

# Dalton Select Board Meeting

## Minutes of January 20, 2020 Meeting

Present were Selectmen: Chair Jo Beth Dudley. Carol Sheltry and Tamela Swan. Cohos Advisors Kendra Bell and Tammy York-Letson; Trustee of Trust Funds-Rosemary and Clifford Carter and resident Jon Swan.

Called to Order at 5:30 PM by Chairman Dudley.

The Carters expressed their concerns and wanted to know if Cohos Advisor (or Tammy York-Letson) would be doing or helping her with the MS9 and 10 reports. There was discussion about the accounts and the reports. Tammy York-Letson said she would send her spreadsheet which would greatly aid in creating reports for the Trustees. She would also see if she had entered the Trust information into the DRA Portal and let the Carter's know. Audrey Blodgett, in the Attorney General's office, was recommended as a contact at the state level for questions or information on the Cemetery Reserve. Jamie Dow at DRA would be the contact for the Capital Reserve Accounts. Tammy said the Carter's could call her with questions or for assistance.

The Carter's left the meeting.

Kendra Bell handed out the board's list of questions with their responses. Cohos Advisors would like to stop doing the bookkeeping for Dalton which would entail bringing it back in house. They would continue to do DRA forms and could continue to do payroll with some options. They had been used to only entering the invoices with where they were charged to already determined. This information had not been shared with the interim administrative assistant until a month ago.

They would like to only do management tasks and offer support. There was discussion about how this might look. Kendra Bell said she would send several options to the Selectmen with pricing. They did recommend, whichever option the Town moved to, to purchase quick books on-line in which case anyone, with authorization, could access the town's data from any computer anywhere. This would also eliminate the Town not having data updated by Cohos for up to two weeks. Pricing for this would be included in the information provided to the Town.

Cohos does not do "a la carte" services. They try to list all the services they provide and at an annual cost which covers their time. They do the Treasurer's report for her, but need confirmation that the town is going to continue with them.

Tamela Swan made a motion to authorize continuing with ongoing services as have been done by Cohos until a new arrangement is confirmed by both parties. Carol Sheltry seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative.

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It was made clear that the Select Board, Interim Administrative Assistant and Rose Carter could call or email for assistance. Cohos Advisors personnel left the meeting and the board took a break until 7:10PM.

Linda Greenwood, Treasurer said that the board should talk with Jessie and bury the hatchet.

Jo Beth Dudley made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting with the correction of the spelling of “voter” to “voted” in the last sentence of the 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph on the first page. Carol Sheltry seconded the motion and all three selectmen voted in the affirmative.

Jo Beth Dudley suggested that we add a Town email account for the Chair’s of all of the committee including the Planning Board, ZBA and conservation commission at a cost of \$6.50 per address. After a brief discussion Carol Sheltry made a motion to add email addresses to the Chairs of all committees at a cost of \$6.50/month each. Tamela Swan seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative.

Jo Beth Dudley presented information on Election RSAs and some questions she had posed to the NHMA regarding these and selectmen responsibilities such as when and how would a selectman appoint a selectman pro tem if needed.

The interim Administrative Assistant presented an application for a \$1,400 Veteran’s Disability Credit completed by the Assessor. Currently the VA credits are \$500 and \$1,400. They were last changed in 2005. To be changed, the \$500 can now be increased to \$750, requires a warrant article that is approved by the voters.

There was discussion of the Casella donation “offer” which a newspaper article said is off the table. The Select Board will not do anything further until they have a concrete offer.

Ron Shelly brought forward a bill for \$4,737 to fix the monitor and defibrillator which is in his 2020 budget. They will need to buy a new one in the new future. Ron also brought the 2020 North Country Fire Mutual Aid agreement to be signed and approved by the selectmen and provided a brief explanation of what that entailed.

Jo Beth Dudley made a motion to approve and sign the Fire Mutual Aid agreement which was seconded by Tamela Swan and approved by all three selectmen.

There was a discussion about the police department budget and configuration. The amount of \$15,000 was decided on for the budget amount. Carol Sheltry will do some research with the State Police in hopes of bringing two options to the voters for the same amount.



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Tamela Swan will enter the budget decisions made in her spreadsheet and forward the board an updated Budget Amount for 2020.

There was a discussion concerning the meeting the 21<sup>st</sup> with the Conservation Commission and what their current configuration is. It was confirmed that Julia Simonds was appointed 3/25/19 by the Select Board but there is no record of an oath of office being taken. There are questions concerning the December wetlands issue.

At 9:56 PM Jo Beth Dudley made a motion to go into non-public for legal issues. Carol Sheltry seconded the motion. All three selectmen voted in the affirmative and confirmed the vote with a Roll Call vote.

The meeting resumed at 10:04 PM.

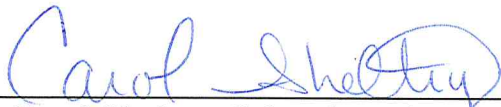
There being no further business, at 10:05 PM Jo Beth Dudley made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Tamela Swan. All three selectmen voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Regular Board meeting is January 27, 2020 at 6:30 PM.

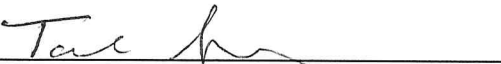
Respectfully submitted,

Tina Peabody  
Temporary Administrative Assistant  
Town of Dalton

**January 20, 2020 Minutes** as approved by the Select Board on 1/27/2020.



Carol Sheltry, Select board Member



Tamela Swan, Select board Member



Jo Beth Dudley, Select board Chairman