

Town of Blue Hill
2025 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

State of Maine, County of Hancock
Town of Blue Hill

To: Morgan Lawson, 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 4, 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 through 5 are set out in a written ballot to be acted upon Friday, April 4. 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 5, 2025, 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

Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$164,900 from Property Tax in Excess Tuition Charges for George Stevens Academy (in excess of the maximum allowable 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 2025-2026 an additional \$1,700 per student, for up to 97 students, the maximum number of Blue Hill students estimated to attend George Stevens Academy during the 2025-2026 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.

Recommendation: None

ARTICLE 4. Shall the Town adopt the state approved 2024 Blue Hill Comprehensive Plan?

The complete text is available at <https://bluehillme.gov>.

ARTICLE 5. Carbon Fee and Dividend

Shall the town authorize the Select Board to convey to Blue Hill's state legislators, Members of Congress, Governor, and President of the United States that the town hereby calls upon our Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect Maine from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction?

To protect households, we support Cash-Back Carbon Pricing that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and that rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis with monthly dividend checks.

If approved, the record of the vote regarding this article shall be transmitted by written notice to the above mentioned parties by the Select Board within 30 days.

ARTICLE 6. 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 7. To authorize the moderator to continue their responsibilities until all articles have been received and verified as to the outcome.

EDUCATION ARTICLES

ARTICLE 8. 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: \$4,495,863.47
Budget Committee Recommends: \$4,495,863.47

ARTICLE 9. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Special Education. (Special Education Programs and Administration)

School Committee Recommends: \$1,166,052.02
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,166,052.02

ARTICLE 10. 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: \$66,636.22
Budget Committee Recommends: \$66,636.22

ARTICLE 11. 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: \$386,186.42
Budget Committee Recommends: \$386,186.42

ARTICLE 12. 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: \$219,832.68
Budget Committee Recommends: \$219,832.68

ARTICLE 13. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for School Administration.

School Committee Recommends: \$377,742.22
Budget Committee Recommends: \$377,742.22

ARTICLE 14. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Transportation and Buses.

School Committee Recommends: \$362,177.68
Budget Committee Recommends: \$362,177.68

ARTICLE 15. 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: \$470,264.01
Budget Committee Recommends: \$470,264.01

ARTICLE 16. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments

School Committee Recommends: \$121,349.75
Budget Committee Recommends: \$121,349.75

ARTICLE 17. 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: \$56,594.88
Budget Committee Recommends: \$56,594.88

ARTICLE 18. To see what sum the town will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from pre-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 pre-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 \$4,945,426.34 be appropriated
and \$4,498,847.18 be raised.**
**Budget Committee Recommends that \$4,945,426.34 be appropriated
and \$4,498,847.18 be raised.**

State-Mandated Explanation: The town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-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 19. (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 \$2,777,273.01 for additional local funds and give the following reason for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$2,777,273.01**: 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 pre-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 20. To see what sum the town will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 from the town’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-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: \$7,722,699.35
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,722,699.35

ARTICLE 21. To see what sum the Town will raise for the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.

School Committee Recommends: \$25,000.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$25,000.00

ARTICLE 22. To see what sum the Town will raise for the Technology Reserve Fund.

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

ARTICLE 23. To see what sum the Town will raise for the Special Education Reserve Fund.

School Committee Recommends: \$25,000.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$25,000.00

ARTICLE 24. Shall the Town raise and appropriate up to \$390,000 for a new retaining wall system for the bridge located in the Blue Hill Consolidated School parking lot, and authorize the School Committee to expend those funds as it deems necessary for that purpose?

Explanation: The School Committee intends to use these funds to complete the repair and upgrades to the retaining wall system of the bridge located in the entrance road to the front Blue Hill Consolidated School parking lot.

School Committee Recommends: \$390,000.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$390,000.00

ARTICLE 25. For the purpose of financing indoor air quality improvements at Blue Hill Consolidated School, do you favor authorizing the Treasurer of the Town and the Chair of the Select Board to execute and deliver a School Revolving Renovation Fund loan agreement between the Town and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (the “Bond Bank”) to effect a loan of \$481,225, of which \$144,368 of principal shall be forgiven by the Bond Bank, and to issue a general obligation bond in the name of the Town of Blue Hill in a principal amount not to exceed \$336,857 payable in 5 annual payments at 0.00% interest?

TOWN OF BLUE HILL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1. Total Town Indebtedness

Bonds Outstanding and Unpaid	\$2,429,739
Bonds Authorized but Unissued	\$2,750,000
Bonds to be Issued if this Article is Approved	<u>\$ 336,857</u>
Total:	\$5,516,596

2. Estimated Costs of Proposed Bonds

The estimated costs of this bond issue will be \$336,857 in principal and \$0.00 in interest.

3. Validity

The validity of the bonds and of the voters’ ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above Estimated Costs of Proposed Bonds. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the bond issue varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

Julie Atwell, Treasurer Town of Blue Hill

School Committee Recommends: \$481,225
Budget Committee Recommends: \$481,225

ARTICLE 26. 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 27. 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, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

COUNTY BUDGET

The amount of the 2025 Hancock County Tax, which the Town is obligated to pay regardless of any Town vote, is \$514,258.

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES

General Government/Town Administration

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$599,747 from Property Tax and appropriate \$136,050 from Fees and Interest Income, and \$4,060 from the Town Administrator Discretionary Reserve for General Government/Town Administration (Town Administrator, Town Administrator Discretionary Fund, Town Office, General Government, Elections, tax assessing, mapping and quarterly review activity, municipal insurance, and General Assistance). *Note: 2024 Appropriation & Expended amounts combine Article 24 & Article 25 from last year's Warrant.*

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 622,160	\$ 540,553	\$ 739,857	\$ 739,857

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$22,000 from Property Tax for Personal Property Tax Revaluation with such funds to be available for this purpose without further appropriation until December 31,2026. *Note: Per the State of Maine Constitution, all real estate and personal property located within the State of Maine is subject to taxation unless specifically exempted by a state statute.*

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$229,102 from Property Tax, and appropriate \$50,850 from Fees to pay principal and interest due on Municipal Bonds and Notes.

	2024	2024	2025	2025
	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	Select Board <u>Recommends</u>	Budget Committee <u>Recommends</u>
2011 Sewer Ext.	\$ 102,400	\$ 102,394	\$ 102,400	\$ 102,400
2015 Refinance	92,000	90,822	59,834	59,834
2012 Bridge	15,700	15,412	14,704	14,704
2024 Mtn. Rd.	30,000	18,001	93,014	93,014
2024 WWTP	<u>10,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total	\$ 250,100	\$ 226,629	\$ 279,952	\$ 279,952

Enforcement & Public Safety

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$101,300 and appropriate \$14,800 from rental funds received from Peninsula Ambulance Corps for the Fire Department, Forest Fire Suppression, and Civil Emergency Management from Property Tax.

	2024	2024	2025	2025
	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	Select Board <u>Recommends</u>	Budget Committee <u>Recommends</u>
	\$ 94,300	\$ 91,574	\$ 116,100	\$ 116,100

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$110,000 from Property Tax for the Fire Truck and Equipment Reserve.

	2024	2024	2025	2025
	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expended</u>	Select Board <u>Recommends</u>	Budget Committee <u>Recommends</u>
	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$73,846 from Property Tax and appropriate \$16,967 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>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 93,600	\$ 87,825	\$ 90,813	\$ 90,813

Facilities

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$51,000 from Property Tax, and appropriate \$4,000 from rental income for Town building operating costs.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 55,000	\$ 35,259	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$4,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$35,000 from the Town Hall Improvement Reserve, \$6,000 from rental income, and \$30,000 from Unassigned Funds for upgrades and repairs to the Town Hall and Stavola building and for a \$10,000 contribution to the Town Hall Improvement Reserve.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 85,000	\$ 30,388	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$716,497 from Property Tax, appropriate \$675,000 from Excise Tax, \$57,308 from State LRAP receipts and \$10,000 from ARPA funds for the Highway Department sidewalks, road maintenance, snow/sand removal, Public Works Wages and Operating Expenses. *Note: 2024 Appropriation & Expended amounts combine Article 32 & Article 36 from last year's Warrant.*

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 1,335,700	\$ 1,174,325	\$ 1,458,805	\$ 1,458,805

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,699 from Property Tax and appropriate the full amount of the Maintenance Department Reserve (approximately \$14,301) for Highway Equipment. *Note: previously referred to as Public Works Equipment.*

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 15,000	\$ 2,690	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000

ARTICLE 38. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,000 from Property Tax and to appropriate \$395,000 from Unassigned Funds for the final Mountain Road reconstruction payment, planning for future road reconstruction, and to establish a Major Road Work Reserve with all unexpended balances.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 2,360,000	\$ 2,204,415	\$ 445,000	\$ 445,000

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$3,100 from Property Tax and appropriate \$34,500 from Boat Excise Tax, Mooring Fees and Dinghy Tie-up Fees to support Marine Resource activities, including Harbormaster 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>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommend</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommend</u>
\$ 35,100	\$ 29,620	\$ 37,600	\$ 37,600

ARTICLE 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 from Property Tax for Shellfish Warden wages and activities, with the unexpended balance used to reestablish the Shellfish Conservation Reserve.

<u>2024</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$1,300	\$1,292	\$20,000	\$20,000

ARTICLE 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$48,890 from Property Tax, appropriate \$19,110 from the Marine Resources Reserve and \$40,000 from Unassigned Funds for Marine Capital Investment and Float Replacement.

<u>2024</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 122,000	\$ 95,564	\$ 108,000	\$ 108,000

Parks & Cemeteries

ARTICLE 42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$31,500 from Property Tax for the Town parks, public fields, lawns, and trees, with any unexpended balance to lapse, together with the current balance in the Parks and Recreation Reserve, into a Parks Reserve account.

<u>2024</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$ 41,500	\$ 41,500	\$ 31,500	\$ 31,500

ARTICLE 43. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$3,000 from donated funds and \$5,000 from a restricted gift held in reserve for the Care, Upkeep and Capital Improvement of Cemeteries.

<u>2024</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Select Board</u> <u>Recommends</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Budget Committee</u> <u>Recommends</u>
\$28,000	\$28,000	\$8,000	\$8,000

Sanitation

ARTICLE 44. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$164,982 from Property Tax and appropriate \$172,000 from Unassigned Funds for Blue Hill's share of the cost of operating the Solid Waste Transfer Station and Recycling Program.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000	\$ 336,982	\$ 336,982

ARTICLE 45. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$289,150 from Sewer Fees to fund the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation and for Disposal of Septic Tank Sludge.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 290,300	\$ 260,534	\$ 297,150	\$ 297,150

Boards & Committees

ARTICLE 46. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 from Property Tax and appropriate \$1,000 from the Comprehensive Plan Reserve for Select Board wages, operations, Planning Board and Comprehensive Plan expenses.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 40,000	\$ 37,074	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000

ARTICLE 47. 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.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 50,000	\$ 31,946	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000

ARTICLE 48. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$5,000 from Property Tax for Property Tax Abatements.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2024 Expended</u>	<u>2025 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2025 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 10,000	\$ 9,886	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000

ARTICLE 49. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$8,000 from Unassigned Funds for Town property surveys.

<u>2024 Appropriation</u>	<u>2023 Expended</u>	<u>2024 Select Board Recommends</u>	<u>2024 Budget Committee Recommends</u>
\$ 14,000	\$ 0	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000

Third-Party Donation Requests

It is the current Select Board policy that all qualifying third-party requests for appropriations from the Town be included in the Annual Town Meeting warrant in the full amount requested. This provides the Town's voters with an opportunity to determine whether and, if so, to what extent, to support these requests with funds raised from Property Tax. The Select Board makes no recommendation as to whether these appropriation requests should be approved or the amount to be funded

ARTICLE 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$91,438 from Property Tax for the Peninsula Ambulance Corps. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$80,968*

ARTICLE 51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$99,500 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Public Library. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$99,500*

ARTICLE 52. 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. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$3,000*

ARTICLE 53. 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. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$4,500*

ARTICLE 54. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$30,000 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Family YMCA/Lawrence Family Fitness Center. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$20,000*

ARTICLE 55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,200 from Property Tax for the Eastern Area Agency on Aging. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$2,000*

ARTICLE 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1,500 from Property Tax for the Blue Hill Historical Society. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$1,500*

ARTICLE 57. 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. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$2,600*

ARTICLE 58. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$19,556 from Property Tax for Downeast Community Partners. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$13,135*

ARTICLE 59. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,750 from Property Tax for the WIC Program. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$2,350*

ARTICLE 60. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,000 from Property Tax for Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$1,500*

ARTICLE 61. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1,250 from Property Tax for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$1,000*

ARTICLE 62. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$550 from Property Tax for Downeast Transportation. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$550*

ARTICLE 63. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$2,792 from Property Tax for H.O.M.E., Inc. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$0*

ARTICLE 64. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$1,500 from Property Tax for Healthy Peninsula. *Note: 2024 Appropriation and Expended Amount \$0*

ARTICLE 65. 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	
B. O'BRIEN	\$ 300
M. O'BRIEN	\$ 300
Total	\$ 600

ORDINANCE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 66. Shall amendments to the ordinance entitled “Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for the Municipality of Blue Hill” 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>.

ARTICLE 67. Shall an ordinance entitled “Blue Hill Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance 2025” be enacted?

Explanation: The new ordinance, whose adoption would repeal and replace the existing ordinance of similar title, is offered to fulfill a promise made at the Town Meeting in April 2024, by a group of Town voters, to provide alternate and more narrow language to improve upon the amendment that was passed at the 2024 Town meeting. The 2024 amendment was a blanket exemption for anyone to use prohibited pesticides in cases of invasive species. The replacement language offered in 2024 updates the ordinance, provides for a specific process to apply for a waiver for pest emergencies, and a specific exemption to authorize the Blue Hill Tree Warden to oversee pesticide treatments for Dutch Elm Disease, emerald ash borer, and browntail moth. 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 authorize the Select Board to sell a town-owned right of way, located at 820 Ellsworth Road, Map 29 Lot 72, for such price and subject to such terms and conditions as the Select Board may deem appropriate.

ARTICLE 69. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board, on a continuing basis until such authority is revoked by a vote of the Town, to accept easements on real property owned by others and benefitting the Town, subject to such terms and conditions as the Select Board may deem reasonable.

ARTICLE 70. 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 7.50% on overdue property taxes, tax liens, and tax acquired property; (3) set the date of October 15, 2025 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 2025 Annual Budget during the period from January 1, 2026 to the 2026 Annual Town Meeting.

GIVEN UNTO OUR HANDS at Blue Hill, Maine this fourth day of March 2025.

Ellen Best

James Dow

D. Scott Miller

James Wootten

Benjamin Adams

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

Attest: A True Copy:

Sarah Lavallee, Town Clerk

The Registrar of Voters hereby gives notice that he will be in session at his office Monday, March 31, 2025, from 8:00am to 7:00pm for the purposes of revising and correcting the list of voters.

Attest:

Sarah Lavallee, Town Clerk