

**Dalton Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Public Session
October 19, 2020**

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Jo Beth Dudley, Chair. Select Board members Carol Sheltry and Tamela Swan were present in person, as were Linda Greenwood, Jon Swan, Pam Kathan, Scott Kleinshcrodt, Christine Ordinetz and the administrative assistant Elizabeth Buchman. Remote attendees participated via Zoom.

Carol made a motion to approve the 10/12 Public Minutes with corrections. Tamela seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Carol made a motion to approve the 10/12 Non-Public Minutes with corrections. Tamela seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Jo Beth reconvened the meeting at 6:45 after Zoom technical difficulties.

The select board reviewed and re-signed the July 15 meeting minutes (approved July 27th) in regards to the Mack R Model Tanker purchased for the Fire Department.

The select board members completed signatures for checks and other town matters.

Jo Beth Dudley, Chair, made a motion to enter non-public session #1 at 6:50. The motion was seconded by Carol Sheltry and passes unanimously by roll call vote.

The Select Board reconvened the public session at 7:08 and opened the floor to public comments. Pam Kathan requested updates on the town audit and noted missing minutes on the website. She discussed NH DES shoreland rules, and presented the Board with reports of Dalton building projects near Forest Lake that obtained the proper permit approvals. Pam Kathan reported she has had some problems with links on the website. She also noted that elected Select Board member Tamela Swan participated in a Zero Waste Summit held to bring together community leaders in NH's North Country.

The Select Board considered the MOA acknowledging that the current Dispatch Center in Lancaster will no longer be available for Dalton Fire/EMS dispatch within two years. Carol provided a summary of the background: The Lancaster DOT has been dispatching emergency services for several local towns, and that services is no longer compliant with the State of NH minimal standards for emergency dispatch services. There are conversations underway to find the most affordable replacement option, for example use of the Twin State dispatch center. Lancaster has been providing this service without charging a fee to participating towns. With the pending change, Carol recommended budgeting for this service in 2021, to prepare for the future.

A motion is made by Jo Beth to sign the MOA acknowledging the select board has been notified that within two years Lancaster will no longer provide emergency dispatch services. Tamela seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The Board discussed the sale of Police Department equipment, and will contact Josh, owner of the gun store in Whitefield to handle the sale, noting that the Coos County Sheriff's Office has not responded to the Town's price. Carol recommended contacting Axon regarding their taser buy-back program.

Carol reported on Primex recommendations for towns during the Covid pandemic (Primex provide liability insurance for NH municipalities). Recommendations include a written Continuity of Operations plan for each department, outlining how each department will maintain essential operations in a situation in which the department is closed for Covid related reasons.

Primex strongly recommends that municipalities follow the Covid prevention guidelines, including maintaining 6' social distancing; wearing a mask whenever another person is present; limiting the number of people in a room; having only essential workers in an office; and applying these precautions to co-workers as well as to the public. Covid prevention guidelines and policies should be reviewed monthly as new research and information becomes available. The Primex recommendations have been provided to town department heads, to be shared with all employees, and implemented by all employees. Primex recommends that towns give written notice to employees who don't comply with the guidelines. There is ambiguity regarding whether or not worker's compensation would cover a Covid illness claim if an employee hasn't followed the prevention guidelines.

Christine Ordinetz reported on election preparations, noting they are ready to go with increased sanitation and procedures for following Covid guidelines. Increased social distancing, compared to the state primary election, will be in place with improvements to the layout and flow of voters. The library box is being used for the drop-off of absentee ballots. Tamela will be present throughout the day, helping with the election and there will be five different teams counting votes. Jo Beth will be at the polls from late afternoon through the end of vote counting.

Carol brings up some of the concerns about letting parties use the gymnasium/town building during the Covid Pandemic, there are several things to consider before allowing the gymnasium to be used. Such as how do we make it safe for employees as well as the public using the facilities, who will incur the cost of disinfecting and cleaning it after it has been used. What is the number of people that the gymnasium can hold under the social distancing rule? Jo Beth makes a motion that going forward that we look at the Facility Use Policy and make a decision accordingly in terms of risk management. She suggests that in the interim small meetings (such as the long-time users of the building) such as the snowmobile club still be allowed to meet, following procedures for the Covid 19 Guidelines.

Scott K. brings up the subject of plans for the March Town Meeting under Covid 19, Jo Beth stated at this time, we will have to wait and see where we are at with Covid in March and that the state will probably have guidelines for the towns if we are still in the Pandemic.

Elizabeth Buchman reviewed the information that she went over in the annual Certified Computers review.

Jo Beth makes a motion to enter Non-Public Session #2 at 8:10pm. Tamela seconds the motion. The motion passes by unanimous roll call.

The Board noted to the public that they would come back into public session only for consideration for whether or not to seal the minutes of the non-public session and to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by and recorded & passed unanimously by roll call vote to seal the non-public session minutes

Meeting was adjourned at _____

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by

Elizabeth Buchman, Administrative Assistant

October 19, 2020 Minutes approved on: 11/14/20 (date)

Jo Beth Dudley

Jo Beth Dudley Chairman

Carol Sheltry

Carol Sheltry

Tamela Swan

Tamela Swan