Monday, September 28, 2026 @ 6:30 PM
Regular Session
Dalton Select Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm by Jo Beth. Select Board members Jo Beth Dudley, Eric Moore and Warren Green were present. Meeting available for public viewing via Zoom.

Public attendees: Michael Carrier, Pam Kathan and Amy Norris. Via Zoom: Michael Miller and Michael T.

Jo Beth motioned to enter nonpublic for personnel at 6:35pm. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Jo Beth motioned to re-enter public session at 7:16pm.

Jo Beth motioned to seal nonpublic minutes 1, 2, and 3. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Adam was present to discuss the motor in the 2017 Ford F550, which is blown. The repair is approximately $30,000. This is for a refurbished motor with a 1-year warranty. An extended warranty may be available; the workmanship warranty is unknown at this time. Based on the equipment plan developed last year, this truck is one that is up for replacement with a used 10-wheel dump truck or newer F550 truck. Our portion of the new 10-Wheel dump truck coming is about $60,000, or 80% of the cost of the truck. Jo Beth believes that it's better to buy a new truck, or used truck rather than spend $30,000 on a new motor. This was already the plan for 2027, as discussed last year. Adam would rather have a second dump truck as opposed to another Ford. If the town purchases a second new/used dump truck, Jeanette will need the details of the current truck to do a sealed bid sale in lieu of an auction since we don't have any other items for sale.

Jeanette mentioned that FEMA gave the town their full time extension to November 30, 2026. Adam is waiting for the pipe to come on October 1, 2026, for the replacement culvert on Harriman Road. Materials are scarce so there are delays in obtaining what we need. Blakslee Road's mitigation work is near completion.

Jo Beth asked Adam how he's managing by himself since Jeff and Owen have left. Adam is doing what he can to keep work moving along. Jeanette stated that FEMA is checking on the mitigation plan approval that is still waiting approval. Another extension is likely due to the approval delay and the approaching winter weather.

The Board took a short break.

Upon their return, the board signed A/P and payroll checks, and reviewed direct deposit receipts and timecards. A credit did come through from Spectrum. Eversource has a credit on the highway department electric bill as well due to the solar array. Jeanette will talk with Nancy about the CD funds being moved back into the general funds account since the CD matured on the 24th of September.

Jeanette asked if the board members saw the meeting minutes; she knows she sent them a bit late. Warren did not see them and asked that we push approval to our next meeting.

Jeanette presented five revised policies for the board to review, approve and execute. Warren motioned to approve and execute 3 of the 5 policies presented. The investment policy, key fob for building entry, and contacting the town attorney policies were approved and executed. Jo Beth corrected typos on the two

policies (bounced checks and contacting the town attorney) which will be corrected and presented again for approval and execution at a future meeting. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

The traffic signs at Blakslee and Big Hill have not yet been installed.

The special warrant article for emergency temporary zoning was not approved at the special town meeting.

There remain two vacancies for the highway equipment operator. We are in the process of recruitment.

There was no update for the conservation commission other than the conservation commission (DCC) presenting a request to have resident Frank Hubbard approved and appointed as an alternate member. Eric asked who he was and Warren asked how many meetings he has attended. Jeanette believes he has attended two or three meetings. Jo Beth motioned with Eric providing the second, and with approval via roll call vote.

The planning board had no update.

The host community agreement committee met with the attorney. No further update was available.

The building committee completed the overhang at the kitchen door in the back on the building. Jeanette will order window hardware for less than $300.

A quote is being obtained for mini-splits for the meeting room and two front offices. An estimated amount of approximately $17k was provided; the board is interested in a firm quote. An additional $2-3k would be expected for electrical. This would be for all three units, installation and electrical. Jo Beth asked if that electrician would also do the lighting. Jeanette stated that the original electrician stopped by last week and is ordering the lights. Warren asked for the size of the mini-split units; Jeanette stated that the contractor took dimensions and quoted what is required. We currently have about $52k the building capital reserve fund. It's unknown if the solar array will cover electric costs for the mini splits; we do anticipate it to cover most or all of the town's electricity use otherwise. Mini splits would help with fuel costs.

Eric asked if CN Brown got back to us regarding oil pricing. Jeanette stated they had not.

The transfer station committee hasn't met since the last meeting. Warren does have pricing for the containers. The cheapest is $3300 each but does not specify that it is a high cube container. The best price is $3700 per container, delivered. The stone is $14.50 per yard from L&L & Son in Dalton. The quantity of stone needed has not been determined at this time. After discussing some numbers, it's determined the work at the transfer station for the 2-40' containers and stone will cost approximately $8-9k. Eric motioned to proceed with the containers and stone. Warren provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

An additional invoice has been approved from FEMA for approximately $79k for Blakslee Road mitigation. The funds should be arriving shortly. A public hearing is required and will be scheduled.

Pam Kathan was present to discuss reinstating the Boston Cane tradition. This is a tradition that honors the elderly in town by presenting the cane to the oldest resident. She presented a replica of the cane to the Board along with a photo of her father presenting the cane in the past. The cane hasn't been inscribed as the two businesses in Littleton don't do any engraving. Jo Beth asked if we could identify the oldest person in town. Jeanette has full access to the records and will ask the state if she can get that information. Jeanette and the Board think it would be a great idea and thanked Pam for the idea and cane.

An alternate meeting date needs to be discussed for October 12, 2026, due to the holiday.

The new planning and land use books are available for order. We usually get one eBook/book combo and one book only. Jeanette always got one for her office but she refers to the planning board when something arises on the topic. Jo Beth motioned to order one eBook combo and one book. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Jeanette presented the state education tax warrant notification. $194,356 is Dalton's appropriation, which is approximately $.97/1000. The property valuation is higher so the rate fell slightly. We may see a slight decrease. No information on setting the new tax rate is available yet.

We received the municipal bond bank's rate from their last letting. Their rate was 2.9% for a 5-year bond in July. We have not yet reached out to the bank regarding a TAN quote.

Health Trust held their rate setting hearing. They provided a copy of their presentation. Jeanette gave a recap and passed around the copy. At least a 4.8% increase is anticipated, roughly. We should have the package on or about October 9, 2026. No change in life or long-term disability and a small decrease in short-term disability. The program structure for FSA is changing where the town must prepay the amount or fund the account monthly for the flexible spending account. Jeanette and one other employee use the benefit. That other employee left and Jeanette would be ok with the town doing away with the benefit due to the low amount of tax savings she receives and due to the change in the payment structure coming in 2027. Warren asked about the program and Jeanette provided an explanation. A decision is required by either December 1st or November 1st. The board asked for a copy of the presentation via email. Jeanette will send a copy.

Our IT consultant came out and cleaned up the board in the file room. Jeanette would like the board's permission to sell the Avaya phone system. Our consultant stated that many people often look for parts and pieces to antiquated systems. Jo Beth motioned with a second by Eric. Approval via roll call vote. If the equipment doesn't sell, then it can be thrown away.

Jeanette has two legal and one welfare nonpublic items.

Jo Beth asked for other town business and/or public comments. There were none.

Jo Beth motioned to go into nonpublic for legal and welfare at 8:35pm. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Jo Beth motioned to return to public session at 8:46pm. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Jo Beth motioned to seal nonpublic minutes 4, 5, and 6. Eric provided a second with approval via roll call vote.

Out next meeting on Monday, October 12, 2026, is being cancelled with the addition of a working session on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 4:30pm.

Eric motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:53pm. Warren provided a second. Approval via roll call vote.

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Minutes Respectfully submitted by Jeanette Charon.

Minutes Approved On: 10/26/26 (date)

Jo Beth Dudley

Jo Beth Dudley

Eric Moore

Eric Moore

Warren Green

Warren Green