Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2026
Minutes

Call to Order: 5:30 PM.

Attendance/Quorum
E. Best (Chair), S. Miller, B. Adams (arrived during public comment), 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 August 3, 2026, and August 4, 2026, as edited.

Public Comment
E. Best clarified that the previously-scheduled public hearing on the proposed settlement with Blaze was postponed on the advice of Town attorney A. Dixon.

Business

1. **Tree Warden Update**
   P. Norris requested that the Board reconsider its current policy of splitting the costs of inoculating elm trees on public property 50/50 with the property owners. He reported that the inoculations have not been working as well as hoped, and he advocated instead for having the Town pay half the cost of removing dead and dying trees as quickly as possible to prevent them from harboring and spreading the fungus. He agreed to provide an estimate of the cost of removing all dead trees from the downtown area by the end of the summer. S. Miller elaborated on State legislation regarding the Town's authority and financial responsibility to remove dangerous trees in the right-of-way. The Board agreed to consider placing P. Norris's estimate for the cost on the warrant for the August 31, 2026, Special Town Meeting.

2. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Generator Disposition**
   The Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade project includes a new generator; the Board discussed what to do with the old generator, which has a 200-kW output. B. Adams advocated for either auctioning it off or offering it for sale to another municipality. J. Chapman suggested offering it to the Blue Hill Consolidated School. The Board will place an article seeking permission to sell it on the warrant for the August 31, 2026, Special Town Meeting.

3. **Town Hall Heat Pump Replacement**
   Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to accept Roy Boys' quote to replace one of the upstairs heat pumps for $6,150.97, with the funds to come from the Select Board's fund for unanticipated expenses.

4. **Town Hall Pressure Tank Replacement**
   Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to accept Roy Boys' quote to replace the pressure tank for $1,447.25, with the funds to come from the Select Board's fund for unanticipated expenses.

5. **EMS Plan Required by State**
   E. Best distributed a proposed municipal resolution naming Peninsula Ambulance Corps as the Town's emergency medical transportation and outlining how the Town supports them financially. S. Miller thanked A. Henschke and J. Chapman for identifying the new law and preparing the resolution template. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to adopt the resolution as distributed.

Other Business
E. Best has reached out to J. Dow to ask if he is willing to serve as Tax Collector for the 2027 tax year.

E. Best reached out to First National Bank and Bar Harbor Bank and Trust about loans for the Turkey Farm Road work and has so far heard back only from First National Bank.

A. Woog sent the thank-you letter to King Foundation for the Public Safety Building funds.

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)(F) – Discussion of Confidential Records at 6:16 PM. Executive session ended at 6:27 PM.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to grant the requested abatement for 2025 taxes, including interest and costs.

Adjournment
Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 5/0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.