

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, March 2, 2026
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:30 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

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

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to approve the minutes of February 9, 2026, February 12, 2026, and February 12, 2026, as edited.

Public Comment

J. Dow asked why the 2026 Town Meeting Warrant did not include a third-party funding article for the Blue Hill Public Library. S. Miller explained that its operations are traditionally municipal functions so its funding was incorporated into a municipal article, similarly to the Peninsula Ambulance Corps. The Board discussed how George Stevens Academy could earn a similar level of confidence from the Town, but indicated GSA would likely be under the school committee.

S. Brookman sought permission to rent the Town Wharf for the annual Maritime Heritage Festival on August 15, 2026. The Board approved the plan pending any potential competing use of the space.

Business

1. Town Meeting Logistics

A. Woog and D. Goettler contacted the Consolidated School to arrange their hosting the open Town Meeting on April 4, 2025. E. Best confirmed that the Town has never carried event liability insurance. S. Miller spoke in opposition to planning for staff overtime during the Town Meeting week and in preference of seeking volunteers to fill staffing gaps. The Board discussed plans for childcare during the open Town Meeting.

S. Miller noticed a typo in the Select Board's recommendation under a warrant article. Because the body of the article is accurate, no action is required to vote on the correct number. A third-party nonprofit seeking funding did not submit their request on time due to difficulty communicating with the Town; the Board discussed ways to include their funding regardless.

2. Harbor School Solutionary Projects

The Harbor School sought permission to build and install benches in Horton Emerson Park or the Town Hall lawn. A. Woog agreed to write back for further details on the proposal and to suggest redirecting the project toward a design for the park as a whole.

3. Town Hall Hours

Following the recent hiring of a third clerk, the Town Office should shortly be able to expand its open hours. D. Goettler will circulate a proposal to the Select Board.

4. Living Shoreline Technical Assistance

A. Kratz introduced Blue Hill Peninsula Forward, reorganized from Blue Hill Peninsula Tomorrow, and offered to apply for free technical assistance on the erosion of Seaside Cemetery and the Town Park on behalf of the Town. He requested the support of a member of the Select Board and Public Works at a few remote meetings. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to authorize and request Blue Hill Peninsula Forward to prepare and submit an application on the Town's behalf, pursuant to the circulated resolution, and to nominate A. Woog and M. Lawson as the Town's representatives, pending confirmation of M. Lawson's willingness.

5. Safe Streets for All Update

P. Adams has almost completed the draft grant agreement and will meet with A. Woog to present it.

Other Business

The Maine DOT sought a reservation to show a documentary about Falls Bridge in the auditorium in Town Hall in late March. Dates will need to be compared with New Surry Theatre's schedule.

The Board received a request for permission to maintain and potentially reroute a trail on Town land. They will seek more details about the reroute before granting it.

S. Miller discovered that towns of Blue Hill's size are required to issue certificates of occupancy during the construction of new residences. J. Chapman will contact the State Fire Marshall's office to establish responsibilities going forward.

The Town Hall's AED might be recoverable with an aftermarket battery.

Executive Session

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) - Personnel at 7:03 PM. Executive session ended at 8:02 PM.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.