**MINUTES  
SELECT BOARD  
CALLAHAN ROOM, DALTON TOWN HALL  
Monday, October 21st, 2019  
7:00 P.M.**

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

**Also present:** Kenneth Walto, Dalton Town Manager  
 Brittany Miller, Recording Secretary  
 John Roughley, Dalton Highway Superintendent   
 Mary Lamke, 10 Country Rd., Hinsdale  
 Helga Knappe, 51 John St., Dalton  
 Carol Powell, 60 North St. #6, Dalton  
 Richard Peters, 305 Smith Rd., Hinsdale, CBRSD School   
 Committee member  
 Resident at 12 Home Terrace, Dalton  
 Gary R. Steiner at 10 Home Terrace, Dalton  
 Richard Lacatell, 46 Patricia Ave., Dalton, CBRSD School   
 Committee Vice Chair  
 Barbara Craft-Reiss, 43 Bracken Ln, Becket, CBRSD School   
 Committee Chair

**Absent/ excused:**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes**

* Moved to next meeting.

**Public Address to the Board:**

* Mary Lamke & Helga Knapp- TRIAD

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

* **Dalton Civic Arts Committee’s 24th Annual Light up the Holidays Parade**J.Boyle motioned to accept the date of Saturday, December 14th, 2019 from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. for the Dalton Civic Arts Committee’s 24th Annual Light up the Holidays Parade, which will take place on Main St., beginning at Depot St. and ending at the CRA. E.H. seconded, all in favor.
* **Appointments:**J.Boyle motioned to ratify the appointment of Pamela J. Turner of 30 Sunset Drive to the Dalton Beautification Commission for initial term to expire on June 30th, 2022, E.H. seconded, all in favor.   
  J.Boyle motioned to ratify the appointment of Andrew G. Perenick of 165 High St. to the Stormwater Management Commission for an initial term to expire on June 30th, 2020, A.P. seconded, all in favor. Perenick completes the unexpired term of Edward Holub as the Planning Board representative to the Commission.
* **Dalton TRIAD Donation**J.Boyle motioned to accept a gift of $300.00 from the Dalton TRIAD to purchase traffic cones to assist the Dalton Police officers with public safety and visibility; whereas the Mass General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53A empowers the Select Board to approve the acceptance of grants or gifts of funds by any officer or department on behalf of the Town, E.H. seconded, all in favor.   
  Mary Lamke introduces the founder of TRIAD, Helga Knapp, founded back in 1990. It is explained that TRIAD is the collaboration between The Senior Center, the Police, the Sherriff, D.A.’s office, and the Fire Department; TRIADs are prevalent throughout the country. They meet the third Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center, open to people of any age. Lamke and Knapp invite the Board to listen to an informative speaker from BCAC at this week’s meeting.
* **Transfer Station**A letter from the Dalton Highway Association brings awareness to a compost area concern wherein it is open and unattended. For the past couple of years, more commercial haulers and non-residents have brought their compost and brush to Dalton. This has created an overwhelming workload and man hours to chip and remove the brush. Doing so for 10+ hours/ week has caused injury to the men manually feeding the brush into an old wood chipper that needs updating. The Highway Association is asking that the compost area remain open only on Saturday with an attendant checking for resident stickers; which will be much more manageable and safe. The Board has also received complaint emails from residents about the area frequently being filled with leaves. John Roughley states that if they bring on the new hire, that person will tend the area and more than one day of the week will make the Station available to residents. He’ll be interviewed next Friday, making this possible in approximately two weeks. Gary Steiner, resident, suggests Holiday Farm as an alternative option – it is always open to recycle leaves there. J.R. adds that the Farm won’t accept brush piles however; the owner was inundated in the past.   
  Mr. Walto gives an update on Casella’s contract with the Town’s Transfer Station. Walto proposed to them to keep the rates as they are for the remaining fiscal year, and received agreement. The second contract with the Springfield MIRF contains a $100/ton tipping fee; we have to decide/ sign on by January. This matter is to be continued.

**Opened as Mobile Home Rent Control Board – 7:24 p.m.**

* **Certificate of Compliance – Installation of Septic System by Deep Associates:**  
  Walto brings attention to a letter dated March 25th, 2015 from himself to Mr. Deep indicating the immediate approval from the Board for a $40 rent increase effective May 1st, 2015 from $210/ month to $250/ month with the beginning of construction of the new septic system project. The Board also approved a request for a phase two increase effective May 1st, 2016, pending the Board of Health’s approval of the septic system project. A more recent letter dated October 9th, 2019 from Mr. Deep includes a certificate of completion for the new sewer system; and a new request to increase the rent another $40 at Victoria Villa MHP to $290/ month effective December 1st, 2019. R.B. states that we should first investigate to make sure everything is done well since he has many resident complaints on the construction of this. J.Boyle motioned to postpone Mr. Deep’s rent increase request until the December meeting, E.H. seconded. Discussion: Mr. Deep did have major environmental issues that have since been addressed and holes in people’s yards have been filled, but there are still complaints coming from residents, we should check with the Conservation Commission. R.B. speaks on behalf of ConCom, stating they are happy with the outcome of Mr. Deep’s property. Resident, Glen Garver speaks of his concern with alarms going off. R.B. spoke with the Foreman and believes the alarms have been fixed. Mr. Walto states that there is no requirement to notify residents of the rent increase and we should include it on our future agenda to notify them. All in favor.

**Closed as Mobile Home Rent Control Board – 7:30 p.m.**

* **Master Plan:**   
  J.Diver proposes we revisit and update the Master Plan which was completed in June 2016; specifically the items listed as high priority meant to be delivered within 1-3 years of the submitted plan. Diver would like to recognize the Planning Board on their information/ foresight development. E.Holub comments that the Planning Board has been planning to work with some of the other committees to ask them more details about various projects but they got tied up on zoning issues on Hubbard Ave. They hope that will end soon in order to go back to the postponed projects; this may take a couple of months. E.H. agrees with Diver, attention should be given to the 10 yr. plan in which some unmet projects are past their 3 yr. mark. The goal made this evening is to address updates to the Master Plan by the Select Board’s January meeting, a resolution for the New Year.
* **Approval of Inter-Municipal Agreement with BRPC- Stormwater**

Mr. Walto shares the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission’s direction and guidance that will assist the Town of Dalton in compliance with the MA Small MS4 General Permit – this will come from Melissa Provencher as the point person. E.H. and R.B. comment that Provencher is top notch and invaluable. Services will begin on September 17th, 2019, pursuant to the provisions of MA General Laws Chapter 40 section 4A and shall be undertaken and completed no later than June 30th, 2020. The service is compensated by a total fee not to exceed $11K. J.Boyle moves to have Mr. Walto sign the services agreement with BRPC, E.H. seconded, all in favor. Walto states that we’ll look for discharge specifics within the I&I study.

**Town Manager Updates:**

* **North Mountain Park**We have completed the environmental study but haven’t completed the remediation. We’ve been waiting since the Regional Planning Commission applied for more money; the original cost to do the study and to clean it up was thought to be $28K. But an appropriation of $9K will remove the tank and oil; a revolving loan fund means municipalities typically don’t have to pay it back. Town Planner, Rebecca Slick will be submitting an application via Melissa Provencher’s suggestion to ask for $11K for cleanup. This can be done during winter.
* **Tax Rate Schedule**Walto distributes a draft tax rate schedule for FY 2020. The goal is to distribute the tax bills by the end of December (Monday, Dec. 23rd). An approval of the tax rate will be needed and decided at the Monday, November 18th, 2019 special meeting.
* **Hampshire Power**Hampshire Power is changing to a for-profit public benefit corporation. Because of this, our accounts have been transferred back to Eversource supplying all of our electricity. Eversource re-prices electricity every 6 months; therefore our rates are set to go up shortly. Walto proposes to stay with Hampshire Power/ Sunwave for at least 1 year. R.B. comments that .9 cents can’t be compared, it’s an attractive price. K.W. believes it may go up in winter to .13 cents but it comes back down in the spring. They also have a statutory obligation to provide prices at the best they can; and remain stable. This is unique for Town Government, not residents. The Board agrees to move forward.
* **Habitat for Humanity**The purchase of sale and land disposition agreement documents were received today. One requirement states giving preference to Dalton residents- 70% of multi-family units can be set aside, however that can’t be done for single units, single units have to be done by lottery. The closing is not yet known. Health Agent, Edward Fahey will be contacted about the Attorney General’s Receivership Program status for abandoned houses. This matter is to be continued.

**Remarks of the Select Board:**

* R.B. – Any movement on the APR land? K.W.: Yes, communication from the Commissioner of Agriculture who has assigned staff to look at this.
* M.S. – Reminder to check in on the sidewalks. K.W.: We had trouble coming to agreement with the Department of Transportation. We will be hiring an engineer to draw up the plans out on Route 8, at the corner of Housatonic St.
* J.Diver – Community event coming up on Friday and Saturday, October 25th and 26th at Wahconah High School, Arsenic and Old Lace play by American playwright Joseph Kesselring, written in 1939, 7:00 p.m. $9 admission for adults, $7 for students.

**Items for Future Agendas:**

* J.Diver – A letter was received from Scott Clemons whom owns a service dog, and he believes there shouldn’t be a license fee for one; so we should look into changing the bylaw.
* Master Plan update

**Announcements:**

* **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.
* **Select Board Chair Bob Bishop** holdsoffice hours by appointment in the Town Hall and at the Senior Center. For further information or to schedule an appointment, please call 413-684-6111 ext. 11.
* **The Green Dalton Committee and the Board of Appeals** are looking for new members. If interested, contact the Town Manager’s Office: 413-684-6111 ext. 11
* Larry Parness from **The Berkshire Eagle** is on a fellowship until May. He assures the Town that the Berkshire Eagle will continue to cover the news for the Town.
* Please note that **Dalton’s Official Meeting Postings, Agendas and Minutes** can be viewed at *mytowngovernment.org/01226*.

**Executive Session:**

R.Bishop 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 litigation and not return to open session, E.H. seconded. Roll call vote: M.S. “yes”, E.H. “yes”, R.B. “yes”, J.Boyle “yes”, J.Diver “yes”.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brittany Miller  
Recording Secretary

*The next scheduled meeting will be Monday, October28th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Callahan Room at Dalton Town Hall.*