**Town of Blue Hill**

**Select Board Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Monday July 18,2022 at 5:30 PM**

**Town Hall**

**Meeting called to order at 5:30pm**

1. **Attendance- E. Best, J. Dow, S. Miller, B. Smythe, S. Dooley, Joe Hayes; Interim TA, Lyndsey Dow; Town Clerk, Denny Robertson; Harbormaster, Matt Dennison; Fire Chief, Steve Brookman and Randy Curtis**
2. **Approval of SB Minutes from July 11- Approved 5-0**
3. **Department Report(s)-**
4. **Interim Town Administrators report- Joe gave his weekly report. He provided examples of wording for signs identifying hours and other possible restrictions for the Town Park. He also filed extension with Maine Community Foundation (Belvedere fund) for the town hall steps repair grant. They agreed to the extension to August 15TH but asked that the town provide a report of project spending thus far.**
5. **Town Clerk Report**- Lyndsey reported on the increase of town hall business since the start of summer, noting that its especially important for customers to bring necessary documents needed for completing transactions efficiently and quickly, such as previous registrations, insurance cards and at least ME registration numbers for boats. Most importantly she asks that patrons please be patient and understanding during this busy time. Lyndsey also went over the information she was asked to obtain regarding gaining access to collecting online tax and sewer payments. Scott moved to begin accepting online sewer and property taxes. Sean second. 5-0 approved.
6. **Harbor Master update**-
   1. Denny received a letter regarding the Army Corps of Engineer Harbor Dredging Project. Scott had a discussion with ACOE, and the next steps of the project would be to schedule a public hearing. Scott’s recommendation was the week of August 9th in the evening. It was agreed that Scott would also contact Prock Marine to obtain a rough estimate of the cost to build infrastructure to access the dredged turning basis—either a system of “ground out” floats or a fixed pier.
   2. The hoist on the crane at the wharf is inoperable and needs to be replaced. The board asked Denny how much use it gets, and Denny felt it was worth replacing. He priced a duplicate at Harbor freight for about $3000 not including other necessary parts or labor. It was agreed that the MRC would be included in the decision and that crane users would be polled as to their willingness to pay a use fee.
7. **Fire Chief Update-** Matt provided the board with printed copies of both the updated Emergency Operations Plan and the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Lyndsey will digitize the Hazard Mitigation Plan and Matt will provide the digital pdf of the EOP.

**Old Business:**

1. **Cemetery Update- Scott moved the extension of the Cemetery moratorium until July 26th. Sean second. Lyndsey will provide the board with the information for review before the next meeting. 5-0 approved.**
2. **Facilities-** 
   1. **Flagpole was delivered- the new town hall flagpole was delivered. Butler will coordinate with Reggie Nevells for installation.**
   2. **Columns/Steps update- Columns need to be ordered as it is about a 12-week delivery time. The price for new columns is less than $20,000. Scott moved ordering the columns using the 35k appropriation from the Town Hall Steps repair fund. Sean second. 5-0 Approved.**
3. **Fire House Tour-** scheduled for July 21st at 5:30 with Matt Dennison, Fire Chief.
4. **CEO Fee Schedule-** Tabled until the planning board has the chance to review.

**New Business:**

1. **Tax Commitment-** The board reviewed multiple scenarios with various mil rates for the 2022 tax commitment. Scott moved setting the 2022 tax rate at 12.6 mil. Jim second. 5-0 approved.
2. **Tax Stabilization Program 2023-** Ellen discussed the upcoming tax stabilization law taking effect for the 2023 and beyond taxes for those who qualify. There are specific criteria for eligibility. The state will be providing applications and those will be able to be picked up at the town office once available.
3. **Public Safety/Ordinances**
   1. **Signs on the Triangle –** No signs are allowed in the traffic circle or in the triangle at Main and Water streets. Copies of the ordinance were given to the Flash in the Pan coordinators.
   2. **Parking/Vandalism at Park events-** Matt has had to cone off portions of the fire station area; people were blocking the overhead doors accessing the fire station, at the Monday night Pan events. In the event of an emergency this would pose a public safety hazard. There has been vandalism at the park at night; destruction to the porta potties as well as a picnic table being put into the water. The board discussed some ideas for eliminating some of these issues.
4. **Maritime Heritage Festival-** Steve Brookman reported that planning is going well for the upcoming event on August 13th. Information can be found at BHMHF.org. Steve requested use of the building at the wharf from Friday – Monday after the event for storage. He will be given a key for access. He asked for and was granted permission to put a sign up on the ramp a week before the festival. Banners will be posted around town as well on Facebook.
5. **Special Town Meeting-** Scott moved to set the first special town meeting for Town Hall appropriation and Tax acquired property sell-back on August 8 at 5:30. The second town meeting regarding ordinance amendments will be set for September 12th at 6:30. Sean second. 5-0 approved.
6. **Climate Resilience Committee-** Randy provided the board with a list of proposed members. Board will review. Randy and Jeff will compile the final list.
7. **Annual Election of MMA VP-** Joe provided the board with a ballot with candidates for MMA vice president. No action.
8. **Executive Session**- 1 M.R.S.A § 401(6)(A)- Personnel Matter- Entered 7:24pm, exited 7:35 pm.
9. **Interim Town Administrator**. Scott moved to thank Joe Hayes for his assistance to the Town and to provide notice under our agreement with him that the Town wishes to conclude our interim arrangement with him. Sean seconded. Ellen and Jim will review the agreement and one of them will discuss with Joe. 5-0 approved.

**Other Business**

1. **Updates/Reminders-** None

**Public Comment-** No public comment- Ellen asked the public comment section be put toward the beginning of the meeting. With time limits depending on context. Other board members agreed. Will see how it goes next week.

**Warrant signatures-** Warrants signed.

**Adjourn-** Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm