**MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
CALLAHAN ROOM, TOWN HALL
Tuesday, November 13th, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

**Members present:** John W. Bartels Jr., Chair
 Robert W. Bishop Jr., Vice Chair
 Edward Holub
 Marc E. Strout
 John F. Boyle

**Also present:** Kenneth Walto, Town Manager
 Brittany Miller, Recording Secretary
 John Ostretch, Dalton Cable Television Cameraman
 Jeffrey Coe, Dalton Police Chief
 Dylan Bencivenga & Family/ Friends
 Rashi Akki, Rockwood
 Richard Woodger, Rockwood Farmer, Granville, MA
 Larry, Berkshire Eagle Reporter

**Absent/ excused:**

**Call to Order:** Mr. Bartels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes**

* **10/22/18** – R.B. made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, E.H. seconded, all in favor.

**Public Address to the Board:**

* None

 **Public Hearing:**

* **Appointments:
Dalton Police Dept.-**Bartels reads background information and memos of recommendation towards Dylan Bencivenga from Town Manager Walto and Police Chief Coe. It is read that Mr. Bencivenga holds a bachelor degree in psychology from UMASS Amherst and liberal arts from Berkshire Community College; and has completed the MPTC basic reserve academy/ necessary screenings. R.B. makes a motion to appoint Dylan Bencivenga as a permanent intermittent reserve police officer effective November 13th, 2018, E.H. seconded, all in favor. Chief Coe comments that “during your interview process, it was apparent that you are able to roll with the punches, and remain un-emotional, if you carry this throughout your career you’ll have no problem.” M.S. & R.B. comment “Dylan, your resume and letter of interest were spot on.” J.Boyle comments “Impressive turn out of attendees tonight, which prove this appointment to be well supported.” Bartels- “It is an honorable profession and I think you’ll embrace it and do well.” **Dalton Beautification Commission**- Mr. Merry, an active volunteer assisting the Commission for several years, and alternate Board member for the Council on Aging. DBC Chair, Annmarie Cicchetti describes Bob Merry as a cooperative spirit, community dedicated & mechanically/ technically skilled; he has offered to become a Commission member and Co-Chair, effective January 1st, 2019. R.B. made a motion to appoint Robert R. Merry of 33 Ensign St. to the Dalton Beautification Commission for an initial term to expire on June 30th, 2021, E.H. seconded, all in favor. **Dalton Cultural Council-** Mary Farrell: an active volunteer with the Dalton Cheerleaders for 14 years, American Legion Auxiliary for 4 years, and charity funds at Wahconah. Co-Chair Donald Harris recommends Ferrell. R.B. made a motion to appoint Mary Farrell of 496 East St., Pittsfield to the Dalton Cultural Council for a term to expire on June 30th, 2021, E.H. seconded, all in favor.
* **Grant Acceptance – FY2019 State 911:**R.B. made a motion to accept the grant of $17,534 from The Commonwealth of Massachusetts State 911 Dept. FY2019 PSAP and Regional Emergency Communication Center Support and Incentives, E.H. seconded, all in favor.
Walto explains that all cell phone 911 calls went straight to the state police before, but now they will be redirected to Dalton’s dispatch. This new workload comes with the additional funds accepted tonight. Bartels comments that “This is a positive change cutting out the middle man”. E.H. inquires if the area code matters in the interest of visitors – it is believed to be no.

**Opened as Licensing Board – 7:19 p.m.**

* **Petition to Prorate Alcohol Licensing Fee for OHM Variety:**R.B. made a motion to accept the prorated fee for 2 months to OHM Variety, E.H. seconded, all in favor.

**Closed as Licensing Board – 7:24 p.m.**

* **Cow Power/ Net Metering Project Update (Rockwood):**
Rashi Akki explains her and her farming partner, Richard Woodger’s Ag-Grid project which began in 2016. 400 Holstein cows’ manure is produced and put into a covered pit to then digest the methane bio-gas into electricity. This is a 450 kilowatt project. They have been feeding their digester manure since April 2018. Once Eversource responds they will be able to get on with the electricity production as it is the only thing standing in the way. The Town’s 10 yr. contract will begin when they are operational.
* **GDC Report – Recycling Grant Application for Waste Management:**

Walto explains the beginning stages of possible grant acceptance, upon which man power will provide assistance on getting private haulers to follow regulation and by-laws already in place with a “Pay as You Throw” program.

* **Petition for Extension of Deadline to Remove Junk/ Unregistered Vehicles at 290 Hubbard Ave.:**On behalf of Gary Vosburgh, wife, Karen submits a 30 day extension request on remaining vehicles on their premises. She writes that they are waiting for customers to bring them the titles. Bartels states that Chief Coe is in favor of the extension as is his philosophy towards people making an effort to achieve a final end. R.B. made a motion to accept the 30 day extension to Vosburgh Automotive, E.H. seconded, all in favor.
* **Petition for Extension of Deadline to Remove Junk/ Unregistered Vehicles at 1190 North St.:**Peter Bardin sends an email of the progression of vehicle removal, however the size and weight of his farm equipment needs to be removed via a contractor whose schedule Bardin is at the mercy of. Due to this hardship and the onset of winter an extension is requested. R.B. made a motion for a 90 day extension to Mr. Bardin at 1190 North St., Dalton, E.H. seconded, all in favor.
* **Petition of Peter I. Bardin to use Right of Way on Property as shown on Assessor’s Map 215, Lots 12&13 & Map 213, Lot 4:**Mr. Bardin sends a request for access to his wood lot via the North Mt. right-of-way for personal wood harvesting. This access was previously owned by him and used to gather wood to heat two homes. Board members discuss the legal issues if the land is sold again. Mr. Walto will contact the Town attorney for *temporary* authorization to use this road.
* **Report from Selectman Boyle on naming the Old Windsor Rd. Bridge in Honor of Specialist Mitchell K. Daehling – Schedule Special Town Meeting:**Mr. Boyle began movement for signage on the Old Windsor Bridge in July, to which the motion was carried unanimously. Recently however, a committee has requested a town meeting for it to have an expression of approval from all. If this effort isn’t completed in December, the process will have to start all over again and disrupt the Daehling family’s attendance. J.Boyle made a motion to call a special town meeting to grant permission for the Town to request the necessary legislation to allow abridgement memorialization for Specialist Mitchell K. Daehling on the Old Windsor Rd. Bridge, M.S. seconded, all in favor. R.B. made a motion to conduct a special town meeting on Monday, December 3rd, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Nessacus Regional Middle School and to adopt the warrant as presented, E.H. seconded, all in favor. There is consensus to use Wahconah High School as a fall-back location if Nessacus is unavailable.
* **Consideration of Amendment to GPI Contract for Housatonic St.:**Walto reports that the engineers have worked through the contract and are requesting a final payment of $5K, which translates to 38 extra hours. This transaction will close out the contract. R.B. made a motion to pay $5,340.57 out of Chapter 90 funds and close out the engineering cost for Housatonic St., E.H. seconded, all in favor.
* **Wahconah School Building Committee/ CBRSD School Committee Reports:**
Bartels reports that the building design & cost will be calculated/ known in January, though deeper information will be discovered after Thursday’s meeting. R.B. inquires about capital projects; Bartels will look into a 5 year plan to provide. Boyle inquires about the ballot vote write-ins, Bartels will look into the names for him.
* **Schedule of Indebtedness:**
A work in progress summary is provided by Mr. Walto showing that $1.3 million is being paid on by the Town. $2,792,862 has been authorized but not yet incurred. Total debt for FY2019 = $526,147 comprised of the capital improvement program, sewer, library/ communications/ public works, Town Hall & CBRSD. The schedule of payment dates will be added.

**Town Manager Updates:**

* **Streetlights-** November 15th will be the closing date with Eversource for acquiring the lights.
* **Senior Center-** Acoustical panels will be installed the last week in November; as will their exercise equipment.
* **Town Hall-** A state contract is now complete to replace 40 year old carpeting throughout Town Hall; it is planned for the end of November.
* Property Rates are going down.
* E.H. inquires about Town garage/ DEP, Walto replies that a pre-approved extension will most likely be made.

**Items for Future Agendas:**

* M.S. & R.B. – Recognition of volunteers.

**Remarks of the Select Board:**

* Bartels thanks his fellow Board members for attending additional meetings.
* Boyle wishes a Happy Thanksgiving.
* Bishop gives thanks and recognition to veterans.

**Announcements:**

* The Dalton Police Department is reminding the citizens of Dalton of the **Winter Parking Ban** which went into effect on November 15, 2018 and will stay in effect until April 15, 2019.
* **John W. Bartels, Jr.** holdsoffice hours by appointment.For further information please call 413-684-6111 ext. 11. & home (413) 684-2526.
* **State Representative Paul Mark** holds office hours at the Dalton Town Hall, 462 Main St. in The Callahan roomon Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with the exception of the third Tuesday of each month. On the third Tuesday, office hours are 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall and from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Dalton Senior Center. You can reach his office at his direct number: 413-464-5635.
* Please note that **Dalton’s Official Meeting Postings, Agendas and Minutes** can be viewed at *mytowngovernment.org/01226*.

**Executive Session:**

J.Bartels declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. R.B. makes a motion to move to Executive Session to conduct a strategy session in preparation for union and non-union personnel and litigation and not return to open session, E.H. seconded. Roll call vote: J.Boyle “yes”, E.H. “yes”, R.B. “yes”, M.S. “yes”, J.Bartels “yes”.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.
R.B. made the motion to adjourn, E.H. seconded; this was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Brittany Miller
Recording Secretary

*The next scheduled meeting will be Monday, November 26th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.*