

Dalton Select Board Meeting

Minutes of August 31, 2015

Present were Selectmen: Jay McCusker and Nancy McVetty, Selectboard Chairman. Kathy Barden joined the meeting after the minutes were accepted.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

The minutes from the August 17, 2015 meeting were read. Nancy McVetty moved to accept the minutes as written. Jay McCusker seconded the motion. Approved (2, 0)

Nancy McVetty has spoken with the Town attorney regarding the piece of land that the Town is giving to the VFW. There is some paperwork to be filled out and the attorney will handle the deed process. The cost to the Town will be about \$150 as the board had already agreed to take care of the costs.

Lease for the Old Town Hall has been typed and will be given to John Bean for the Friends to review. There may be a few changes that they would like to make which the board will need to review before the new lease is signed.

The Town has received two calls regarding fuel prices proposals for the 2015-2016 heating season. (KJM Precision Fuel and Rymes Oil). Stiles will be contacted for pricing also. Ann Craxton suggested that the figures should take into consideration more than one year. Figures will be gathered and calls will be placed to the vendors.

Tammy Letson provided a brief review of the MS-535 which is the budget according to what the taxpayers told the Board it could do/spend and estimated revenues, adjustments made, balance sheet, and signature pages for 2014. The report includes the Library and Recreation funds. Nancy mentioned setting the tax rate. Tammy is taking the first training class offered on 9/14 and will be ready to help once the State is ready. The Board will need to review the report, sign it and let Tammy know. Tammy will upload the report and scan it to DRA in their required format. Once the form is approved and signed, the signature page will be uploaded and emailed to DRA by the administrative assistant.

The MS-60 which is the Town Auditor's report was also reviewed. The report was prepared by Crane and Bell and reviewed by the Town Auditor, Anna Gilbody. She has agreed with the report and signed it. The Board doesn't have any say in the report but need to be told about it. There are minor things that need to be addressed. This is an eight section report and at the end of each section there are recommendations. The town needs an investment policy which will be addressed with the Treasurer. System backups should be kept off-site. There was a discussion of how this should be handled and the options for outside storage. The Board will review options and make a decision. Crane and Bell doesn't offer this service but Tammy will check with Crane and Bell to see if they will consider this service. In the interim, it was decided that at least one of the backups will be stored off-site going forward. The Avitar system also needs to be backed up, possibly Avitar already has the capability to do this.

Linda Greenwood received a call from Passumpsic Bank in St. Johnsbury regarding a deposit that was one cent off. The administrative assistant will review deposits tomorrow and call the bank to see what the issue is.

John Tholl reported that the cruiser is starting to cost the Town money. The cruiser is six years old and in the last three months, John has had approximately \$1200 in repair costs. John thinks that it is time to consider replacing the cruiser in the next year. There is money left in his budget which can be rolled over to help cut the costs. When it is closer to budget time, John will have the figures available. There is \$24,000 in the cruiser replacement capital reserve fund. John thinks that the cost of a new cruiser will be about \$29,000 to \$30,000. There will be some cost for equipment as some of the items on the current cruiser won't fit on the new one. The decision will rest with the town's people at town meeting.

John thinks that there will be more of a police presence in the Town. As soon as the new hire is trained and can get some free time from his current position, he will be available for patrol. Additionally, John St. Martin is available for an eight hour shift each month. It has taken a while to get things going. Standards and training will require part-time officers to attend training in Concord for three days per week. This shouldn't impact Dalton as John isn't planning to hire anyone who isn't trained. John has been able to respond to all recent calls and has been working on public relations. Ann Craxton feels that the bigger issue isn't the cruiser but whether or not the Town will vote to fund a Police Department at town meeting.

Jay wished to applaud the work that the Highway crew has done on the roads recently.

Bob Wentworth emailed Nancy with an update on the pump house. He is planning to get the electrician in to replace the panel. He had thought that Carr Well would be coming in to take care of the whole piece but this was not correct. Bob will take care of getting the electrician in to get the new board installed soon. Shawn St. Cyr is still the health officer but doesn't handle the sewer any longer. Bob and the town crew are certified and back to handling the Town septic system.

Nancy McVetty moved to go into Executive Session at 7:10 PM. Jay McCusker seconded, approved (3, 0).

Next meeting is September 14, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Louise Jordan, Administrative Assistant
Dalton Selectboard

Minutes approved by the Selectboard Members on 9/14/15


Kathy Barden, Selectboard Member


Jay McCusker, Selectboard Member


Nancy McVetty, Selectboard Chairman

CC: Library, Town Clerk, Website