

Monday, October 27, 2025 6:30 PM

Regular Session

Dalton Select Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Jo Beth. Select Board members Jo Beth Dudley and Thomas Dubreuil were physically present. Town Admin, Jeanette Charon present and note taking. Meeting available for public viewing via Zoom.

Public attendees: Tom Arrison and Kristina Ennis; Via Zoom: Jon Swan, Pamela Kathan, Carol Sheltry, and Cathy's iPad

The Board signed AP and payroll checks. Jo Beth asked about the data charge for the pump station SCADA monitoring, which is included in the phone line item in the budget. Tom asked if the Mains Electric check included the generator work at the highway garage; Jeanette confirmed it did.

The public hearing for unanticipated funds started at 6:42pm. The town received \$529,627.95 on October 7, 2025 from FEMA. This payment is for repair and mitigation work completed due to the flood from July 2024. Kris Ennis if the Board was leaning towards the funds going into general funds or if this would decrease property taxes for 2026. Jeanette explained that if it affected taxes, it would likely not be until the 2027 setting. Jo Beth stated that we need to see where we land at the end of the year and then decide. Tom stated it should reduce the taxes since we have received nearly a ¾ of a million dollars so far. Jo Beth explained these are reimbursement for funds that have been previously spent, and therefore won't reduce our taxes. Tom asked if the loan we took out would be paid back; Jeanette stated that it would be. Tom also asked about replenishing the capital reserve for paving. Jo Beth explained that would be a warrant article and town meeting vote in March. Kris asked if this would be discussed at the budget hearings. Jo Beth confirmed we would. At this point, we are unable to set the 2026 tax rate because we are waiting on the school's appropriations. Once DRA has that information, Jeanette will work with Jamie at DRA to set the preliminary rate. Then the Board will meet to discuss the rate, options for changing the rate, and approving the rate. Jo Beth motioned to accept the funds received from FEMA. Tom provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

The regular session resumed at 6:48pm. Jo Beth made the motion; Tom provided a second. Approval via roll call.

The Board executed the formal request for Kyle's pay raise; this was approved in the working session nonpublic session on October 20, 2025.

The Board reviewed and executed the 2025-3Q sewer tax warrant. Jo Beth motioned for approval with a second by Tom. Approval obtained via roll call vote.

The transfer station storage shelter is scheduled to be installed Friday, October 31, 2025.

Jeanette presented the proposals for fiber internet and VoIP phones from Fidium. The rates and upfront costs for the phones are competitive and acceptable to the Board. Jo Beth motioned to approve the proposals. Tom provided a second with approval via roll call vote. Jeanette will contact Fidium to proceed with the contracts. Details regarding costs for purchase versus lease for the phones were discussed, and the Board determined that purchasing the phone system is more cost effective over the next 5 years.. Tom Arrison mentioned that adaptors were available to allow analog phones to be used over a VoIP service. However, since our phone system is quite old and not functioning adequately, that option likely won't be an option for us.

North Star Canine Connection is scheduled to come view the gymnasium Wednesday, October 29, 2025, in the afternoon with Jeanette.

No update for the Building Committee. Uncompleted work items will be pushed to spring 2026.

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Tom wants to table the DCC update until the next meeting. He needs to pull some information together. The Dalton Conservation Commission requested Nancy Comeau be reappointed for an additional 3-year term. Tom likes Nancy but thinks that others be considered for the commission should they show interest. Nancy was off the commission for a while and then became a member again. Jo Beth provided a motion for Nancy's reappointment. Tom asked if anyone else showed interest. Jeanette stated there are open positions, alternates at least. The DCC Policy is that interested prospective members are to attend a minimum of three DCC meetings prior to the DCC considering nominating and recommending them to the Select Board. No others have shown interest at this point. Tom agreed and provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

No planning board update; they meet again Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

The Host Community Agreement committee had their second open forum on Thursday, October 23, 2025. Tom reported that two residents were in attendance and there was good dialogue.

Headwalls arrived and the installation has begun along with ditching and riprap work on the roads damaged by last year's floods. French Road has culverts that need to be replaced but it's not known if the town will do the work or if the Road Agent will hire a contractor instead. The time extension details haven't been discussed yet; so that application to FEMA is pending.

DRA confirmed the school district submitted information to the Dept. of Education but DRA doesn't have what they need yet, so the SAU appropriation has not been released. The County appropriation is also still pending. Our DRA rep is out at the Town Clerk Conference the end of the week, so it may not be until next week when the town can set our tax rate. Jeanette is not attending the conference this year since she has already been away for certification and another conference this year. Jeanette may attend next year. If the tax rate can be set with DRA, Jeanette will contact the board members to setup a working session.

Public comments:

Tom Arrison asked how progress was moving with Under Canvas' development on Blakslee Road. Jeanette replied that the construction continues. They have some platforms and frames built for tents and there are a couple service buildings onsite. She wasn't sure if they were completely installed yet. Ron Sheltry, Fire Chief, also had a meeting with the electrical inspector at the site this morning. Jeanette stated a press release was done by Under Canvas so that can be searched for online.


Jo Beth motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:14pm. Tom provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Jeanette Charon.

Minutes Approved On: 12/8/25 (date)



Jo Beth Dudley



Thomas Dubreuil

Eric Moore