

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, July 21, 2025
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:32 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

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

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to approve the minutes of July 18, 2025. The approval of the July 14, 2025, minutes was tabled pending the Board's ability to review them.

Public Comment

A. Kratz, representing Blue Hill Peninsula Tomorrow, encouraged the Board to identify projects that might be eligible for funding from the Maine Emergency Management Agency and offered to help fill out the form the state has provided to catalog such projects.

R. Boulet asked about the enforcement procedure for ensuring that Blaze does not continue hosting live outdoor music without the appropriate special amusement permit. The Board will ask B. Emerson, Code Enforcement Officer, to alert them that they are in violation. R. Boulet also asked whether the Town has any mechanism by which to limit noise disruptions and the process of petitioning for such an ordinance.

Business

1. Barncastle Special Amusement Permit

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to set Barncastle's Special Amusement Permit hearing for Monday, July 28, 2025, at 5:45 PM.

2. Town Property Sign Policy

The scheduled hearing was postponed. S. Miller's draft had been circulated to the Board and the Town's attorney, the latter of whom advised expanding the policy to cover the whole of the Town Hall lot, including the building, not merely the lawn. That suggestion raised questions about whether the interior public bulletin board should be removed or overseen by Town representatives.

3. Water St./Washington St./Main St. Intersection

J. Wootten proposed making Washington Street and the end of Water Street one-way in opposite directions to as to simplify traffic flow through the triangular intersection. The Board agreed to wait to see if the Safe Streets for All grant will be awarded and, if so, what recommendations arise from that safety study.

4. Sewer Fee Refund Policy

The Ellsworth Road resident seeking exemption from quarterly sewer billing asked whether they will be entitled to a refund of sewer payments if it is discovered their house is farther than 200 feet from the sewer line. The Board also discussed whether the 200 foot

distance should be measured from the main sewer line or that property's stub. The matter was tabled pending a clear answer on the house's distance.

Functional Area Reports

1. Laptop Refurbishment

S. Miller had both laptops, formerly used for election purposes, refurbished; M. Lawson has taken possession of one for Public Works use.

2. Insurance Response

Maine Municipal Association's insurance inspector had several questions for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which Olver Associates Inc. has answered. There are a range of other questions and proposed actions the S. Miller will coordinate.

3. SHIP Grant Reimbursement

As the new floats are in place, S. Miller submitted the Town's 50% reimbursement request for approximately \$18,000. The Board has not received any reports of anything having gone wrong with R. Florian's float moving project.

4. Animal Control Officer

The Select Board will review past meeting minutes to determine where they are in the process of contracting with a county-level ACO, then proceed with the process.

5. Public Works

The newly purchased truck is in the process of having its fuel management system reprogrammed. The Public Works team has been performing ditching work along Kingdom Road and has stabilized the beach stairs at the Town Park.

Other Business

Considering the misinformation spreading about the proposed GSA land deal, S. Miller clarified that most details are being deliberately kept private until an "ironclad" contract is mutually agreed, at which point there will be far more transparency, including a public hearing and town vote.

Executive Session

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(C) - Real Estate at 6:27 PM. Executive session ended at 6:32 PM.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to authorize E. Best to send a letter to George Stevens Academy's attorney as discussed in executive session.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) - Personnel Matter at 6:33 PM. Executive session ended at 6:41 PM.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to appoint Dana Goettler as Town Clerk, effective June 27, 2025, at the hourly rate of \$27.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to authorize D. Goettler, on behalf of the Town, to extend an offer of employment in the Town Office to Anahi Ruiz, subject to Blue Hill's typical employee "onboarding" conditions, at an hourly rate of \$22.00. **Adjournment**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.