

**Town of Blue Hill  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, May 28, 2024  
Minutes**

**Called Meeting to Order at 5:31pm**

1. **Determine Quorum and Meeting Attendance** – E. Best (Chair), B. Adams, J. Dow, S. Miller, J. Wootten, J. Atwell (Town Administrator) and M. Rockwell (Treasurer).
2. **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2024** – S. Miller moved to accept the minutes as amended; J. Dow seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
3. **Public Comment** – No public comment.

**Business**

1. **Authorization for Webber’s Cove work for Harbormaster** – N. Niehoff, the current harbormaster requested to utilize Webber Cove’s equipment at the standard rate of \$150/hour. S. Miller moved to authorize the harbormaster to use Webber Cove equipment and labor at its standard rates for the calendar year 2024; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
2. **Public Hearing**  
**Liquor License – Blue Hill Bed and Breakfast, LLC (5:45pm)** – The public hearing was opened at 5:50pm, there were no comments made for or against the renewal. J. Wootten moved to approve the liquor license renewal; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
3. **Seaside Cemetery Rules (topics include prohibiting dogs and planting rules)** – The Board discussed the new proposed rules. S. Miller discussed getting rid of perpetual care, E. Best will review Maine law concerning perpetual care. S. Miller moved to approve the cemetery rules as amended; J. Wootten seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved. J. Dow will generate a new version of the rules with appropriate changes.
4. **Dam Preservation – Marc Restuccia** – AIM is the current owner of multiple dams, and they are looking to get rid of them. This would affect the Toddy Pond watershed here in Blue Hill. Mr. Restuccia wanted to bring the matter to the Board’s attention and to enlist affected towns to assist in preserving the dams. AIM has asked the state to allow them to abandon the dams and this may cause the state to remove them. It was asked if towns could take them by eminent domain. S. Miller asked Mr. Restuccia to keep them apprised.
5. **Park Lights – Warren Berkowitz** – Mr. Berkowitz addressed the Board opposing lights in the park. He mentioned speaking with his neighbors and they all agreed. He is concerned that lighting may encourage more after-hours usage. The Board advised that there used to be a light there and that we are attempting to combat vandalism in the park. Ms. Hathaway is the president of Dark Sky Maine and addressed the Board. She said that no light is better; motion lights are better than always on lights; she suggested a low pole with fixture and shield. She also stated that having control over the lighting is important. S. Miller suggests that we move slowly on this issue since the Porta Potties were recently moved and this may reduce the incidence of vandalism. The subject was tabled for now.
6. **Propane Tank** – In the 2022/2023 heating season we utilized 4500 gallons of propane. If we own our own tank at a cost of \$3,000 to Wardwell Oil, we would be able to negotiate

the lowest price on propane with any provider. S. Miller moved to spend \$3,000 to purchase the propane tank from Wardwell Oil and to utilize the Select Board Contingency Fund to pay for the purchase; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved. J. Atwell will investigate pricing for the 2023/2024 heating season.

7. **Public Works – Tools Costs & Cemetery Mowing** – C. Kowalski agreed with the \$683 rate for the annual use of his tools in 2024. He discussed the possibility of utilizing outside contractors to aid in the mowing of the cemeteries. There has been a job posting for a part time position in the public works department that has gone unanswered. There was discussion concerning opening a full-time position. S. Miller would need to know there was sufficient work to justify a full-time position to sign off on that. He suggested making a list of Public Works tasks—for all four seasons—to help assess the value of an additional hire.
8. **Personal Property Tax** – J. Wootten talked with John Bannister and E. Best talked with Vaughn Leach concerning the vote to not tax personal property for Blue Hill businesses whose owners also pay Blue Hill property tax. The Board would like to discuss this further with the assessing agent. The Board would like to meet with the assessing agent on the June 10 to discuss the recent town revaluation.
9. **Village Float Disposal (Update)** – The Board decided to hold a silent auction for several surplus floats. They set a deadline of June 3 to submit bids.

### **Other Business**

1. **Fabiola Zambon Seaside Cemetery Refund** – F Zambon requested a refund for the cemetery plot that she purchased at Seaside Cemetery due to the new rules and not allowing pets. S. Miller moved to repurchase the plot from F. Zambon; J. Dow seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
2. **AA Field Turf** – At a previous meeting, the Select Board approved a motion to spend \$1,561.64 on the AA Field Turf. The invoice came in at \$1,565.60. S. Miller moved to authorize the additional \$3.96 for the AA Field Turf; B. Adams seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.
3. **Wharf Resilience Design Project** – S. Miller moved that the Select Board resolve to recommend appropriation of up to \$55,000 of unassigned funds, representing the local contribution to a wharf resilience design project, if the grant application is successful, at the next Town Meeting; J. Wootten seconded. Vote: 5/0 Approved.

### **Adjournment**

J. Dow moved to adjourn after signing warrants at 7:43; B. Adams seconded. Vote 5/0 Approved.