

**Town of Blue Hill  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, July 27, 2026  
Minutes**

**Call to Order: 5:30 PM**

**Attendance/Quorum**

E. Best (Chair), S. Miller, 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 to approve the minutes of July 20, 2026, and July 23, 2026, as edited.

**Public Comment**

L. Strassenburgh reported that B. Adams and J. Wootten visited the site of her culvert and that some of the vegetation was removed; she requested that the whole ditch be re-dug. J. Wootten explained that more hardware will be needed to re-trench the area, which will not be available until autumn. At that time, such work as the Town deems appropriate will be done.

R. Boulet sought and received confirmation that Blaze's request for a one-time extension to the terms of their Special Amusement Permit was never approved.

B. Wootten requested an additional sign in advance of the stop sign on Beech Hill Road. The root concerns were focused on the subtle transition from Beech Hill to Union St., the fact that speeding is common, and vegetation obscuring signs. There was discussion about identifying this as a speeding enforcement area for the Sherriff's office and trimming vegetation; J. Wootten reported that the trees were trimmed that morning.

George Fields of the Blue Hill Heritage Trust reported that MaineDOT will post pedestrian signs at Peter's Brook and that there will also be a trail race on Blue Hill Mountain on Saturday, August 1, 2026. He requested the use of the traffic cones offered by B. Adams, which was approved.

**Business**

**1. Potential Blaze 80K**

The Select Board and Z. Alvarez met with town attorney A. Dixon, who advised them not to grant Blaze's requested extension; she will meet with Blaze's attorney on July 28, 2026, then advise the Board on whether or not to proceed with the proposed 80K action. The Board agreed to meet in the afternoon of Wednesday, July 29, 2026, to review A. Dixon's findings and make a decision.

**2. Proposed Event Closure of Union Street**

The Board received a request to close a portion of Union Street for a steelband event on May 2, 2027. Since that road is under State jurisdiction, the question was referred to MaineDOT.

**3. MOCA Housing Ordinance Grant**

The Maine Office of Community Affairs is offering a grant of up to \$10,000 to help offset costs of updating local housing ordinances to bring them into compliance with amended legislation. S. Miller recommended applying for all \$10,000 because excess funds are simply required to be spent on housing purposes. J. Chapman believes that the Town already has the required State vendor number. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to authorize S. Miller to submit the grant application for the full \$10,000 amount.

**4. Public Safety Building Signs**

The Congregational Church posted signs up and down Tenney Hill alongside the Public Safety Building. S. Miller stated that they first asked both him and B. Adams for permission, but that neither was able to reply in time. He expressed belief that the signs are within the right-of-way and therefore legal. J. Chapman has no objections to the Church's use of the Public Safety Building parking lot as overflow parking for the August 8, 2026, Blueberry Festival.

**5. Water Street Elm**

S. Miller reported that the municipal removal of dangerous trees in rights-of-way appears to be at the Town's discretion; the Board discussed how involved the Town should be in such removals. S. Miller and A. Woog agreed to begin drafting an ordinance wherein the Town will warn homeowners about trees suspected to be dangerous and bill them for cleanup should the warned tree fall on the road.

**Other Business**

S. Miller clarified that individual Select Board members do not have the authority to commit the Town to any expenditures that are not already reflected in the approved budget.

The Board discussed the approaching need for a Special Town Meeting to replenish the Select Board's fund for unanticipated expenditures, together with any other matters suitable for a special town meeting.

**Executive Session**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A), personnel, at 6:36 PM. Executive session ended at 7:14 PM.

**Adjournment**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.