

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, June 29, 2026
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:30 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

E. Best (Chair), S. Miller, A. Woog, A. Ruiz (Deputy Town Clerk, Minute Taker).

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 2/0, with 1 abstention, to approve the minutes of June 23, 2026, as edited.

Public Comment

Lynn Strassenburg brought up the issue regarding the drainage ditch near Pine Wood Lane off Parker Point Road, which she reported has a lot of foliage and potentially caused flooding in her basement. She added that this has not been worked on in the past year; S. Miller indicated that he had spoken earlier in the day with B. Adams—Adams had visited the site in the morning and found the ditches to be relatively deep, the culverts clear, and no need for road work. E. Best took Strassenburg's phone number and will pass it along to Adams to schedule a joint inspection.

Strassenburg also requested the front and side doors at the Town Hall be painted or cleaned. The Board stated they have been working on contracting a painter to get Town Hall exterior painting done since April and expect to have an estimate in the next few weeks; they agreed that the doors (and several other aspects of the Town Hall exterior) need work.

Ben Wootten informed the Board of the resignation of the Blue Hill Consolidated School's principal and that Kyle Snow, who was assistant to the principal previously, will be appointed as the interim. He added that there will be a hiring committee available and hopes the word gets around they are seeking candidates for the position.

Business

1. Septic Subsidy policy

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 3/0 to adopt the septic subsidy policy as distributed to, and edited by, the Board.

2. Liquor License public hearing: Naiad Country Brewery, LLC

The public hearing for a liquor license was opened. Spencer, on behalf of Naiad Country Brewery, provided a brief idea of their plans and hopes to use this liquor license for wine and beer brewing and serving. With no further comments for or against issuing the license, the hearing was closed. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 3/0 to approve the liquor license as requested for Naiad Country Brewery, LLC.

3. Mobile Vendor Permit public hearing: Waffle ME

The public hearing for the requested permit was opened. With no comments for or against issuing the permit, the hearing was closed. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 3/0 to approve the mobile vendor permit as requested for Waffle ME.

4. Sewer Lien Policy

E. Best discussed the idea of reinstating liens for past due sewer taxes, as years ago it was done on an annual basis. The Board agreed that there should be a minimum amount due before placing a lien on the property and should establish how often these liens should be placed. This would offer a chance for future owners of affected properties to view this type of lien when looking into the deed. E. Best will report back with a draft policy for placing liens on properties with unpaid sewer fees.

5. Porta-potty security

The Board discussed recent vandalism on the porta-potties at the Village Wharf and alternatives, such as locks or cameras, to prevent further damage. After some discussion of the relative merit of several approaches, the Board decided to investigate adding doors and locks and identifying someone to manage when the facilities are locked and unlocked. E. Best will reach out to Alan Henschke to see if locking/unlocking the facilities is something PAC would be willing to do...since the facilities are very close to the Fire Station and PAC is staffed 24/7. She will report back.

6. Main St. Bridge Project

The Board received correspondence from MaineDOT regarding the 2029 Main Street bridge replacement project, and they requested any information on nearby facilities owned by the Town. Since the Board was not aware of any facilities other than the sewer/storm drain lines, S. Miller will forward the inquiry to Olver for their response.

7. SU93 access to BHBT school loan information

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 3/0 to authorize Bar Harbor Bank and Trust to provide School Union 93 employees with access to school loan information, in both digital and physical form.

Other Business

Hancock County has appointed a new Animal Control Officer, Memphis Mink. The town website directory will be updated and A. Ruiz will complete the municipal information form for the state. E. Best will be the designated Town contact for the ACO.

The Select Board (and others) received an email asking whether any special activities were planned for Independence Day. E. Best and A. Woog will respond, indicating that the Town has not arranged any special events, but would be open to supporting any volunteer effort that might get organized.

A. Woog mentioned there will be a bench unveiling on Thursday, July 2, 2026, at 10:00am. She expressed gratitude to M. Lawson and S. Gould, our public works team, for working on the ground area where the bench will be placed. This led to a discussion of other ways to improve the Town Hall grounds; E. Best indicated a desire to develop a cohesive plan for such activities.

A. Woog described her meeting with the Island Institute (II) to discuss the Fellowship MOU policies. The one area of focus and continued discussion was how the II policies and the Town's policies relate and how/which would apply to the Fellow. The consensus was to handle any issues on a case-by-case basis. A. Woog suggested the Island Institute Fellow to be equipped with some of our town's onboarding materials such as the employee policy handbook. S. Miller added that the degree to which Town policies would apply depends on factors such as whether the Fellow would be provided with an @bluehillme.gov email address or given access to the Town's digital files.

Additionally, A. Woog will work on figuring out more details for the Safe Streets for All project prior to the Institute Fellow's start date. S. Miller added that during the Solid Waste Committee meeting, they discussed working with a University of Maine transportation/engineering professor for solutions on the traffic flow at the Blue Hill/Surry transfer station. S. Miller hopes that whatever firm is ultimately hired for Safe Streets for All will work in parallel with the UMaine project team (if the Transfer Station is selected as one of the UMaine projects).

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 3/0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:45PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.