire in April 2025. It was suggested that the line of credit be extended for two more years; J. Atwell agreed to postpone the extension until the time of expiration.

4. Winter Parking / Notice of Violation

Tabled.

5. Assessors Agents – Personal Property

J. Dow received a quote for \$22,000 from KRT Appraisal to have personal property in Blue Hill assessed in 2026. He agreed to engage them as soon as possible and ask their advice on whether to send out letters requesting disclosure now or wait until the Town is in a position to collect personal property tax on the reported equipment.

6. Bench Request

Tabled.

Other Business

The Board agreed to invite Robert Vaughan, president of the Peninsula Ambulance Corps, to discuss the ambulance budget on January 21, 2025. J. Atwell agreed to print the budget model on large paper for ease of use.

The towns concerned with the Toddy Pond dam have interviewed a moderator to hold public meetings. They still have not received the information they need from Bucksport Mill, the current owner of the dam.

Executive Session

S. Miller moved to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) - Personnel Matter and 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(C) - Real Estate at 6:19 PM. J. Dow seconded; vote passed 4/0. Executive session ended at 6:44 PM.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants. Vote passed 4/0.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.