Town of Blue Hill Select Board Meeting Monday, June 23, 2025 Minutes

Call to Order: 5:30 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

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

Approval of Minutes

The Board supplied information regarding the executive session and adjournment of the Select Board meeting of June 23, 2025. S. Miller moved to approve the minutes of June 23, 2025, as edited. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

Public Comment

A member of the public asked about the Town's policy regarding signage on the Town Hall lawn, such as the ones frequently planted during weekend protests. S. Miller confirmed that, under a policy adopted in 1999, no temporary signs are permitted on Town Hall grounds.

George Emlen plans to use the Town Park for an open-to-the-public gathering from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM on the Fourth of July. S. Miller moved to have the Town co-sponsor the event in recognition of its civic value and to waive the insurance requirement. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

Business

1. Safe Streets for All – Grant

A. Woog expressed desire to submit the grant application on June 24 or 25, 2025, as it is due on June 26 and the portal might be susceptible to crashes. She spoke to representatives from the Hancock Couty Planning Commission and the Shaw Institute, both of whom offered to write letters of support to supplement the application. She landed on a proposed budget of \$325,000, including the Town's 20% contribution and \$39,000 in indirect cost offsets. S. Miller asked if the demonstration component of the grant was mandatorily attached to the action planning component; Patrick Adams of the Federal Highway Administration explained that grant awards are based on the scope of the project outlined in the application and suggested revising the language to avoid committing to the demonstration aspect. S. Miller moved to authorize A. Woog to submit the application with that alteration. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

2. Public Hearing

- a. <u>Siam Sky</u>: The hearing for Siam Sky's on-premises beer and wine license was opened. J. Milliken spoke in favor of granting the license. The hearing was closed. S. Miller moved to approve the license request as submitted. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.
- b. <u>Rioux Catering</u>: The hearing for Rioux Catering's on-premises beer, wine, and spirits license was opened. J. Milliken spoke in favor of granting the license. The

- hearing was closed. S. Miller moved to approve the license request as submitted. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.
- c. <u>Hill's Market</u>: The hearing for Hill's Market's weekly BYOB event was opened. Amanda Fletcher, the owner of Hill's Market, inquired about the mechanics of the hearing process. The hearing was closed. S. Miller moved to approve the nine special event BYOB permits as requested. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

3. Wildfire Protection Plan

A. Kratz, project administrator, recapped the Town's involvement to date. He told the Board that the Oversight Committee recommends authorizing the Town of Brooksville, in its capacity as Fiscal Agent, to sign the contract with SWCA Environmental Consultants. S. Miller moved to adopt the resolution as distributed. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

4. Pride Crosswalk

The pride color blocks were initially painted on a discontinued crosswalk by mistake, but the painters have since grayed those out and added color to the correct crosswalk. They also added the requested 'no parking' lines to the either side of the Congregational Church's parking lot exit. R. Boulet, director of the Blue Hill Public Library, requested that the Board reconsider the discontinuation of the previously discussed crosswalk despite its being too close to another one because so many children use it. J. Wootten pointed out that reinstating the crosswalk will cost several parking spaces. The Board agreed to revisit the issue before the roads are repainted in the spring of 2026. R. Boulet also pointed out that the crosswalk between George Stevens Academy and the Richardson house was not repainted this spring.

5. Phone System

S. Miller received two proposals: one is leased, resulting in minimal up-front costs but a high monthly cost, while the other allows the Town to purchase the equipment, resulting in an installation cost of about \$10,000 but low monthly costs. Both systems rely on an Internet connection to function. S. Miller proposed trying the latter system, beginning with the Town Hall only and expanding it to serve the Fire Station and Transfer Station if it proves efficacious. The Select Board expressed approval of this plan.

6. Update Bank Signers

- S. Miller moved to appoint L. Sitzabee as Treasurer. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.
- S. Miller moved to instruct First National Bank and Bar Harbor Bank and Trust to remove
- J. Atwell as a signatory while retaining L. Sitzabee. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

7. Cemetery Plot Sale

The Board discussed the price of 10'x10' Seaside Cemetery plots. S. Miller moved to sell the right to use plot 113 to Dominique Horton for her family at the current pricing of 10'x10' lots. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

8. <u>Mobile Vendor – Mobile Cone</u>

S. Miller moved to set the public hearing date for Mobile Cone's mobile vending permit for Monday, June 30, at 5:45 PM. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0. On A. Woog's

suggestion, S. Miller moved to authorize a one-day mobile vending permit for Mobile Cone, valid on June 30, 2025. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

9. Mobile Vendor – Food Fix

S. Miller moved to set the public hearing date for Food Fix's one-year mobile vending permit for Monday, June 30, at 5:45 PM. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

10. <u>ACO</u>

J. Wootten conveyed that M. Lawson, lacking the proper training and equipment, does not wish to continue in his role as Animal Control Officer. After some discussion, S. Miller moved to authorize E. Best to execute a contract with Hancock County in order to hire a third-party ACO. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0. The Board agreed not to remove M. Lawson from the post until that contract was put into effect.

11. Basement Insulation

J. Wootten reported that he received a competitive bid for installing spray foam in the Town Hall basement, which was the last outstanding component of the weather-proofing plan. S. Miller moved to accept the bid and approve the \$6,000 expenditure for the spray foam. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

12. Parking Ordinance

J. Wootten observed that the parking spaces on Parker Point Road have grown too narrow for the average car to fit between the curb and the line, meaning that parked cars are now technically in violation of the Ordinance. E. Best mentioned that other roads' lines have shifted similarly. The matter was tabled until the lines are re-painted in the spring of 2026.

Other Business

The Board was all in favor of altering the Town Office's open hours to 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Wednesday, according to S. Lavallee's suggestion. The new schedule will go into effect the week of June 30, 2025. There was some discussion over the accessibility of online services and E. Best requested that the General Assistance signs near the doors be enlarged.

- E. Best reported that she received a report from a concerned resident about turtle races appearing on the Town calendar. The Board investigated and determined that the event in question was held by the Town of Blue Hill, Nebraska, in 2024.
- J. Wootten will begin the process of having a sign made regarding the eagle nesting site on the Nub.
- S. Miller met with the resident who expressed concerns about being required to pay a sewer bill despite not being connected to the sewer line. He believes that she understands the requirement as outlined in the Sewer Use Ordinance but believes that the Ordinance itself is unfair; she inquired about the process of amending it.
- J. Dow has offered the Town a donation for erosion control at the basketball courts. S. Miller moved to accept the gift. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

Due to transportation difficulties, J. Wootten has not yet been able to retrieve the Town's game camera from the Sheriff's office.

Executive Session

S. Miller moved to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S.§405(6)(C) - Real Estate at 7:12 PM. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0. Executive session ended at 7:43 PM.

Entered executive session per 1 M.R.S.§405(6)(A) - Personnel Matter at 7:44 PM. Executive session ended at 8:17 PM.

Adjournment

S. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants. B. Adams seconded; vote passed 5/0.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.