

**Town of Blue Hill  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, May 18, 2026  
Minutes**

**Call to Order: 5:31 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 4/0 with one abstention to approve the minutes of May 11, 2026.

**Public Comment**

No public comments.

**Business**

**1. Request for Abatement of 2025 and 2026 Property Tax for Map 32, Lot 23**

Blue Hill Community Development hopes to be able to donate the Blueberry Barrens to the Blue Hill Heritage Trust in the next few months. BHCD has paid the 2025 tax bill for the property. S. Miller, President of BHCD, requested an abatement for the 2026 taxes on the grounds of BHCD being a 501(c)(3). He and E. Best, BHHT's attorney, both recused themselves from deliberation and voting due to their conflicts of interest. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 3/0 with two abstentions to grant the abatement as requested.

**2. CEO Candidate**

Tabled for executive session.

**3. Public Hearing: Mobile Vending Permit – Hearth and Soul**

The hearing was opened. No members of the public were present to speak. The hearing was closed. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to grant Hearth and Soul's one-year Mobile Vending Permit as requested.

**4. Acadia Fire Football Club Request for AA Field Use**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to approve Acadia Fire FC's request to use the AA Field in the mornings between June 22 and June 26, 2026. The Board discussed the extent to which the Town Office tracks the use of the AA Fields.

**5. Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project – Weekly Status Reports Available**

S. Miller informed the Board that he receives reports from Olver Associates Inc. every week and posts them to the File Repository. He suggested that Steve Brookman, who organizes the Maritime Heritage Festival, coordinate with Olver to prevent disruptions.

## **6. Office Closure for Staff Training**

The Town Office will be closed on Thursday, May 21, 2026, between 1:00 and 2:00 PM for staff training about document retention requirements. The objective is to empty the current file storage room over the next few months so that, if necessary, the Island Institute fellow can use it as an office.

## **Other Business**

M. Cousins presented a year-to-date analysis of budget use. She pointed out that the low amount of revenue to date is due to property taxes not having yet been committed. Areas of note include the Public Works department's line for equipment maintenance, high due to unavoidable truck repairs during the plowing season; the Board's use of their fund for unanticipated expenditures, high due to the need for a grant match; and the animal control line, high because an invoice for 2025 arrived so late into 2026 that it could no longer be posted to 2025.

The Board discussed sourcing a sign for the newly-renamed Steven Johnson Memorial Field. They also discussed adding additional signage to Seaside Cemetery to make it clearer that pets are not permitted. B. Adams will have the Public Works team add the additional signage to the Cemetery.

The owner of a house on Mill Island under construction has applied through the Bureau of Parks & Lands to place floats. The Bureau has sent the Board notice of the application, soliciting public comment. D. Goettler will post the notice on the Town website. It will also be forwarded to the chairs of the Planning Board and Marine Resources Committee.

P. Norris, Tree Warden, seems to have offered private landowners a 50/50 match to treat their elm trees outside the public right of way. M. Cousins has received several checks from landowners; the Board will ask her not to deposit them until they can confirm that the match will not exceed the Tree Warden budget. The large elm tree on the Town Hall lawn needs further investigation to determine whether action is needed following a large branch falling recently and pulling down a utility line.

D. Goettler raised concerns about a lack of enrolled Republicans volunteering to work the polls at the upcoming primary election. A. Woog suggested she reach out to the Hancock County Republican Party to solicit volunteers.

A. Woog updated the Board on her work on the Safe Streets for All grant. She also announced that the bench donated by the Harbor School class is almost ready.

The Board agreed to postpone next week's meeting to Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 5:30 PM, due to Monday being Memorial Day.

## **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 6:45 PM. Executive session ended at 7:31 PM.

## **Additional Business**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to extend an offer of employment for a part-time CEO, to augment the services currently provided by Zavier Alvarez, on the terms discussed in executive session.

**Adjournment**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.