

**Dalton Select Board Meeting**  
**Annual Budget Hearing**  
Minutes of January 16, 2017

Present were Selectmen: Nancy McVetty and Jay McCusker

Called to order: 6:10 pm

Nancy McVetty read down through the entire budget line by line then opened it to the public for questions or concerns.

Ann Craxton inquired about the Highway budget having been higher than planned and wondered why it was put back at \$243,000.00 for 2017.

Nancy explained that a payment in the amount of \$13099.00 for a backhoe that was purchased had been paid from the Highway budget. However all future payments will come from The Highway Departments Capital Reserve account for equipment therefore the appropriated amount should be fine this year.

Doris Mitton inquired about the amount of \$3000.00 paid in 2016 for Emergency Management. Nancy explained this was paid by the town, but will be refunded in the form of a grant for updating the town's hazard mitigation plan, a required task by the State.

Jay explained the amount appropriated for the airport was up but that Dalton pays the least of all towns involved. At the 2016 Town Meeting a warrant to withdraw from the airport was defeated, so townspeople chose to remain part of the Mt. Washington Regional Airport Authority.

Doris Mitton asked why ambulance was going up so much.

Nancy deferred to Ron Sheltry.

Ron explained that while Dalton has had a great deal with Whitefield for many years, Whitefield was going up in their rates. He is in negotiation with both Whitefield and Lancaster and will be deciding what will be best for Dalton. The amount appropriated would be the highest we would pay in 2017.

Doris Mitton inquired if the board understands that the Library can't expend funds that are not appropriated.

Nancy responded that yes, they did understand that.

Doris responded that the amount appropriated is not the amount they asked for.

Nancy responded correct. The budget committee had reduced it by \$1000.00. Many lines were reduced and several departments did not get appropriated what they asked for. In anticipation of the County portion going up even more, the Town has done it's best to hold the lines or reduce as much as possible so the taxpayers will have the least impact as possible.

Nancy went down through the warrants.

Ann Craxton asked if we are expecting any petitioned articles.

Jessie Wentworth responded that yes, we are anticipating one requesting an increase in our elderly exemption guidelines as well as one asking the Town to take on Cushton Drive as a town maintained road.

Jessie informed Ann that 2 % of checklist total or 25 signatures are required for the petitions whichever is less.

John Tholl said that Civil Air Patrol is expected to have a petitioned article asking for some funding from our town.

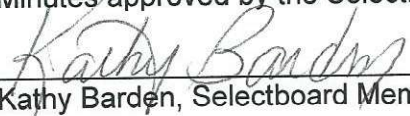
Jessie said all petitioned articles need to be in by February 7, 2017.  
Ann requested that once finalized the warrant articles be emailed to her.

Hearing closed at 6:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Wentworth Administrative Assistant  
Dalton Selectboard

Minutes approved by the Selectboard Members on 1/30/17

  
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Kathy Barden, Selectboard Member

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Jay McCusker, Selectboard Member

  
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Nancy McVetty, Selectboard Chairman