

**MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
DALTON SENIOR CENTER
Monday, August 9th, 2021
7:00 P.M.**

Members present:

Joseph A. Diver, Chair
Robert W. Bishop Jr., Vice Chair
John F. Boyle
Daniel Esko
Marc E. Strout

Also present:

Thomas Hutcheson, Town Manager
Brittany Miller, Recording Secretary
John Ostretsh, Dalton Community Television
Taylor Staubach
Jayne Smith, Health Agent
Dalton Boy Scouts Troop 4
Zack McCain, Scouts Leader
Glenn Lagerwall
Matt Mottor, Berkshire Culinary Group
Tim Decker
Tyler Pettit
Tim Proper

Absent/ excused members:

Call to Order: Chair Diver called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Dalton Boy Scouts Troop 4

Minutes:

- **6/7/2021** R.Bishop moved to approve the minutes as presented, D.Esko seconded. M.Strout abstains. All in favor.
- **6/21/2021** R.Bishop moved to approve the minutes as presented, D.Esko seconded. All in favor.
- **7/12/2021** R.Bishop moved to approve the minutes as presented, M.Strout seconded. All in favor.

Public Address to the Board:

- Matt Mottor- Pro-vaccine, but against masking. There's a false image around having low paid workers wear a mask while patrons go mask-less, it takes away from the safety. As a

food service worker, his employees are more likely to spread virus therefore every employee of Shire Breu Hous is vaccinated. The Select Board will share Mottor's comments with the Board of Health.

Fall Cleanup – The Pines:

- 2nd Annual Clean Up of the Pines will be held on Sunday, September 19th at 10 a.m. Taylor Staubach is the point person.
R.Bishop moved to accept the event as presented, M.Strout seconded. All in favor.

Boy Scouts' 100th Anniversary:

- "Proclamation in appreciative recognition of Boy Scout Troop 4:
Whereas, Dalton Boy Scout Troop 4 was chartered in the year 1921;
Whereas, Dalton Boy Scout Troop 4 is the third oldest Boy Scout Troop in the United States;
Whereas, Dalton Boy Scout Troop 4 have provided much assistance to the Town of Dalton over many years; and
Whereas, Dalton Boy Scout Troop 4 will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary at a special event on September 11th, 2021."
"The Dalton Troop 4 Boy Scouts will celebrate its 100th Anniversary at the Dalton Congregational Church from 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. The general public will be welcome to learn about Scouting and test their skills (or learn new ones) at a variety of activity stations. From 3:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. will be a special ceremony followed by a cookout. Attendance may be limited due to Covid. Please spread the word to any past Scouts and Scout families - a search is on for historical pictures and memorabilia, particularly from 1997-2005. Please contact Amanda Kmetz (amandakmetz07@gmail.com) or 413-770-1341 to share historical information."
R.Bishop moved that 9/11 be declared Boy Scouts Troop 4 Day in the Town of Dalton and encourages all Dalton residents to extend their greetings and felicitations to the past and present members of Boy Scout Troop 4, M.Strout seconded. All in favor.
The Select Board signs the proclamation.
Z.McCain happily reports that he expects 3-4 more Boy Scouts to join.

Berkshire Money Management:

- Halloween event/ haunted maze titled, "Purgatory Road" is in the process of approval before the Zoning Board of Appeals. It should take place Oct. 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd.
R.Bishop comments that it looks like Allen Harris took over as it used to be done at the farm on 190 Cleveland Rd. It's a good thing; a respectable event for suicide awareness.

Appointments:

- R.Bishop moved to appoint Jason Wagner, Tyler Pettit, Bruce Carnevale, and Timothy Decker to the Highway Department, D.Esko seconded. All in favor.

Health Agent Update:
Report via Jayne Smith

- COVID- Potential mask mandate. North Adams had an outbreak. Dalton had 2-3 cases, nothing like last year however there's some trending up due to the new Delta variant. Those that are vaccinated could still pass the virus along. Health & Wellness Committee to make a recommendation to schools soon. We're inclined to follow State guidance. J.Smith advises under Board of Health Chair for all to wear a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status. This is not mandated, it's only Public Health Advisory. There is no mandate in other towns of Berkshire County either. M.Mottor states that he had two employees quit because they had to wear a mask.
- Solid Waste/ Housing/ Nuisances- J.Smith states that Mary Stucklen has resigned and we'll need to re-staff recycling and housing nuisance help.

Skateboard Park Equipment Donation:

- Glenn Lagerwall is gifting the kids in Town a 4 ft. high, 8 ft. wide half pipe and quarter pipe, with wooden ramps that was built recently by him that his son no longer needs. These pieces have remained outside in winter/ all weather, not in storage. One piece is 200 lbs. so it would be best to move it just once. Location issue unresolved. R.Bishop suggests placing a "use at your own risk" sign. M.Strout moved to accept the donation of skateboarding equipment from Glenn Lagerwall, D.Esko seconded. Discussion: D.Esko thanks Glenn; and suggests Chamberlain Park's basketball court that is never in use, or the Senior Center parking lot for placement. J.Diver comments that there should be low risk of vandalism, as he has met every kid in Dalton, and they are good kids. All in favor. Location TBD.

FY21 Vacation Payout:

- Heather Hunt request for a payout of 10 hours at \$19.43 for a total of \$194.30. R.Bishop moved to accept, M.Strout seconded. All in favor.

~Opened as Sewer Commission at 7:48 p.m.~

Rates:

- T.Hutcheson recommends keeping the rate the same at \$3.53 per 1K gallons or annual flat rate of \$394. Tremendous volatility is shown from FY17-FY18 as our assessment went up \$120K, from FY18-19 it went down \$300K from FY19-20 our assessment went up \$120K. \$5K is recommended for cushion. R.Bishop inquires how much ground water we are paying to be cleaned. T.Hutcheson answers that the survey results are not yet in, Tighe & Bond is working on it.

R.Bishop moved to keep the FY22 estimate price the same as FY21, M.Strout seconded. All in favor.

~Closed as Sewer Commission at 7:52 p.m.~

Proposed Listening Session for MassDOT Round-a-bout:

- Proposed improvements to routes 8 & 9, Main St., South St. & West Housatonic St. will be discussed at a special listening session on September 20th, in Nessacus auditorium.

Town Manger Updates:

Report via Thomas Hutcheson

- Planning Board- reappointed officers.
- Pedestrian lights- complaint of turning space/ backing into ballards at the Post Office. The Town Manager advises drivers to take more care in that area.
- Greenridge- 15 signs on back order, including Greenridge.
- Habitat for Humanity- Lawyers are working on title documents for property purchase.
- Recycling- More recycling bins are coming, to be distributed by haulers as well as held at the Transfer Station for pickup.
- Transfer Station- working on structural deficiencies.
- Open position- Resignation of Recycling Coordinator& Health Inspector for 8 hrs./ week.
- Representative Paul Mark- shall resume office hours Sept. 14th (post Covid).
- Smithsonian Exhibit on Changing World Life- includes several towns around the Commonwealth.
- Census- figures are out; formal vote to come.
- Turning the Towns Teal Campaign- Request from a resident approved. This promotes awareness of ovarian cancer. Volunteers will tie ribbons.
- Citizen's Energy- Assessors expect abatement from Citizen's Energy on behalf of land owner for Warren site land fill. So far Citizen's Energy has not been willing to share their financial projections with the Town.
- Wahconah High School- The plan is to occupy the new building on the first day of the school year, though it is not 100% complete. Some aspects may not be completed until Thanksgiving or Christmas breaks. Ideally they'd like to demolish the old building in the fall to excavate baseball fields.
- Pat Petit- T.Hutcheson thanks Building Superintendent, Pat Petit for working overtime on July 30th to replace a modem that was struck by lightning and burnt out.

Items for Future Agendas:

- D.Esko- Location for skateboarding.

Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours Before the Meeting:

- None.

Remarks:

- J.Diver- CBRSD invites all in the Dalton community to Wahconah's open house event on August 18th, from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. It is a self-guided walking tour. All unvaccinated folk are asked to wear a mask.

Announcements:

- Please note that **Dalton's Official Meeting Postings, Agendas and Minutes** can be viewed at mytowngovernment.org/01226.

Adjourn: R.Bishop motioned to adjourn at 8:06 p.m., M.Strout seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Brittany Miller
Recording Secretary

*The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, September 13th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Dalton Senior Center.*