

**Dalton Select Board Remote Meeting  
Monday, May 10, 2021 6:30 PM  
Regular Session**

**2021 Public Hearing – Budget and Dog Ordinance**

Call to order at 6:30 pm by Jo Beth Dudley. Select Board members Jo Beth Dudley, Carol Sheltry, and Tamela Swan were present. There were numerous remote attendees.

Carl Lindquist and Gal Potashnick facilitated the meeting and monitored the chat.

**Opening Remarks:**

Welcome participants, and a reminder to be respectful, and instructions on how to participate.

The Select Board acknowledged receipt of a limited number of requests to hold the budget hearing in person. Jo Beth noted that confirmation of decision to hold the meeting remotely was made at the regular Select Board meeting the prior Monday (05/03/2021) and that the Select Board cannot change a decision outside of a public meeting.

Jo Beth summarized the COVID situation as of Thursday, 05/06/2021, whereby the new active cases in Coos County were at the December/January surge levels, with active cases in Dalton and the surrounding communities, and with high rates of active cases in Littleton and Berlin. She noted that as of Thursday morning, 26% of NH residents were fully vaccinated. She did not have data on Dalton vaccination rates.

The situation is improving, and should be much safer for the Town Meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup>,

**DOG ORDINANCE -- RSA 466:30**

- **RSA 466:30 was read.**
- **A summary of the need for a municipal dog ordinance in the case of a dog at large or a menace was noted.**
- Several public comments were made, generally asking for clarification of the actual need for a Dog Ordinance or a leash law.

**BUDGET**

*An overview of the 2020 budget and actual expenditures was provided.*

**2021 Proposed Budget was provided, with discussion and public comments, Additional detail was provided, as noted below.**

- Executive & Fiscal Administration – showed detail.
- Personnel Expenses (Fringe Benefits) – showed detail.
- Planning
- General Gov't Bldgs

- Cemeteries
- Property Liability Insurance (Primex quote)
- Police Department - showed detail.
- Ambulance
- Fire/EMS Dept – showed detail.
- Highway – showed detailed
- Transfer Station – showed detail, including assessment of costs between Carberry (less expensive) and NCES (more expensive)
  - Discussed changing from Expendable Trust Fund pay per bag to a Revolving Fund pay per bag
- Health & Welfare – showed detailed.
- Animal Control
- Culture & Recreation – showed detail (Library budget).
- Conservation Commission – showed detail.

Discussed creating a committee for the Transfer Station – to develop composting ability.

Discussed creating a committee to look at reducing fuel costs and phone costs.

Suggested changes to the budget included increasing overall budget by \$5,000 because of rising fuel cost; increasing highway department budget to account for rising fuel costs; and increasing the Welfare budget from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

The Select Board discussed Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) budget requests, to be considered individually at the Town Meeting. Specific discussion included:

- Summary of CRF Requests (showed detail)
- Legal Expenses – discussed adding funds to the existing CRF.  
Discussed creation of a CRF for Master Plan updates (and discussed North Country Council proposal)
- Discussed need for CRF for a Dispatch Service

Jo Beth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Carol seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Tamela Swan

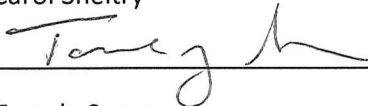
Minutes Approved On: 05/17/2021 (date)

  
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Jo Beth Dudley

  
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Carol Sheltry

  
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Tamela Swan