

Monday, December 8, 2025 4:30 PM

Regular Session

Dalton Select Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm by Jo Beth. Select Board members Jo Beth Dudley and Thomas Dubreuil were present. Town Admin, Jeanette Charon present and note taking. Meeting available for public viewing via Zoom.

Public attendees: Mandy Deveno, Kris Ennis, Kyle MacBean, Warren Green, and Michael Carrier. Via Zoom: Carol Sheltry and Jon Swan.

The Board signed AP and payroll checks. Tom asked if the bank check was for our loan. Jeanette confirmed it was repayment of the TAN. Jo Beth asked if the stipend checks were like payroll – only needing one signature. Jeanette confirmed. Tom asked if the JA McDonald check was for Smith Road. Jeanette confirmed it was the final payment for the contractor. Jo Beth asked if there would be another payment due for the engineer. Jeanette confirmed there will likely be another payment for the engineer for closing out the project. Jo Beth asked if we used their full contract. Jeanette stated we got a \$2500 credit for the fence installation change as well as a credit for the unused testing allowance of approx. \$7300. Jo Beth asked if FEMA would then reimburse us and how long it would take. Jeanette stated we already received it. FEMA only pays 75% of the total of their estimate. Jo Beth mentioned there are lots of checks for highway equipment repairs. \$11k for grader repairs; she thought that was going to be about \$5k per the meeting with Adam when we started discussing budgets for 2026. We may need to tap into the capital reserves depending on where we land at the end of the year. Jeanette agreed. Tom stated there was a lot more grading that took place this year. Maybe we should ask Adam about the bill. Jeanette agreed we could.

Jo Beth asked about tax payments being received and if we were ok with the payables. Jeanette stated we were in good shape; we had just received the escrow tax payment package this afternoon.

The Board reviewed the October bank reconciliations and transaction report.

Jeanette explained the over and under on the YTD (year-to-date) expenditures and FEMA with the printout provided to the board members. She noted that this was preliminary, and also noted that the totals include items such as CRF contributions that are not included in the appropriations approved at Town Meeting.

The Board executed one intent to cut.

One pistol permit was executed by Jo Beth.

A supplemental tax warrant was provided to the board for review and approval. The warrant was to bill a property that had been sold at auction in January but had not been put back into active status. Jo Beth motioned to approve the warrant. Tom provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Jeanette provided the board with a tax abatement for the Dalton Road Picnic Area owned by Donna Madonna. This abatement is being requested per the executed agreement between the property owner and the Board. Jo Beth motioned to approve with Tom provided a second. Approval via roll call vote.

Jeanette provided the October 16, 2025, meeting minutes. Jo Beth motioned to approve with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

October 16, 2025, nonpublic #1 minutes were provided for review and approval. Jo Beth motioned for approval with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

Monday, December 8, 2025 4:30 PM

Regular Session

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Jeanette provided the October 20, 2025, working session meeting minutes. Jo Beth motioned to approve with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

October 20, 2025, nonpublic #1 minutes were provided for review and approval. Jo Beth motioned for approval with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

Jeanette provided the October 27, 2025, meeting minutes. Jo Beth motioned to approve with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

November 6, 2025, working session meeting minutes were presented. Jo Beth motioned to approve the minutes with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

November 10, 2025, meeting minutes were presented. Jo Beth motioned for approval with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

Jeanette provided the November 17, 2025, working session meeting minutes. Jo Beth motioned for approval with Tom providing a second. Approval via roll call vote.

Fidium's VOIP phone installation is in the early stages. We are awaiting a schedule for the installation. Additionally, we are waiting on the state's MAAP system approval for our new IP Address security for the town clerk (automobile registration) system. Once received, we can discontinue the Spectrum internet account.

North Star Canine Connection's classes in the gym went well. Doris came in for the library and the people with their dogs moved into another room so she could access the hallway. The trainers were cleaning up when Jeanette was leaving the building.

Jeanette will prepare the CPCNH agreement for Board signature for the December 22, 2025, meeting.

The White Mountain Regional High School event is on hold for the town; they are very busy with other community events for the holiday season. We are hoping they can reschedule for sometime late winter. The students helped with the November Friendsgiving dinner and more are expected to help with other meals.

We are awaiting information from the flooring contractor regarding a potential fix for the flooring moisture issue in the Municipal Buildings.

Related to recycling, Jo Beth jumped into new business regarding a box truck for the transfer station. After discussion among the Board and Kyle MacBean, it was determined that numbers should be run to decide whether or not this would be a good option for the town, as the cost to the town would include insurance, registration and maintenance, as well as the upfront purchase price. Littleton notified both Dalton and Monroe that they would no longer be taking their recycling effective January 1, 2026. Lancaster doesn't have the appropriate permits to allow them to take the town's recycling. Jeanette is working with Brian from NH Recycles to determine options. Brian is trying to schedule a meeting with Littleton. The town can deliver recycling to NCES in Bethlehem or have it transported by Casella for \$435 per load, plus rental of a dumpster. NCES is single-stream recycling, meaning the town would no longer need to sort items by type. They could all go into a single dumpster if the town chooses to go that route. Currently, recycling is loaded and covered onto the town's trailer and driven to Littleton. Kyle Mac Bean provided details on the box truck, a 2008 Isuzu 14' box truck with approximately 204k miles, available from Arrow Equipment in Littleton for \$6,000 (asking \$8,000 but will take \$6,000). Tom stated it would also help with storage in the building. Kyle would also use the box truck to take mattresses to NCES. He informed the board that the box truck would take half as many gayloads at a

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time but would allow transport without the use of a highway dept. pickup truck; the truck, equipped for winter use, has to be partially dismantled in the winter to allow it to be used with the trailer. Jo Beth asked about getting a box trailer instead. Jo Beth asked Tom his thoughts. He agreed with the idea, but then worries about expenses. Kyle stated we would still have to partially dismantle a town truck in the winter. Jo Beth asked where we could take our recycling. Jeanette asked how the gylords would be removed from the truck; is it strong enough to hold a skid steer, which is what would be used for loading the pallets. Tom stated we could use the hand jack used in the transfer station instead. Additionally, there would be a time savings due to just loading and unloading the gylords as opposed to loading, tarping, tying down, etc. The board decided it would run numbers to decide on the possible savings and decide at the next meeting on December 22, 2025.

The invoice for the solar array has been submitted to the state for reimbursement. We are hopeful the funds are received before year-end.

Jeanette informed the Board there are currently two grants we are reviewing. One would cover 100% of the cost for a pallet scale for the transfer station. The town is required to report the weight of recycled materials to the state each year. This would assist in being as accurate as possible on those reports. Additionally, there is a grant available that could provide up to 95% of the town's cost for replacing the old town dump truck as well as the fire department's tanker truck. Both vehicles are old and could be replaced; especially if the cost to the town could be only 5% of the purchase price.

The town received additional funds from FEMA, \$2,778.82 and \$151,145.70. The public hearing for the \$151,145.70 has been scheduled and noticed for Monday, December 22, 2025, at 6:30pm.

A time extension has been submitted for the remaining repair work and mitigation work on roads damaged from the July 2024 flood event. Additionally, the mitigation plan for a group of the roads will be prepared and submitted to FEMA for their review and approval.

Jeanette received a quote for replacing the windows in the building. The quote was approximately \$135k. The building committee will proceed with getting new cranks for the windows in lieu of replacing the windows, currently still somewhat functional.

Jo Beth reported that the Planning Board received an inquiry about merging two lots, one of which is a private way. The Planning Board asks the landowner to attend the next meeting as they had some questions.

Tom had no updates from the Conservation Commission. However, Jeanette reminded the Board that the conservation commission has two members up for appointment to the commission. Gina Damiano is up for renewal to her position as a member on the board. Her current term expires in January. Jo Beth motioned to approve the appointment. Tom wishes to hold off on the approval so that other people can show interest and get the opportunity to serve. Additionally, the DCC wishes to appoint Mandy Deveno as an alternate, filling a position that has been open for a very long time. JO Beth provided a motion for the appointment. Tom stated that he was not willing to provide a second to Jo Beth's motion. He wants to allow new people with the opportunity to serve on the commission. Jo Beth noted that no other individuals have exhibited interest in serving on the DCC, and that the DCC policy calls for interested individuals to attend at least two meetings prior to being recommended for appointment.

Jo Beth reported on the HCA committee, with no recent activity. Wendy is reaching out to attorneys with contract and environmental law experience.

Monday, December 8, 2025 4:30 PM

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Jo Beth asked if there was a database or list of town roads maintained by Adam. Jeanette stated that she had a list. Jo Beth asked for a copy. Jeanette will send.

Jeanette provided a year-to-date town expense report containing non-appropriated expenses, such as CRF contributions. She explained how this report will not match the reports used at budget meetings or the budget hearing since these expenses are not calculated into the budget. Jeanette wanted to make this clear as it was a notice of contention previously. She confirmed with the board that her explanation made sense.

The water test came back from the state for the municipal building's water. Arsenic and lead are higher than recommended for drinking water. Jeanette will seek guidance from NH DES on what they recommend for filtration. Mandy confirmed the levels are not harmful when consumed in low levels, as the body secretes these compounds during a normal regular metabolism process. Jeanette confirmed the Dalton Neighbors Group uses bottled water when they prepare community meals. She also brings her own bottled water to consume during her work days.

Public Comments:

Mandy Deveno asked Tom why she was not considered for the DCC. Tom stated that we rush into placing positions and we should wait so others know there are openings.

Kris Ennis asked why Tom was not willing to approve nominations. Mandy is a new member, potentially, and has shown interest by attending meetings. Tom is obstructing the nomination. Tom provided no comment. Kris stated that she wanted it on record that the select board member is obstructing town business.

Jo Beth stated that there is an active member who wants to continue and a new member who wants to serve, and that she supports these appointments, noting again that no other individuals had expressed interest and attended meetings. However, Tom wished to table the topic. Jo Beth agrees to push to the next meeting.

Jo Beth reminded the board of the motion to adjourn. Tom provided a second with approval via roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Jeanette Charon.

Minutes Approved On: _____ (date)

Jo Beth Dudley

Thomas Dubreuil

Eric Moore

Minutes remain unsigned per meeting of 12/22/2025.