

Monday, September 9, 2024 6:30 PM
Working Session
Dalton Select Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Eric. Select Board members Jo Beth Dudley, Thomas Dubreuil (Tom), and Eric Moore were physically present. Town Admin, Jeanette Charon present and note taking.

Public attendees: Pam Kathan, Carol Sheltry, Cathleen Fountain, Michael Ryan, Kurt Hall, Tom Arrison, and videographer Emily Thompson as well as others who chose not to sign in and could not be identified.

Eric provided notes from his visit to the Coventry Landfill, and a copy of their Host Community Agreement (HCA). Both documents are attached to the minutes.

The Select Board signed AP checks.

Eric asked to have the September 3, 2024 minutes wait until the next meeting as he hadn't been able to read them yet.

Jeanette presented the NH Tax Deed Auction service agreement for the Board's review and execution. A motion and approval took place at the August 26, 2024 meeting. The Board executed the agreement.

Jeanette presented the updated Personnel Policy for changes discussed and approved in the August 26, 2024 meeting. The new plan was to be printed for signature at the September 9, 2024 meeting per the discussion and unanimous approval during the September 3, 2024 meeting. Tom is currently asking for the plan to now go to our new attorney for their review and approval. Jeanette recommended they update the comp time policy since it's not legal to provide comp time at a straight-time rate. Jo Beth stated that the modifications to the existing personnel policy were all done, approved, and accepted already, and just waiting for signature on the updated policy Tom motioned for legal to review the policy. Eric provided a second. Jo Beth voted 'nay'.

Jeanette presented the Rails-to-Trails support letter to be signed by the Board. The board signed the letter, as approved during the September 3, 2024 meeting.

The Town has been contacted by a couple different firms offering food waste disposal services for the town. Jeanette asked the Board if this was something of interest. Jo Beth stated she would entertain looking through the detailed information once provided. The town does have a small compost pile at the transfer station, but it does not allow for all food waste.

Carl Lindquist, Planning Board Chair, is seeking the Board's approval so he may discuss HB 1221 to better understand the planning board and town responsibilities under the law that goes into effect September 17, 2024. Jo Beth motioned for approval with Eric providing a second and approval via roll call vote.

A local resident came into the office seeking the use of our gymnasium for winter pickleball play. After a discussion regarding foot traffic, noise, and the new floor, the Board agreed to try use of the gym, requested for 9am-12noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Friday play will not be available if the town offices are closed. In order to cover the cost of utilities for this group's regular use of the facility, the Board will seek a \$100 per month use fee. Jeanette will contact the inquirer to convey the details. Tom motioned to allow the use of the building, as discussed, with a second from Eric and approval via roll call.

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Jeanette brought up the Right to Know request from Kristina Ennis regarding the scheduling, posting and cancelling of meetings that took place in early August 2024. This was discussed in detail in the September 3, 2024 meeting. Eric stated he forgot about the request. Tom stated he spoke with NHMA who told him he could talk to whoever he wanted. Jeanette explained to Tom that no one is questioning his conversation, but they are requesting the details of it; that is public information since he is a select board member discussing town business. Jeanette asked for Eric and Tom's information ASAP so we could respond to the inquiry; we are already late.

Tom motioned to follow up with Casella on the Host Community Agreement. Jo Beth stated that it's too premature since we don't have critical information to do so; we are simply not ready. Tom wants to go to Casella and ask for more money. Jo Beth asks that we do the negotiations one time and after we have all the details such as the assessed value. Tom stated that we can hire an assessor to determine what the value will be. Jo Beth let him know that it's expensive to go that route. The permit application hasn't even been accepted by DES yet, since the response to the incomplete determination is pending DES review for completeness. Tom stated that the Town needs to move forward so it doesn't miss out. We can hire Sansoucy to figure it out for us. He continued by stating we can ask for \$1M from the start. Eric adds that the Coventry EMS and Fire Department don't want for anything. Jo Beth added that we should also visit with Bethlehem to discuss their experiences with Casella. Tom said no. Jo Beth stated we are not at the point as a Board to negotiate, as there are other items for possible negotiation listed in Eric's summary. Tom stated we need to read through the information Eric brought back from his meeting in Coventry. Jo Beth stated there is a lot of town business that needs to be handled right now, including setting the tax rate, among other things, which must be prioritized.

The Board reviewed the estimated revenue for 2024. The MS 434 (estimated revenue) with minor amendments was approved for submission to DRA. Jo Beth motioned, Eric seconded, approval via roll call vote.

Eric asked about the tax class. He hadn't looked through his email yet. Jeanette let him know NHMA is holding a budgeting class in Littleton next week but there is a fee. The DRA course had no fee. Eric will look for the email.

Jo Beth motioned to go into nonpublic at 8pm. Tom Arrison asked if there would be any additional business after nonpublic session. Other than sealing minutes and adjourning, Eric stated that there would be no additional business. Eric provided a second and approval for nonpublic session came through roll call vote.

Jo Beth motioned to return to public session at 8:24pm. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call.

While in nonpublic session, Tom asked to send the Dalton Conservation Commission appeal to the new town attorney for their review and advice. Tom motioned with Eric providing a second. Jo Beth stated this should be done in public. Tom continued discussing this topic in nonpublic at which time both Jeanette and Jo Beth let him know this is a subject for public session. The discussion continued after the motion to return to public session at 8:24 pm. All residents had left since Eric stated there would be no more town business after nonpublic session. Cathleen Fountain was in the hallway working on election items and Jeanette asked her to come into the meeting room after voicing she was not comfortable

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having discussion without residents present. Tom explained what he wanted to do and Cathleen suggested thinking the process through. Appeals don't cost anything and generally address issues with the process and steps that may have been missed. Tom stated reading an RSA on how mediation may be done at the cost of the Town. Jeanette let Tom know that appeals were different from mediation. Mediation is generally used to settle suits and appeals are someone's or a group's way of addressing issues with application and outcomes. Tom thanked Cathleen for her explanation.

Jo Beth motioned to seal nonpublic meeting minutes 2, 3, and 4. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call.

Jo Beth motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:36pm. Eric motioned with approval via roll call vote.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Jeanette Charon.

Minutes Approved On: 9/30/24 (date)

Jo Beth Dudley

Jo Beth Dudley

Thomas Dubreuil

Eric Moore

Eric Moore

Nonpublic Session Minutes

Town of Dalton

Date: September 9, 2024 # 1 Personnel

Members Present: Jo Beth Dudley x

Thomas Dubreuil x

Eric Moore x

Motion to enter Nonpublic Session made by Jo Beth seconded by Eric

Specific Statutory Reason cited as foundation for the nonpublic session:

 RSA 91-A:3, II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

 x RSA 91-A:3, II(b) The hiring of any person as a public employee.

 RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

 RSA 91-A:3, II(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community.

 RSA 91-A:3, II(e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against this board or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled

 RSA 91-A:3, II(i) Consideration of matters relating to the preparation for and the carrying out of emergency functions, including training to carry out such functions, developed by local or state safety officials that are directly intended to thwart a deliberate act that is intended to result in widespread or severe damage to property or widespread injury or loss of life.

Roll Call vote to enter nonpublic session:	Jo Beth Dudley	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	No
	Thomas Dubreuil	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	No
	Eric Moore	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	No

Remove public meeting tape (if applicable).

Entered nonpublic session at 8:00 a.m./ p.m.

Other persons present during nonpublic session: Jeanette Charon, present and recording minutes.

Description of matters discussed, and final decisions made: Adam King's raise request form was executed. The raise was approved on August 26, 2024.

Note: Under RSA 91-A:3, III. Minutes of proceedings in nonpublic sessions shall be kept and the record of all actions shall be promptly made available for public inspection, except as provided in this section. Minutes and decisions reached in nonpublic session shall be publicly disclosed within 72 hours of the meeting, unless, by recorded vote of 2/3 of the members present, it is determined that divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board, or render the proposed action of the board ineffective, or pertain to terrorism. In the event of such circumstances, information may be withheld until, in the opinion of a majority of members, the aforesaid circumstances no longer apply.

Motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session by Jo Beth, seconded by Eric.

Motion: PASSED / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

Nonpublic meeting tape removed; public meeting tape replaced (if applicable).

Public session reconvened at 8:24 a.m./p.m.

Motion made to seal these minutes. If so, motion made by , seconded by , because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would

 Affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board

 Render a proposed action ineffective

 Pertains to preparation or carrying out of actions regarding terrorism

Roll Call Vote to seal minutes:	Jo Beth Dudley	Yes	No
	Thomas Dubreuil	Yes	No
	Eric Moore	Yes	No

Motion: PASSED / DID NOT PASS (circle one)

These minutes recorded by: Jeanette Charon