

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, March 03, 2025
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:30 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

E. Best (Chair, remote), S. Miller (Chair Pro-Tem), B. Adams, J. Dow, J. Wootten, J. Atwell (Town Administrator), D. Goettler (Minute Taker).

Approval of Minutes

B. Adams moved to approve the minutes of February 24, 2025, and February 27, 2025. J. Wootten seconded; vote passed 5/0.

Public Comment

Phil Norris requested that the Healthy Ecosystem Ordinance be discussed at the open Town Meeting rather than decided by secret ballot; the Board had no objection. He also obtained permission to sell birdhouses for \$40 each at the Town Meeting and donate the proceeds to the Town as undesignated funds. The Board discussed whether or not the Town must collect sales tax and agreed to look into the matter further.

Business

1. Approve Warrant

S. Miller clarified that the Town Meeting votes on the Healthy Ecosystems Ordinance and Shoreland Zoning Ordinance are to repeal and replace the former and amend the latter. Barbara Bramble read out her proposed note on the Healthy Ecosystems Ordinance, which includes its status as replacement text, and the Board agreed to include it on the warrant, along with a similar note on the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. The property tax appropriation to be voted on will be \$10,518,778, which will bring the mill rate up to approximately 9.37. J. Dow moved to approve the warrant articles as edited. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

2. CDAR's Renewal

J. Atwell suggested moving \$1,500,000 from the NOW Account, which currently earns 3.6% interest, to a 13-week CDAR earning 4.11% interest, both at First National Bank. J. Dow moved to authorize her to make the transfer. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

3. Parking Violation Notice

Agnieszka Dixon reviewed the current Violation Notice draft and found that it was in compliance with the Traffic Ordinance, except, possibly, for a section regarding parking near driveways, which will be reviewed. The Board discussed how to most effectively communicate to the owners of towed vehicles where they can retrieve their cars and how much the tickets should cost.

4. Donations

The Board agreed that they want to retain control over what is sold at the 2025 Town Meeting and that potential vendors should seek their approval.

5. Town Property Use – Reservation Request

Flash in the Pans have submitted a request for non-exclusive use of the town park for ten Mondays during the summer of 2025, to which the Board had no objection. Vendors are likely to be present at these concerts, but since they are not directly associated with Flash, they will need to seek approval directly from the Town. The Board discussed the potential need for lighting.

Other Business

S. Miller updated the Board on Toddy Pond Dam: the terms sheet has been submitted to be redrafted into legislative language, and the current agreement is that if one Town fails to appropriate funds in a given year, that Town's Toddy Pond property owners will be responsible for paying the difference. The current debate centers around whether to combine the first two years' appropriations with the vote to join or keep each year's appropriation as a separate vote.

J. Dow commented that the mooring permit renewal letter that was recently distributed is the best it has so far been; it is clear and timely, which establishes a pattern to be followed when the deadline shifts earlier in coming years.

Executive Session

B. Adams moved to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) - Personnel Matter at 6:28 PM. J. Dow seconded; vote passed 4/0. Executive session ended at 7:23 PM.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants. The Disbursement Warrants were signed.