

Dalton Select Board Meeting

Minutes of August 10, 2020

Present were Selectmen: Chair Jo Beth Dudley, Carol Sheltry and Tamela Swan.

Present included: Fire Chief Ron Sheltry, Scott Kleinschrodt, Jon Swan, Linda Greenwood, Don Mooney, Pam Kathan, Martha Mason, Jesse Wentworth, Terry Parks, Eldora Bigelow, Magic Toto.

At 6:30 Chairman Jo Beth Dudley called the meeting to order.

The Board signed the Ap and PR checks.

Chairman Jo Beth Dudley: We're actually going to have a very short meeting. It has been a tough day for members of the Fire Department. And we have so much that we need to deal with, personnel issues and non-public session. So, is there anything that anybody has that is urgent to bring before the board? No there will be no public comments session tonight.

One application for elderly exemption, after a brief discussion on eligibility requirements, Tamela Swan made a motion to approve the application, the motion was seconded by Carol Sheltry and, by a roll call vote, approved by all three selectmen.

Linda Greenwood Town Treasurer stated that the board had asked a couple of meetings ago, about her current duties and that she had typed out a list/ letter for the board. And she also wanted to briefly say that we've talked about reconciliation of the accounts and at this time, there has been no deposits enter in the QuickBooks ledger since COHOS has stopped doing the accounts in April. (Letter Attached) Also, another concern is that the town needs to start paying two recurring monthly bills for WebEX and QuickBooks, at this present time these bills are paid using personal checking accounts of our employees, and I think we should apply for a debit card from Passumpsic Bank and transfer money into the card account and pay the recurring bills. The paperwork is straightforward and there are no fees for setup or for use. Jo Beth Dudley stated that's a good suggestion and she agree. Linda stated the only discussion that needs to happen is who will be the Name on the card. It can be one of the Selectmen, myself or the deputy treasure Nancy Rexford.

Pam Kathan asked if it was true that Casella would be coming to the August 24, meeting, Chair Jo Beth Dudley stated that she had not been notified of that. Tamela stated that there is a certified letter in today mail, that has not been open yet. Chair Jo Beth Dudley- we will look at it for more information.

Scott Kleinschrodt- read and presented the board a copy of his letter on looking into what it would cost to bring reliable internet service across the whole town of Dalton. (Letter attached).

Scott also inquired if we used the Robert's Rules of Order here at these meetings and Chair Dudley said no, because Roberts's rules would add a lot of complexity to the meeting.

The Dalton Planning Board has nominated Jon Swan to be the Town of Dalton's representative to the North Country Council at their August 5, meeting and the Select Board needs to approve it. Carol Sheltry made a motion to approve Jon Swan nomination to the North Country Council and Jo Beth Dudley seconded the motion. Tamela Swan recused herself from the vote.

Approved by roll call vote – Jo Beth Dudley -Yes & Carol Sheltry -Yes Tamela Swan Recused

Fire Chief/Health Officer/EMD and Fire Warden brought up that the PPE for the upcoming September and November Election will be pickup on Tuesday August 11, 2020 at the Lancaster Station and will bring it back to the town office.

Jesse Wentworth discussed the plan for voting. Chair Jo Beth Dudley stated that Christine Ordinetz requested purchases of 1-2 canopies for drive-by voting. Jesse did not think this was necessary, as handicapped people already are provided this option. Absentee voting is another option.

Per a resident's request, related to a noise complaint the select board reviewed the web site and tax assessments for Ridgeline. The Select Board agreed to look into this matter at a later meeting and proposed drafting a letter requesting information from the company and pending zoning application.

Also, there was another complaint about hearing car racing and gun shot sounds at 9:30 on a Thursday night last week from a resident in the area of Ridgeline and O'Neil Driving School.

Linda Greenwood inquired how do we pay for the State Police Coverage, on a monthly, yearly basis and that she has not seen any checks for them yet. The board will look into this matter.

Chairman Jo Beth Dudley informed the meeting participants that we would not be going back into a public meeting after the Non-Public Session.

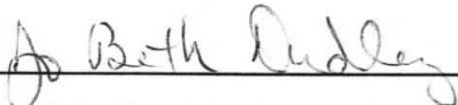
Chairman Jo Beth Dudley made a motion to go into Non-Public Session at __7:30 pm__ for personnel reasons. Tamela Swan seconded the motion and all three selectmen approved the motion by a roll call vote.



Carol Sheltry, Select Board Member



Tamela Swan, Select Board Member



Jo Beth Dudley, Select Board Chairman

DALTON TREASURER'S CURRENT DUTIES

- 1) I work one day/week, or more frequently as needed, checking the paperwork and money for each deposit that is generated by the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Transfer Station and Administrative Assistant.
- 2) I take these deposits to the bank and upon returning to the office, collate the deposit tickets with the associated paperwork. This enables the bookkeeper to enter each deposit amount into QuickBooks.
- 3) When a check is returned (usually for insufficient funds), I write the letter notifying the person who bounced the check. I also follow up these letters.
- 4) When books of deposit slips are needed, I order these from the bank.
- 5) When town elections change our officials, I initiate the paperwork that Passumpsic Bank requires. Sometimes this takes several trips to and from the bank.
- 6) I sign accounts payable & payroll checks every two weeks.
- 7) I handle the checking account for the Conservation Commission.
- 8) I review the monthly reconciliations for the General Checking Account, the Sweep Account, and the Conservation Commission Account.

Note: I make \$2500 annually and have since I was elected. Sharon Tupper, a previous Dalton Treasurer, was paid more because she did the monthly reconciliations as well as other things. Cohos Advisors took over the bookkeeping/reconciliations for the town before I was elected.

Good Evening,

Three months ago I brought up a concern in regards to reliable internet service across the whole town of Dalton. With the unprecedented economic downturn we are now facing it is more important than ever that the town does everything in its power to support every citizen within it's boundaries. I was asked by you Jo Beth, if I could find out the cost of bringing reliable internet service throughout the town so that the residents that wished to subscribe to this type of service would have that available to them. Two weeks ago Consolidated Communications were at my home and I asked if their company could provide this type of service to the residents of Dalton and what would be the cost in doing so. I found out that indeed they can provide this type of service, they are currently doing so in two New Hampshire towns as we speak, and a rough estimate of the cost would be in the 3 to 4 million dollar range.

Quite frankly, to try to sell this to the town's residents as a warrant article would be irresponsible and would no doubt end in a failed vote. However, on the other hand, if the town could partner with a local business or industry to have this cost subsidized, the benefits to the residents would be tremendous. This is the path I would recommend. I would like this statement to be placed in the meeting's minutes and I am providing you with a copy so that my words aren't misconstrued by a certain individual in the community.

Scott Kleinschrodt

8/10/2020