

**Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
January 12th 2016**

Call to Order: Selectman Wakeman called the meeting to Order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Jeffrey Wakeman, Selectman Mark Blake, Selectman Michael Stewart. Vice Chairman Sarah Hall and Selectman Joshua Libby excused.

Quorum: Chairman Wakeman announced a Quorum has been met with three (3) members present.

Executive Session: Pursuant to Title #1, M.R.S.A., Title #1, Chapter #13, Section 405(6)(C) – Real Estate. **Tabled.**

Also Present: AA/TA Ruth Glaeser. Road Commissioner Calvin Beaumier, Codes Official Paul Baines, Fire Chief/EMA Director William St. Michel and Secretary Jill Toher excused.

Pledge of Allegiance: Completed.

Amendments to the Agenda: Chairman Wakeman Strikes #2 – 6:00 p.m. Executive Session: Strike #7 “A” and “D” under Action and Discussion Items; add letter from Ed. Barrett regarding County suit, and second resident complaint under Consent Agenda; Strike “A” “B” and “D” under Departments and Committees; Strike #10- Executive Session.

Add under Selectmen's Comments: Set a Budget Discussion held on Tuesday, January 19th 2015 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Public Present: Alice McPeake, Donna Church and Jill Gastonguay (Alternative Warrant Committee),

Public Comments: None.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Treasurer's Payables Warrant
- b. Approval of Regular Selectmen's Meeting Minutes–December 30th 2015
- c. Correspondence:
 1. Resident Complaint – roads
 2. Second Resident Complaint – trash tags
 3. Letter From Ed Barrett regarding County Suit.

Selectman Blake Moves to Approve the Consent Agenda as Presented. Selectman Stewart Second. Motion Carried 3-0.

Action and Discussion Items:

- a. **Kenneth Scribner Recognition – Tabled.**

b. Alternative Warrant Committee – Jill Gastonguay stated Committee would like to make the Absentee Ballots available two weeks prior to the Town meeting. The vote would not be taken until two weeks after the Town Meeting. She suggested three options for recommendations. The Committee would like to go with last year's budget figures and the Alternative Warrant Committees suggestions.

Alice McPeake clarified the Alternative Warrant Committee's position regarding only having two options upon which to vote.

Chairman Wakeman stated the vote stands on the majority. Otherwise, Town Government would need to change to a Town Charter system. She also suggested that the Alternative Warrant Committee could propose an average of the past three years budget costs.

AA/TA Glaeser stated she spoke to the Town Attorney and he advised her that one option would have to be "No". An article would need to be prepared and added to the Town Warrant.

Separate Warrant Articles could be added to ask whether the Town would want a Referendum or a Town vote after discussion at the Town meeting only for non-contractual items that are over \$40,000.00. A very lengthy discussion followed regarding procedure.

Alice McPeake voiced the Alternative Warrant Committee's recommendation to move the Town Meeting back to the first Saturday in March. A discussion regarding logistics followed.

AA/TA Glaeser will be posing a number questions to the Town Attorney based on tonight's discussion for his opinions.

Items to be determined: 1) Alternate between Selectmen's recommendation and Budget Committee's recommendation against the Alternative Warrant Committee's suggestions; and, 2) have two separate Warrants, one at the Town Meeting and the Second Warrant providing voting via a written ballot for referendum questions.

The Alternative Warrant Committee advocates a Public Information Town Discussion meeting prior to voting. Chairman Wakeman suggested opening the Town Meeting then close it for the purpose of holding a public information session, then reconvene for voting on the Warrant Articles. Logistics on how to make this effective will need to be sorted out and be reviewed by the Town's Attorney.

Other considerations discussed were changing the Town Meeting date as well as keeping costs to a minimum.

AA/TA Glaeser will begin working on proposed wording for Warrant Articles for review.

c. Act on 2016 Agreement for Services with Coastal Humane Society – Chairman Wakeman stated that the contract is basically the the same and includes a \$500.00 increase over last year to \$5,002.40.

Selectman Blake Moves to Accept the Coastal Humane Society's and the Town of Durham's Contract for Services. Selectman Stewart Second. Motion Carried 3-0.

d. Budget Discussion – Tabled until January 19th 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Department/Committee Reports: Chairman Wakeman provided the following comments:

a. Fire Chief/EMA Director St. Michel – excused. Chairman Wakeman stated the Rescue has been out of service since last week. A Freeport rescue vehicle is on loan.. Durham's rescue vehicle should be back some time next week.

b. Codes Official Baines - excused. Provided written report, Attachment #1.

c. Town Administrator Glaeser – none.

d. Road Commissioner Baumier - excused. Provided written report, Attachment #2.

Selectmen's Comments: Chairman Wakeman announced the following: Regular Selectmen's meetings will be held on Tuesday, January 26th 2016 and Tuesday, February 9th 2016 at the Town Office at 6:30 p.m.

A Special Regular Selectmen's Meeting will be held for Budget Discussion on Tuesday, January 19th 2016 at the Town Office beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Nomination papers for two (2) Selectmen, three (3) Budget Committee Members and one (1) RSU#5 School Board Member are available at the Town Office during regular business hours.

Executive Session: Pursuant to Title #1, M.R>S.A., ss. 405(6)(A) – Personnel – Personnel Matters – Discussion of PIT. **Tabled.**

Adjournment: **Selectman Blake Moves** to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Selectman Stewart Second. Motion Carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Toher
Meetings Secretary