

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2026
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:31 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

E. Best (Chair), S. Miller, B. Adams, J. Wootten, A. Woog (remote), 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 July 6, 2026, as edited.

Public Comment

Lynn Strassenburgh reiterated her request to walk the site of the reportedly blocked culvert with B. Adams. B. Adams agreed to meet her at the site at 6:00 PM on July 14, 2026.

Business

1. Mobile Vending Permit

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to approve Tapley Oyster Cove's single-event mobile vending permit application.

2. Handicap Parking Spot

S. Miller advocated for adding a handicap parking spot along Main Street, ideally an isolated spot not bordered by other spots, and reviewing other handicap spaces to see if any should be converted to general-use parking. The Board agreed to add it to the street painting list for the spring of 2027. A. Woog mentioned that the topic would likely be brought up as part of the Safe Streets for All planning process.

3. Renewal of Municipal Education Cost Disbursement Policy

The Maine statute that permits the delegation of disbursement responsibilities requires that such policies be renewed annually. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to renew the Municipal Education Cost Disbursement Policy for the 2026-27 school year.

4. Island Institute Fellowship MOU

A. Woog forwarded a revised MOU that requires the Fellow to comply with Town Office employee policies. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to authorize A. Woog to sign the MOU. No housing has yet been secured for the Fellow.

5. MCP Planning Grant Opportunity

The Maine Coastal Program is offering another round of planning grants similar to the one that funded the wharf resilience study. E. Best spoke in opposition to engaging the Town in further major projects given the expense of the currently required repair projects, such as the WWTP upgrade, public safety building, and continued road reconstruction. The

Board discussed applying for a future year's grant funds to explore possible shorefront stabilization ideas for Seaside Cemetery, given there are graves in danger of falling into the sea. The possibility of having to relocate graves was discussed.

6. Authorized Signer for 2nd BHBT School Account

There is a checking account in the Town's name but associated with the Consolidated School, both signatories for which are no longer employed by the school. M. Cousins reported that she spoke with J. Atwell, School Union 93 Business Manager, who said it is being used as petty cash for the school's needs, with approval for the expenditures authorized after the fact. S. Miller advocated for transferring the funds into the appropriate account (most likely the school checking account used for A/P and payroll) and closing the account altogether in the next few weeks. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to remove D. Ormsby and L. Smith from the School's second checking account with Bar Harbor Bank and Trust and to add M. Cousins as the sole signatory of the account.

7. Household Hazardous Waste Collection

In response to an email sent by Jim Fisher, Deer Isle Town Manager, to all peninsula towns, S. Miller expressed the view that Blue Hill should be thinking about whether, and how, to participate. He expressed support for having the Towns split the fixed costs with other peninsula towns and having participating citizens pay the variable costs. He will ask M. Laursen to check if the DEP will consider the Transfer Station an acceptable collection point and what special procedures, etc. would be required.

8. Town Property Use Request – AA Field

Rosy Whitney requested to reserve the AA Field for a birthday party on July 17, 2026. J. Wootten stated that there is no conflict with the Little League team. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 with one abstention to approve the Town Property Use Request.

9. Planning Board/Ordinance Amendments

S. Miller summarized proposed minor technical amendments to the Shoreland Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances that should be suitable to submit for approval at a Special Town Meeting. He also described a draft Building Ordinance to clarify requirements of Certificates of Occupancy and allow the Town to charge some fees on construction work. Due to the scope of the new ordinance, the Board agreed that it should appear on the warrant of an Annual Town Meeting.

Z. Alvarez sent a Notice of Violation to Blaze on July 8, 2026.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.