

Dalton Select Board Meeting

Minutes of January 13, 2020 Meeting

Present were Selectmen: Chair Jo Beth Dudley. Carol Sheltry and Tamela Swan
Also present were John Swan, Ron Sheltry, Fire Chief; Don and Nancy Mooney, and several others.

Called to Order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Dudley.

The Select Board completed check signing asking occasional questions. There were two Spectrum checks so that they could be paid timely upon receipt of the January Invoice.

There was discussion about the yearend balance and the difference between Tamela's figures and the Accountant's Quick Book figures. It may be because the double payments have not yet been reversed in QuickBooks. From the Accountant's reports the budget has been overspent by approximately \$13,000.

In reviewing the January 6th minutes Jo Beth Dudley asked if it was true the selectmen must be part of the counting of the ballots and sign a form. Yes, this is so however the Temporary Administrative Assistant will try to find out if only 2 of the 3 selectmen signing the forms would be sufficient.

The first two sentences of Paragraph 2 on page 2 read: "The annual Town Meeting is 3/10/20 and the budget hearing must be held by 2/7/20. The Warrant must be posted by 2/24/20 and the Town Report must be available by 3/3/20." The board agreed to change it to: *The annual Town Meeting is 3/10/20 and the budget hearing must be noticed by 2/7/20 and held by 2/14/20. The last date for residents to add a petitioned warrant article is 2/4/20. The actual Town Warrant must be posted by 2/24/20 and the Town Report must be available by 3/3/20.* The other change is in the next to last paragraph on page 2, first sentence to insert: *to the select board* between *due* and *1/20/20*. With these changes Tamela Swan made a motion to accept the 1/6/20 minutes as amended. Carol Sheltry seconded the motion and all three selectmen voter in the affirmative.

Carol Sheltry made a motion to accept the 1st 1/6/20 Non-Public Minutes as presented. Tamela Swan seconded the motion and all three selectmen voted in favor.

Jo Beth Dudley made a motion to accept the 2nd 1/6/20 Non-Public Minutes and Tamela Swan seconded the motion. Carol Sheltry recused herself. The remaining two selectmen voted in favor of the motion.

There was a brief discussion about the stipend for the Cemetery Sexton. The Temporary Administrative Assistant will continue to seek documentation. In the meantime, the selectmen authorized payment of a \$500 stipend, through payroll, to Terri Parks, Sexton.

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Chair Jo Beth Dudley updated the board on the status of a Right To Know Action for the Planning board and their drafting of the zoning ordinances by Casella. Clarification of exactly which emails and documents and between or from whom are required is being requested and, if necessary, additional documentation will be sent.

Jon Swan asked if the board had received any correspondence from Casella and stated that the board should ask them to come to a public board meeting and discuss their plans with the board. We have not yet received a copy of the Public Hearing audio from them which they had said they would provide. Chair Dudley will follow up on this.

The conservation commission will be meeting Tuesday 1/21/20 at 6:30 PM. They will need to meet in the auditorium or the room off of the Select Board meeting room as the Supervisors of the Check List are meeting, by State mandate, and need access to their files in the Select Board's meeting room.

Carol mentioned that if items need to be posted at the Transfer Station an envelope can be marked for Kyle and left on the bulletin board at the Town Office and he will see that they are posted at the Transfer Station.

The Temporary Administrative Assistant will sign up 3 for the meeting on assessing process at Whitefield on January 30th.

Don Mooney gave a presentation about a potential offer by John Casella to give one or more of the Town Departments 50-100 thousand dollars to fund a needed purchase or service with "NO STRINGS ATTACHED". A brief discussion followed. Chair Dudley said a hearing must be held to accept an amount over \$10,000 and that as this is the first unanticipated revenue issue she has dealt with she has requested some information on the process from NHMA. As a hearing is required and we are close to town meeting she anticipates any hearing being held sometime after the Town Meeting. Jon Swan asked if this offer was not a conflict of interest as Casella potentially will have a development within the town. He also asked why the comment: NO STRINGS ATTACHED? Copies of the proposal were handed to several members of the audience.

The Library Budget was looked at and it was noted that it is in the Town's budget under Culture and Recreation. Their Budget is up slightly.

The Board had a discussion with John Tholl regarding the Police Department's budget, history and current configuration. Various options and/or configurations were discussed. The budget as proposed is up by \$10,000 which includes funds to hire a part time officer so that there will be more coverage for the Town.

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Jo Beth Dudley reminded the meeting that WMRHS will have their bond and budget hearing on 1/15/20 beginning at 5:30 PM. Snow date is 1/16/20. This will affect the tax rate for the Town of Dalton as will the County budget which includes funding for two nursing homes.

Rosemary and Clifford Carter, Trustees of Trust funds, have deposited the \$5000 for the Police Cruiser Reserve fund and have the documentation to write the check out of the Technology fund for the new copier/printer. They brought forth some concerns about a lack of documentation in the records they were given. They will contact the bank to get a 2019 Statement for each of the accounts and the Temporary Administrative Assistant will check out some files she has noticed in the Selectmen's file cabinet.

Carol Sheltry said that she had been requested to add a warrant article increasing the amount of the Veteran's credit to \$750. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

There being no further business, at 9:39 PM Carol Sheltry made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Jo Beth Dudley. All three selectmen voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Regular Board meeting is **January 20, 2020 at 5:30 PM**.


Respectfully submitted,

Tina Peabody
Temporary Administrative Assistant
Town of Dalton


January 13, 2020 Minutes as approved by the Select Board on 01/20/20.



Carol Sheltry, Select board Member



Tamela Swan, Select board Member



Jo Beth Dudley, Select board Chairman