

**MINUTES**  
**SELECT BOARD/ FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**  
**Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**Members present:**

Robert W. Bishop Jr., Chair  
Joseph A. Diver, 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  
Sandra Albano, Town Accountant  
Jayne Smith, Dalton Health Agent  
Deanna Strout, Dalton Police Chief  
Rebecca Whitaker, Dalton Police Admin. Assistant  
William Drosehn, Finance Committee  
Jeffrey Noble, Finance Committee  
Mitch Lacker, Finance Committee  
Michael Jerome, Finance Committee  
Kira Staubach-Smith, Finance Committee  
Susan Carroll-Lombardi, Finance Committee  
Daniel Filiault, Emergency Management  
John Roughley, Highway Superintendent  
Pat Pettit, Town Building Superintendent  
Richard Hall

**Absent/ excused members:**

**Call to Order:** Chair Bishop called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by J.Diver

**Intro.** “Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20 and the Governor’s March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Select Board will be conducted via remote participation. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the open session portion of the meeting may do so by viewing on Dalton Community Television on one of the three channels: 1301, 1302 or 1303. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure

that the public can adequately access the open session portion of the proceedings in real-time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting."

**Minutes:**

- **4/26/2021** D.Esko moved to table the minutes to next meeting, J.Diver seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

**Public Address to the Board:** None.

**Joint Meeting with Dalton Finance Committee – June 28<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting Warrants:**

- Highway Ford F-550 Replacement Vehicle- \$99,675  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Reason: replacing a late '80's vehicle that's no longer roadworthy. Includes plow and sander.  
Discussion:  
J.Roughley- "We try to get 20 years out of them. All plow trucks are up to date besides one that will need replacement in 5 or so years. Large equipment needed next will likely be a sweeper and sewer flusher truck (\$300-500K) vacuum combo. More sidewalk work as requested from residents would require more equipment; understaffed at the moment."  
J.Noble inquires if there is any effect on the Cemetery budget/ expenses.  
From a budgetary viewpoint, there is no effect. Categorizing is due to the summer months when this is the Cemetery truck as well.
- Highway Mower- \$9K + a bagger = \$11K  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Reason: nearing end of life.  
Discussion:  
J.Roughley- "We mow 3 parks, 4 cemeteries, the Senior Center, and various roadsides. Lifespan is approximately 10 years. We have 4 zero turn Scag brand mowers, this one will make 5; one ride-on mower and 3-4 push mowers."
- Generator for Sewage Pumping Station: \$30K. Includes installation.  
Source: Sewer Stabilization Fund  
Reason: End of life. Discovered at the last DEP inspection.  
Discussion:  
J.Roughley- Still bidding out. We only have one pump station in Town. Runs on natural gas.
- Buildings' New Pick-Up Truck- \$47,063. Includes a sander.  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Reason: Pat Pettit has been using his own personal truck to transport equipment, election items, emergency trailer, hauling recyclables to the Transfer Station, etc.  
Discussion:  
Still quoting mostly through State contracting.

- Police Replacement Cruiser & Related Equipment- \$55,000  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Discussion:  
D.Strout- Refurbish/ convert existing cruiser to K-9.  
There are about 5 years left of Max's career; there are grants available once you have a dog, to replace a dog.
- Police Computer server- \$18,200  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Reason: Recommended to replace every 5 years.  
Discussion:  
D.Strout- Ignoring it prior resulted in a loss of a lot of data.  
M.Lacker- There is one main server, and 3 physical servers for Town Hall- one to Town Collector, another to Accounting. There is off-site back up on all.
- Police Recording Equipment & Software- \$8,400  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Reason: Equipment has been failing. Need specific E911 system.  
Discussion:  
Can reallocate money back to Town with grant. Will know if via grant by July 1<sup>st</sup>.  
R.Whitaker- Equipment/ systems *will* all work together.
- Town Hall Asbestos Removal- \$500K +/- Includes relocation of staff.  
Source: Capital Stabilization Fund  
Discussion: Quotes to come.  
P.Pettit- "Some asbestos is intact/ contained; some plaster in ceiling corners is coming down."  
D.Esko/ R.Bishop- Possible relocation to the old Berkshire Bank building next door during asbestos removal project; walk through to come.  
T.Hutcheson- "Possible exemption from Proposition 2 ½.  
The Select Board can decide to put on ballot for voters to vote to exempt from tax rate. 10 year borrowing is an option, 5 year borrowing through State House notes."  
S.Albano- "Lots of room for debt; and there's capacity in the levy limit. It's the one year principal that goes on the tax rate. If we do a five year, it would be a hundred thousand dollar principal plus interest; ten year would be fifty thousand."  
W.Droehn- "Opinion as the Finance Chair and Dalton taxpayer to not go into debt exclusion."  
T.Hutcheson- "With plenty of room in the levy ceiling, no problem with debt exclusion."  
S.Albano- "We are \$1,432,000 under the levy limit as of April 5<sup>th</sup>. We're in really good shape to not have debt exclusion. Almost \$400K more than last year to do with early debt payment."  
Conversation to continue June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Recycling- The Board of Health requests \$28K to form a contract with Pittsfield for a short term recycling solution.
- Job Descriptions Update/ Compensation Classification Schedule- \$25K to hire a firm that would interview department heads/ staff; estimate based on similar size towns. Job descriptions haven't changed since 2001. Applying for the Community Compact grant.

**Reorganization of the Select Board/ Summer Schedule:**

- **Reorganization-**  
 R.Bishop announces his resignation as Chair.  
 M.Strout thanks Bishop for his 1.5 years of service.  
 M.Strout moves to nominate J.Diver as Select Board Chairman, D.Esko seconded.  
 Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.  
 M.Strout moves to nominate R.Bishop as Select Board Vice Chairman, D.Esko seconded.  
 Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.
- **Summer Schedule-**  
 R.Bishop moved to schedule June 7<sup>th</sup>, June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>, and August 9<sup>th</sup> for future Select Board meetings, D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

**Police Department Updates – Latest News & Census Info. Collected:****Report via Deanna Strout**

- New security equipment/ cameras with grant. Placement on the exterior of the whole building and interior of the Police Department as well as interviewing equipment. Bids to electricians are out now. Body cameras are part of the new Reform Bill. Anticipating funding and policy. Centralized storage to come since storing data is the expensive component.
- Police Academy for 2 officers starting October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Quarter 1 Statistics:** 3,283 calls to service from January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>.  
 59 accidental 911 calls  
 90 medical emergencies responded to  
 117 assisting other agencies/ departments  
 36 well-being checks  
 29 motor vehicle crashes  
 1,125 building checks in the evening  
 55 motor vehicle stops (leery to stop people during COVID)  
 140 Police reports  
 70 investigations  
 25 arrests (criminal and in-custody)  
 6 restraining orders  
 15 traffic citations  
 2 parking tickets  
 3 domestic violence  
 2 breaking and entering  
 1 theft  
 1 disorderly conduct  
 1 OUI alcohol  
 2 violation of restraining orders  
 1 kidnapping

- 11 motor vehicle offenses
- 20 *investigated* thefts
- 17 *investigated* motor vehicle
- 7 *investigated* offenses
- 9 *investigated* identity fraud
- 6 *investigated* vandalism
- 5 *investigated* assault and battery
- 4 *investigated* intimidation of a witness
- 3 *investigated* domestic violence
- 2 *investigated* sexual assault
- 4 *investigated* breaking and entering
- 2 *investigated* rape
- 2 *investigated* kidnappings (stemmed from a missing person allegation)
- 4 section 12 – transport for a mental health evaluation to a medical facility
- 2 51A – DCF reports
- 2 sudden death
- 1 missing person
- 1 immediate threat on the road.
- Recent in-service trainings for officers’ certification for the year: implicit bias, defensive tactics, CPR first responder, domestic terrorism, longevity and law enforcement, and responding to pandemics/ similar emergencies.
- New firearms certification June 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> for a new weapon.  
New outer carrier vests shifts weight from officers’ backs.
- 7 Police District parade to honor 2021 graduates from Wahconah Regional High School Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. Main St. to Housatonic St.  
J.Diver- “Thank you for census project. Thank you, Officer Litz for donated flower pots placed outside the Police Station.”
- Recognition of Daniel Filiault – who took it upon himself to contact Mass Emergency Management whom contacted The Berkshire County Sheriff’s department resulting in a loan of radio equipment needed and installed at no cost by Pittsfield Communications.

#### **Appointments:**

- DDIC-  
R.Bishop moved to appoint Anthony Mazzeo of 275 Dalton Division Rd. to the Dalton Development Industrial Commission for a term to expire June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, M.Strout seconded. Discussion:  
M.Strout comments that he’s known Mazzeo for several years, he’ll be a huge asset.  
Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.
- DRA-  
R.Bishop moved to appoint Michael Ferry of 89 Kimberly Rd. to the Dalton Redevelopment Authority for a term to expire June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, D.Esko seconded.  
Discussion:

J.Boyle- "Mr. Ferry has been with us on the DDIC for a long time. Retired Vice President in banking; very instrumental with applications for financial assistance with State agencies; many contacts with Mass. Development Commission that has paved the way for Steve Sears. Invaluable."

Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

- Central Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Commission-

R.Bishop moved to appoint Daniel Filiault to the Central Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Commission for a 5 year term, M.Strout seconded. Discussion:

D.Filiault has served on this commission before and is willing to still.

Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

### New Hires:

- Full time Highway Laborer/ Transfer Station Attendant-  
New split position to be filled by seasonal employee, Dominic Orlandi.
- COA Reserve Van Driver-  
Newly created position for a part time driver if the primary van driver is unavailable.

### Special Town Meeting Warrant:

- R.Bishop moved to table this matter until June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

### Board of Health Updates:

#### **Report via Jayne Smith**

- Anticipate being in the "grey" this week.
- As of May 29<sup>th</sup> the Governor deems all guidance to end.
- Berkshire County Boards of Health Association is providing new signs for businesses to advise un-vaccinated people to still wear masks.
- CRA- Pools are going to be up and running. Sports camps can now comply with camp regulations.
- Bathrooms were not open this year at Chamberlain Park due to a shortage of labor, and an issue around tipping port-a-potties.
- No new provisions on meeting in-person until June 15<sup>th</sup>. Zoom is still valid as long as there's a quorum.
- Vaccinations- R.Hall shares, an orange CHP van will be at the CRA for walk-in vaccinations Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Death Benefit- Soon to come for anyone who experienced death due to COVID.
- Event/ Dining Outdoors- The state of emergency ends June 15<sup>th</sup> followed by a 60 day grace period. J.Smith inquires an extension through the summer that allows businesses to serve outside their physical footprint. Alcohol licensing extension filed last fall to

continue to the end of COVID emergency. The Select Board will put this on a future agenda as the Licensing Board.

**Update on Citizen Energy Solar Farm:**

**Report via Thomas Hutcheson**

- The Town Manager and Principal Assessor discussed the history of the property and proposal: 2-3 megawatts of activity which would pay for itself, taxes/ penalties, 10 years of the 20 year expected lifespan. That and lease payment would bring the number down more. If the land owner is willing, they can pay off all Town debt back taxes and fees and make a profit; a mutual benefit for all.

J.Diver- The next step is to engage with legal counsel. Citizen Energy is eager; all involved are still interested.

R.Bishop moved to allow the Town Manager to work with Town lawyers to get the best deal on a solar array, M.Strout seconded. Discussion:

R.Hall- Private land, not Town land.

J.Boyle advises that we negotiate in the contract that payment is remitted directly to the Town of Dalton vs. the owner for reduction in their tax bill. This would be our guarantee as it's over \$200K.

J.Boyle moved to amend the motion to include payment provision, M.Strout seconded.

Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

**One Stop Community Grant for Redeveloping Stationary Factory:**

- Letter of support for the Stationary Factory to move ahead in their application to One Stop Community; 10 grant programs lumped together. M.Strout moved to support the application, D.Esko seconded. R.Bishop abstains, all else in favor.

**Vote to proceed with the disposal of View St. Property:**

- There are State rules when it comes to selling land to abutters. One abutter is interested that we know of; however we must notify all abutters to assess interest. An auction would be one option; entertaining one would depend on the demand of. M.Strout motioned to have the Town Manager move forward with the disposal process of View St. and return with a proposal, R.Bishop seconded. Roll call vote: J.Boyle "no", J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

**Juneteenth Holiday:**

- The State approved a new State holiday on June 19<sup>th</sup> wherein municipal offices will be closed. It is the celebration of the last news of the emancipation of slaves after the Civil War; it took years for the news to reach Texas – they were the last state to recognize the Emancipation Proclamation. A Mass Municipal Association survey received 73 communities' opinions: 33 agreed to an extra holiday to employees, 24 were waiting for Union negotiations, and 16 stated not yet or no. T.Hutcheson recommends that we

recognize the holiday, as Pittsfield has; and to keep our employment competitive. Though time and a half is not budgeted, few employees work on Saturday.

M.Strout motioned to make Juneteenth a paid holiday for all Town employees (not a floating holiday), R.Bishop seconded. Roll call vote: J.Boyle “no”, J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

#### **Vacation Payout/ Carry-Overs:**

- COVID impact on travel.

The Town Collector and Highway Superintendent request two extra weeks carried over. The Treasurer requests 1 week additional payout and two weeks and 6 hours additional vacation carryover.

The Assistant Treasurer requests 10 hours additional carryover.

R.Bishop moved to accept the requests, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

M.Strout moved to rescind the previous motion to correct the Highway Superintendent’s request from carry over to 3 weeks paid out, R.Bishop seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

#### **Franchise Fee:**

- R.Bishop moved to accept a franchise fee of \$27,199.65 recently received from Charter Communications to the Dalton Community Cable Association, the fee for January/ February/ March 2021, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

#### **Town Insurance & Policy Limits:**

- We have sufficient insurance.

#### **FY21 Bonus for Interim Town Manager for Services:**

- T.Hutcheson recommends. R.Bishop moved to give a \$5K bonus to Sandra Albano for extraordinary services for her Interim Town Manager duties, D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

~Opened as Sewer Commission at 8:25 p.m.

R.Bishop moved to open as the Sewer Commission, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

#### **Abatement of Bills for 460 Housatonic St.:**

- Request from a resident to abate bills from FY17 to present due to a Town accident. The property hasn’t had access to sewer services. T.Hutcheson recommends abating bills for 460 Housatonic St.as the resident was still billed though services were not provided. R.Bishop moved to abate the bills at 460 Housatonic St. from FY17 to the present, D.Esko seconded. Discussion:



J.Boyle inquires if not going into a sewer, where effluent was going.

T.Hutcheson- "Property was not being used in that way, or else material would have backed up. Effluent goes to a pump not owned by the resident, which hasn't worked for 4 years but should be worked out between them. Anticipating sale of the property, but it is not confirmed that this is because of a sale. It's still the Town's responsibility to make it possible for properties to be connected to the sewer system."

J.Roughley- It's not a residency, it's a garage.

T.Hutcheson- "They have not had access to Town sewer due to a break in the sewer line that has yet to be repaired that the Town is responsible for."

Roll call vote: J.Boyle "no", D.Esko "yes", M.Strout "no", R.Bishop "no", J.Diver "no". Motion failed.

R.Bishop- History and pending issues is cause for a no vote.

Board members require more information to be discussed at a later time.

~Closed as Sewer Commission at 8:33 p.m.

R.Bishop moved to close as the Sewer Commission, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".

### **FY22 Department Transfers:**

- Assessor- \$10K for RRB assessing service contract.  
S.Albano- "Other invoices unanticipated. Asking for \$4K more that will make the contract the full amount available so that the rest of the \$5,700 that was left over can be paid out to a vendor that is doing property tax work for FY21." R.Bishop moved to transfer \$4K from Assessing Salaries dept. #141 to Assessing Expenses dept. #141, D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".
- Postage- due to the postage meter running low since there was extra mailing of dog licenses/ tags, etc. during the pandemic. The Town Collector requests \$3,500 to finish out the year. R.Bishop moved to transfer \$3,500 from Vocational Education Expenses dept. #320 to Postage Expenses dept. #158, D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".
- Communications- the Communications Director requests \$1,500 for course fees for two new dispatchers not covered by the training grant. R.Bishop moved to transfer \$1,500 from Communications Salaries dept. #222 to Communications Expenses dept. #222, D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".
- Emergency Management- Emergency Management stipend increase for the Director has gone above and beyond his duties during the pandemic. There is enough money in his expenses to cover an extra \$3,500 in salaries. R.Bishop moved to transfer \$3,500 from Emergency Management Salaries dept. #295 to Emergency Management Expenses dept. #295, D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver "yes", D.Esko "yes", J.Boyle "yes", M.Strout "yes", R.Bishop "yes".
- Snow & Ice- \$44 to cure a deficit in the Snow & Ice dept. R.Bishop moved to transfer \$44 from Snow & Ice Expenses dept. #423 to Snow & Ice Salaries dept. #423, D.Esko

seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

- Employee Fringe Benefits- A sizeable balance is left over due to retirements and un-hired personnel that was budgeted for to take care of vacation payouts. R.Bishop moved to transfer \$13,500 from Group Health Insurance Expense dept. #914 to Employee Fringe Benefits Salaries dept. #919, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.
- Employee Fringe Benefits- Vacation payout. R.Bishop moved to transfer \$4,000 from Accountant Salaries dept. #135 to Employee Fringe Benefits Salaries dept. #919, M.Strout seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

### **Town Manger Updates:**

#### **Report via Thomas Hutcheson**

- Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager/ Select Board resignation- anyone that is interested is urged to apply.
- COVID-19- The Governor will lift restrictions by May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. State requirements will be replaced by an advisory consistent with the CDC that vaccinated people no longer need to wear masks in most settings but still required on transportation/ healthcare settings/ schools/ and congregate living settings regardless. This does not affect the use and application of CARES funds. The State of Emergency in place since March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 will be lifted June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.  
Cherry sheets are in: an additional \$52,856 in receipts as compared to the Governor’s budget and an additional \$15,037 in charges for a net gain of \$37,719 from the Governor’s budget. State budget ought to be fixed by June 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Upon report to the Board of Health and Police Dept., the Board of Health Agent advised a Dalton host that private outdoor gatherings are limited to 25 people.
- Complete street inventory received, and a work priority list from the Highway Superintendent. Out of 18 highest priority roads, the 4 highest are: Orchard Street at \$300K, Crane at \$80K, Chamberlain Ave. at \$35K, and Pleasant St. at \$291K. A total of \$706K. \$220K is given to the Town annually in Chapter 90 money. More cost estimates to come. We’re participating in the regional bid for line painting this year.
- Trees- Problematic trees along Route 9 due to come down. Along with 50 other trees part of an Eversource project.
- Town Hall Asbestos- the Building Superintendent performed another test in the attic: we are faced with the most expensive scenario in asbestos removal, which is the plaster in the walls/ ceiling means the room should be gutted.
- Town bathroom facilities in parks- additional responsibility is needed from those who maintain them due to past issues. More information to come.

### **Items for Future Agendas:**

- R.Bishop- Unaccepted roads
- M.Strout- 460 Housatonic St.

**Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours Before the Meeting:**

- None.

**Remarks:**

- J.Boyle- Memorial Day parade substitution is an informal ceremony at Main St. Cemetery open to the public.

**Announcements:**

- **The Town Hall is now open** to the public effective Monday, 5/24/2021. Please see the Town of Dalton website for departmental information.
  - **The Senior Center is now open.**
  - **The Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled**, but the Dalton American Legion is planning a gravesite Memorial at the Main St. Cemetery.
  - **Open Meeting Law Ruling**  
The Division of Open Government (DOG) recently issued a determination that it is a violation of the Open Meeting Law (OML) for the Chair of a public body to fail at the start of a meeting to identify by name the members of a board who are attending remotely (see the decision at OML 2020-138.) The OML regulations state “at the start of the meeting, the Chair shall announce the name of any member who will be participating remotely. This information shall also be recorded in the meeting minutes.” 940 CMR 29.10(7) (b). Failure to announce the name of any member participating remotely is a violation of the law.
  - **New hours for compost and brush area:**  
Tuesday/ Wednesday: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Friday/ Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
  - **The Dalton Police Department is now open to the public.**  
The Dalton Police Department lobby is now open to the public. Please feel free to stop in and see an officer. Social distancing and masks are required and only two (2) people area allowed in the lobby at a time.
- Processing of Firearm Permit:**  
Firearm permits are processed between the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. by appointment only, please call 1-413-684-0300 to schedule your appointment. No walk-ins are being accepted at this time. A check or money order for \$100 made payable to the Town of Dalton. Renewals over the age of 70 are free.
- **The Dalton Library** is now open 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Thursday & Friday; 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday; and 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Anyone in a high risk population may schedule a time in the AM to come in by themselves with no questions asked. Lobby pickup continues for anyone who would rather not enter the building. Call 413-684-6112 for more information.
  - Please note that **Dalton’s Official Meeting Postings, Agendas and Minutes** can be viewed at [mytowngovernment.org/01226](http://mytowngovernment.org/01226).

**Adjourn:** M.Strout motioned to adjourn at 9:04 p.m., D.Esko seconded. Roll call vote: J.Diver “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, M.Strout “yes”, D.Esko “yes”, R.Bishop “yes”.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brittany Miller  
Recording Secretary

*The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.*