

Received 7/18/25
11:53 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, July 2, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.
3rd floor, Town Hall, and Remote via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording

Passcode: LnS&Vw+9

1. Call to Order
First Selectman Rea called the Board of Selectmen meeting of Wednesday, July 2, 2025 to order at 8:30 a.m. Present: Selectman Chadd. Selectman Hennick absent.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
First Selectman Rea led with the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of Agenda
MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. VOTE: 2 AYE
4. Public Comment (*open to agenda items only*)
Rick Parmelee: disagreed with the board holding morning meetings.
5. Accept nominations and vote to fill the following vacancies (per Charter Sec. 2.6):
 - a. Building Code of Appeals
None.
 - b. Ethics Commission, Regular, 2028
None.
 - c. Ethics Commission, Alternate, 2028
None.
 - d. Fire Company Trustees, D, 2026
None.
 - e. Historic District Commission, In District, 2025
None.
 - f. Library Board of Trustees, 2027
MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD TO APPOINT GWEN WIRGER TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO A TERM EXPIRING 2027. VOTE: 2 AYE
 - g. Sustainable Durham, Alternate, 2027
None.
6. Mutual Termination Agreement with MIRA Dissolution Authority
First Selectman Rea explained that MIRA is a non-entity effected July 1st.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD TO ENTER INTO A MUTUAL TERMINATION AGREEMENT WITH MIRA DISSOLUTION AUTHORITY. VOTE: 2 AYE
7. Union Contract Ratification
First Selectman Rea noted the union body met to approve the proposed Union Contract. He noted it is a 3% annual increase, which is consistent with data from CCM and other towns across the State. The town's Labor Attorney was involved every step of the way.

MOTION BY SELECTMAN CHADD, SECONDED BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, TO RATIFY THE UNION CONTRACT FOR 2025 TO 2028. VOTE: 2 AYE
8. Discuss Charter Revision Commission charge
First Selectman Rea explained he spent time with staff and town attorney Rich Roberts on the charge and adding specific items the board would like to see reviewed;
 - a. Modernize and update nomenclature and capabilities
 - b. Bring charter up to date with changes in state statute and town policies
 - c. Review and update town positions within the charter (i.e. Health Director/District, Recreation Director, Facilities Director, Finance Director)

First Selectman Rea added that Selectman Hennick has been away and would like to wait until the next meeting to approve the charge. To date, there are over 20 applicants for the Commission. Selectman Chadd was glad to see there was some Unaffiliated voters who applied.

9. Discuss and take action to enter into a contract with Locality Media, Inc. dba First Due for Emergency Reporting Software
Selectman Chadd explained the Fire Department is mandated to submit all calls/anytime they leave the station, including all interactions. The current software the Fire Department uses was bought by another company and would ultimately triple the cost. Selectman Chadd stated First Due is another company that adds the feature of Active 911. The initial cost is \$8,700, with an annual cost of \$6,400. This is less expensive than the current company.

Chief Wall was in support of moving to the new software and noted it will include the Fire Marshalls Office, who currently write hand written notes. This software will save reports for historical value and also can be shared with other Fire Departments (such as Middletown's South Fire District).

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LOCALITY MEDIA, INC. DBA FIRST DUE FOR EMERGENCY REPORTING SOFTWARE. VOTE: 2 AYE

10. Discuss and take action to grant permission to Public Association of Library Supporters (PALS) for permission to serve alcohol at its Summer Celebration/Garden Party on Friday, August 22, 2025 from 5:30 P.M. until sunset at the Durham Public Library
First Selectman Rea noted this is a yearly event.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO GRANT PERMISSION TO PUBLIC ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY SUPPORTERS (PALS) FOR PERMISSION TO SERVE ALCOHOL AT ITS SUMMER CELEBRATION/GARDEN PARTY ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2025 FROM 5:30 P.M. UNTIL SUNSET AT THE DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY. VOTE: 2 AYE

11. Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 23, 2025
Tabled until the next meeting.

12. Old/New Business

First Selectman Rea gave an update on the following old/new business:

- a. MIRA Dissolution: decisions came down to June 30th. He thanked DMIAAB chair, Dom Delvecchio for his leadership and Bob Yamartino. The town was able to enter into a contract with ReWorld, which will be better for the towns and the environment, with waste going straight to the burn facility in Bristol. RiverCOG is researching forming a Regional Waste Authority.
- b. Pickett Lane sidewalks are ahead of schedule and already looking great.
- c. The exterior lighting upgrades at the Library will start next week, along with the historical stair project.
- d. Community Center:
 - i. Removal of oil tank within the next few weeks
 - ii. Installation of the Emergency Management generator will begin closer to the fall

13. Selectmen Comments
None

14. Public Comment (open to non-agenda items)
Rick Parmelee: thanked the Fire Department's for their comments and service, felt Compensation Review Personnel Policy Commission vacancy needed to be filled and the Commission needs to be utilized, felt there was no budget presentation made this year, town staff should not be allowed to work remotely, and the Union Contract should be made public.

15. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.,
Respectfully submitted,
Jaclyn Lehet