

Policy Statement



Adopted by: Town of Blue Hill Select Board

Originally Adopted: October 30, 2019

As Amended: January 3, 2024

Subject: Policy Regarding Town Meeting Funding Requests from Nonprofit Organizations

The following procedure shall apply to all non-profit organizations seeking financial contributions from the Town of Blue Hill at its Annual Town Meeting.

Initial requests

1. Any organization making an initial request for funding must, in addition to meeting the requirements for all requests (described below), submit a petition signed by at least 50 registered voters of the Town of Blue Hill. At the top of each page of the petition shall be the following statement (with organization name, requested contribution amount and year filled in):

I support the request by <organization name> for a financial contribution in the amount of \$ <requested amount> from the Town of Blue Hill, and hereby request that the Select Board include an article to that effect in the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting to be held in April, <year>.

2. To be valid, each registered voter signing the petition must also be identified with their full name and physical address.
3. All submissions must be mailed to the Town of Blue Hill, 18 Union Street, Blue Hill, ME 04614 or presented in person at the Town Office.
4. Any initial request for funding not accompanied by a petition will not be considered by the Select Board.

Subsequent years' requests

1. Organizations which have received an appropriation immediately preceding the Annual Town Meeting, and which continue to be in good standing, are not required to submit a petition.
2. However, they are required to provide the information required for all requests (below).

Requirements for all requests

1. Submissions must include the attached form (Attachment A), completed in full, together with a cover letter identifying a contact person at the organization (including name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address).
2. All submissions must be received NO LATER THAN 12 NOON ON THE LAST BUSINESS DAY OF THE YEAR (unless extended by a vote of the Select Board) to be considered by the Select Board and

Budget Committee for inclusion in the Town Warrant for the coming fiscal year. ***For calendar year 2024 only, the deadline for submissions shall be January 31, 2024.***

3. Any entity requesting funding from the Town must be prepared to meet with the Budget Committee and/or Select Board upon request to further document and/or explain their request. Failure to comply with this request (if made) on a timely basis will result in exclusion of the request from the Town Warrant.
4. Any entity whose request is included in the Warrant is encouraged to send a representative to the Annual Town Meeting to respond to any questions about the organization or the request.

Disbursement of funds

1. If funding is approved at the Annual Town Meeting, the payment will be made by check, issued no earlier than October 1st of the relevant fiscal year.
2. The funds will be released by the Blue Hill Treasurer either by hand, to an authorized representative of the requesting entity, or by mail.

Other

1. The Town of Blue Hill is not required to contact any organization to remind them of the need to submit their specific request for funding at the Annual Town Meeting.
2. A copy of this procedure will be provided to all entities, upon receipt of their written submission, petition, or inquiry. All questions about this procedure should be addressed to the Town Administrator, Town of Blue Hill, at (207) 374-2281 during regular office hours.

ADOPTED, AS AMENDED, THIS THIRD DAY of JANUARY,
2024 by the Select Board of the Town of Blue Hill.