

**Town of Blue Hill  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, March 17, 2025  
Minutes**

**Call to Order: 5:30 PM.**

**Attendance/Quorum**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

S. Miller moved to approve the minutes of March 10, 2025, as distributed. J. Wootten seconded; vote passed 4/0.

**Public Comment**

A member of the public who attended the Planning Board meeting about the blueberry barrens pointed out that the majority of those who spoke against the proposed development were not Blue Hill residents and asked if there were any restrictions relating to the amount of time that non-residents were allowed to speak. S. Miller told him that, unlike at Town Meetings, out-of-town speakers do not require permission to speak at public hearings, though their time might be limited, and the Chair can shut down repetitive comments. E. Best added that the matter will be decided by the Planning Board, not Blue Hill's voting body.

**Business**

**1. Abatement – Map 12 Lot 10**

Matt Caldwell, one of the Town's assessors' agents, told M. Richardson and the Board how the agents determine a lot's value, and explained that the lower value of nearby, apparently equivalent lots is due to their being located across a neighborhood line, slightly farther away from downtown. S. Miller suggested keeping M. Richardson's request open until he and the assessors' agents can come to an agreement. M. Richardson agreed to provide his consent in writing to keep the request open past the 60 days by which he would typically be due an answer in order to discuss the matter with M. Caldwell.

**2. Plowing Payment Request**

S. Miller moved to accelerate the final payment in Ben Astbury's 2024-2025 plowing contract from May 1, 2025, to March 31, 2025. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

**3. Planning Board Ordinance – B. Emerson**

J. Atwell summarized the proposed changes to the Ordinance. Tabled.

**4. Public Consultation: South Blue Hill Finger Floats**

The finger floats have not yet been ordered, though there is no need to advertise for bids. No adverse comments were given during the public consultation.

**5. Personal Property Letters**

M. Caldwell sent in a sample letter used in other Towns, and J. Atwell changed some of the wording to suit Blue Hill. S. Miller suggested allowing respondents to submit their own spreadsheets rather than filling out the provided one and J. Dow advised sending the letters to every address in Blue Hill.

**Other Business**

In the process of reviewing the deeds related to the Toddy Pond Dam, S. Miller has determined that the waters in Alamoosook Lake and Toddy Pond may both required to release water to keep Silver Lake full in case of a severe drought.

**Executive Session**

S. Miller moved to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(C) - Real Estate at 6:26 PM. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0. Executive session ended at 6:59 PM.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants. The Disbursement Warrants were signed.