



TOWN OF DURHAM SELECT BOARD

630 Hallowell Road, Durham, Maine 04222

11/14/23 6:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order & Establishment of Quorum, Pledge of Allegiance

In Attendance: Rich George (Vice- Chair), Josh Klein-Golden, Heather Roy, Joe Roy and Jerry Douglass (Town Manager).

Absent: Joe Tomm, Chair (excused)

Guest(s): Stephanie Paine and Becky Foley (Freeport High School Scholarship Foundation), Roberta Brezinski and Michael Friendly (Conservation Commission) and Rebecca Lynn Ronson (Service Provider)

2. Amendments to Agenda:

Remove the meeting minutes from the Consent Agenda for October 24th SB Meeting. **Josh Klein-Golden motions** to remove the October 24th meeting minutes from the consent agenda, due to board members absent from previous meeting, **Joe Roy seconds. Motion carries 4 – 0.**

3. Public Comments: Limited to 3 Minutes Per Person - None

4. New Business:

- ◆ **Freeport High School Scholarship Fund (Stephanie Paine and Becky Foley)** – which is a 501.C3, started in 2021 to provide scholarships for high school students.
 - The foundation is asking the Select Board to include funding in this year's budget for \$10,000 to support the FHS graduates whether they choose to go onto a certificate program, vocational training or to a (2) two or (4) four-year program.
 - In 2021, we awarded (2) two scholarships and in 2022, we were able to increase it to (3) three recipients. And this year we awarded (2) two additional scholarships.
 - Currently, we are supporting (7) seven students of whom will receive \$5,000 per year for (4) four years, (3) three of whom are from the Town of Durham, who are studying everything from nursing, welding, theater to civil engineering.
 - FHS Scholarship foundation was established with the primary goal of providing financial assistance to deserving students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential and a commitment to their community and have a financial need.
 - Our scholarship program places great emphasis on mentorship programs as a vital component of the support system. We match mentors with student interests, for example, one of our students from Durham is currently paired with a much beloved retired teacher, Diane Whitmore. They both share a love of theater. This mentorship aspect is what sets our foundation apart from other community scholarships that are available to FHS students.
 - By supporting our foundation, the Select Board would be investing in the future of our collective communities, enabling talented young individuals to reach their full potential, and become valuable contributors to society.

◆ **Community Resilience (Roberta Bresinski, Michael Friendly & Rebecca Lynn Ronson)**

Our purpose today is for the Select Board to consider approval of a resolution to fulfill the final step for joining partnership. After we join we will be eligible to apply for no match funding through the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation in the future.

- On March 22, 2022, the Select Board began the process by approving a letter of support for 207 Permaculture.
- The funding provides up to \$50,000, no match for projects to avoid the impacts and cost of failure to adequately prepare for the future extreme weather events.
- The Town of Gray and the Town of New Gloucester are partnering with the Town of Durham and if we identify projects in common, we will be eligible for additional funding.
- There are (3) three steps to complete to become eligible:
 1. Complete a self-assessment to assess what planning we are already doing and identify what still needs to be addressed. The Town Manager and Fire Chief have filled out a self-assessment with added comments from the Conservation Commission.
 2. Hold a Public Workshop to help us prioritize projects. On March 15, 2023, we held a workshop at Durham Community School. We conducted interviews with Durham residents, held a Municipal Employee workshop on July 25, 2023 and gathered results from our online survey.
 3. Adopt a municipal resolution that establishes or designates either a citizen or municipal employee to coordinate activities to make the community more resilient to climate change. Referring to emerging risks, such as increased flooding, extreme weather, drought, and public health impacts.

◆ **Budget Timeline Discussion** – The Select Board Meeting on December 12th will have a question-and-answer session with Mark Royer (Accounting Representative) about the upcoming Budget. The Budget Committee will be in attendance.

◆ **Eureka Center Discussion** – The Board discussed whether the Eureka Center should be upgraded to allow internet accessibility or to find another space to hold meetings. The town office needs more space for employee staff and the current meeting room would possibly fit that need. The Board discussed using the Fire Station meeting room as a temporary space to hold meetings. Other suggestions for holding meetings: Public Works Department and the school.

5. Manager's Report:

- ◆ Structural Report for the Union Church was sent to Bill Schneider, Chair for the Union Church Committee.
- ◆ Lois Kilby-Chesley is willing to continue on the Board for the Historic District Commission. She will need to be re-appointed as Chair of the Commission.
- ◆ Financial accounts for the town are in good shape.

6. Upcoming Agenda Items:

Workshops on policies – Current policies to look at are the ones that refer to town administrative government, these policies should be updated to a Town Manger government.

7. Consent Agenda:

- ◆ Approve and Sign November 10th and 14th, 2023 Payroll and AP Warrant

Josh Klein-Golden moves to accept the consent agenda, **Joe Roy** seconds. **Motion carries 4 – 0.**

8. Upcoming Meeting(s) and Town News:

- ◆ **Select Board Meeting 11-28-23 & 12-12-23, Town Hall @ 6:30pm**
- ◆ **Planning Board Meeting 12-06-23, Town Hall @ 6:30pm**

9. Executive Session Citations: Personnel

Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - personnel

The Board moved into executive session at 9:25pm.

10. Reconvene Regular Meeting

The Board reconvened regular session at 9:51pm, no action was taken.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm.