

Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.
3rd floor, Town Hall, and Remote via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording
Passcode: 6O@ss8.a

1. Call to Order
First Selectman Rea called the Wednesday, August 6, 2025, Board of Selectmen meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Also present: Selectman Chadd and Selectman Hennick.
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 HENNICK, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE FOLLOWING ADDITION: 6(B) DISCUSS STATE PROJECT ON WIDER EDGE LINE PAVEMENT MARKINGS ON HORIZONTAL CURVES. VOTE: ALL AYE
4. Public Comment (open to agenda items only)
None.
5. Accept nominations and vote to fill the following vacancies (per Charter Sec. 2.6):
 - a. Building Code of Appeals
None.
 - b. Economic Development Commission, 2025
MOTION BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, SECONDED BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, TO APPOINT MICHAEL FUSCO TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO FILL A VACANCY EXPIRING DECEMBER 2025. VOTE: ALL AYE
 - c. Ethics Commission, Regular, 2028
None.
 - d. Ethics Commission, Alternate, 2028
None.
 - e. Fire Company Trustees, D, 2026
None.
 - f. Sustainable Durham, Alternate, 2027
None.
6. Local Traffic Authority:
 - a. Approval of temporary one-way traffic on Fowler Avenue/Cherry Lane during the Durham Fair with traffic entering from Higganum Road and exiting onto the Main Street from Fowler Avenue
Selectman Chadd noted the wording was incorrect on the motion if the board wants to approve the same traffic pattern as the previous year. One-way traffic enters FROM Main Street onto Fowler Avenue and EXITS onto Higganum Road via Cherry Lane. The board agreed.

MOTION BY SELECTMAN CHADD, SECONDED BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, TO AMEND THE MOTION TO THE FOLLOWING: APPROVAL OF A TEMPORARY ONE-WAY TRAFFIC ON FOWLER AVENUE/CHERRY LANE DURING THE 2025 DURHAM FAIR WITH TRAFFIC ENTERING FROM MAIN STREET ONTO FOWLER AVENUE AND EXITING HIGGANUM ROAD FROM CHERRY LANE. VOTE: ALL AYE

(Map attached)
 - b. Discuss State Project on Wider Edge Line Pavement Markings on Horizontal Curves
First Selectman Rea explained the Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is developing plans to install a 6-inch-wide edge line pavement markings on horizontal curves on rural, State-owned roads in District 1. CTDOT does not feel a public informational meeting is necessary. Design for the plans is expected to be completed in September 2025 with a tentative construction date of December 2025. Roads include Rt. 68, 147 and 157.

MOTION BY SELECTMAN CHADD, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN HENNICK TO CONCUR THAT NEITHER A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING NOR A PUBLIC HEARING IS NEEDED FOR STATE PROJECT NO. 0171-0518 – WIDER EDGE LINE PAVEMENT MARKINGS ON HORIZONTAL CURVES ON RURAL STATE-OWNED ROADS. VOTE: ALL AYE

7. Request for permission from the Society for Creative Anachronism to serve alcohol (limited tastings) at the November 15th event being held at the Community Center from 9 am to 8 pm pending ServSafe Certification and Insurance and Indemnification requirements

First Selectman Rea stated the Society for Creative Anachronism will be offering brewing techniques and techniques displayed will only include tasting-sized portions with a limit one tastings per person. Alcohol will not be sold at this event. It was further explained that the event is a private event. All insurance and indemnification information are required.

MOTION BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD TO GRANT PERMISSION TO THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM TO SERVE ALCOHOL (LIMITED TASTINGS) AT THE NOVEMBER 15TH EVENT BEING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER FROM 9 AM TO 8 PM PENDING SERVSAFE CERTIFICATION AND INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. VOTE: ALL AYE

8. Discuss and take possible action for 51 Main Street property

First Selectman Rea explained that when 37 Main Street was sold in late 2023/early 2024, the new owner requested and was granted approval from the Historic District Commission to tear the house down. The house was then sold again, and it seems the new owner is planning to refurbish it.

Selectman Chadd felt the Fire Department would want to use 51 Main Street property regardless of an expansion plan. He spoke about the history of the Public Safety Complex. He added that the house at 51 Main Street is a serious hazard regardless of the no trespassing signs. The floors are rotted, holes in the walls and the basement is usually full of water. Selectman Chadd would like to see it torn down.

First Selectman Rea stated the Building Official agreed it is a good candidate for demolition. First Selectman Rea would like to go to the Historic District Commission to seek approval for demolition. He felt the house is a major liability. Selectman Hennick agreed/

MOTION BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD TO SEEK APPROVAL FROM THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION TO DEMOLISH THE HOUSE AT 51 MAIN STREET. VOTE: ALL AYE

9. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- a. June 23, 2025

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO APPROVE THE JUNE 23, 2025 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. VOTE: 2 AYE (REA, CHADD) 1 ABSTAIN (HENNICK, DUE TO ABSENCE)

- b. July 2, 2025

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO APPROVE THE JULY 2, 2025 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. VOTE: 2 AYE (REA, CHADD) 1 ABSTAIN (HENNICK, DUE TO ABSENCE)

10. Old/New Business

First Selectman Rea spoke about the following Old/New Business:

- a. The Recreation Committee and Resident State Trooper planned a successful National Night Out. It was very well attended. The board thanked everyone for their hard work.
- b. As part of the potential for speed enforcement cameras; there is a traffic study underway for roads in town with speeding issues. There were some issues with the straps across the road coming undone, the company is aware and is fixing.
- c. The Charter Revision Commission will have their first organizational meeting within the next week. Look for an agenda posted online.
- d. First Selectman Rea met with Chris Gelson from CCM to discuss Durham updates. He offered to assist the Charter Revision Commission with any help.
- e. Recreation Department will have their last week of summer camp; the camp was successful.
- f. The summer concert series has also been successful. Last week's band drew close to 300 attendees.
- g. The north sidewalk project on Main Street has hit a glitch with CTDOT. The town is optimistic about resolving DOT concerns.

11. Selectmen Comments

Selectman Hennick agreed the National Night Out was terrific. Noted he would like the town to look into purchasing handicap access tables at the Community Center. Board agreed.

Selectman Hennick asked if there was a status update on bonding project ideas based off recent conversations with the Board of Finance. First Selectman Rea explained that Planning and Zoning is currently working on the Plan of Conservation and Development, which include long term projects. He noted during the last POCD, the town spoke about updates to Public Works, Fire Ponds, etc.

Selectman Chadd felt the sidewalks on Pickett Lane look great, asked about the seeding process. First Selectman Rea agreed and will reach out to the contractor. He noted they are not completed with the project yet; the center line needs to be repainted, fix ruts in the grass, possibly replant some areas of grass, and plant shrubs on top of the retaining wall. He added the town is

still waiting to hear back on the status of the Connectivity Grant to complete the rest of the sidewalk project in this area.

12. Public Comment (open to non-agenda items)

Roger Kleeman questioned the sidewalk by the Community Center gym, felt it did not protect the building, asked about contact for the town Health District, felt there was lack of communication, spoke about water status on Tuttle Road, stated the state is no longer involved. First Selectman Rea spoke highly of the town's representative on the Health District Board of Directors, William Kohlhepp. He attends every meeting and is extremely involved. First Selectman Rea will reach out to William on these questions. Selectman Chadd questioned who the contract for the State was on these issues and if this was considered a superfund site.

Roger Kleeman felt funding for DMIAAB, DMYFS, should be shown on assessment for those specific costs. Selectman Chadd felt it was no different than RSD13.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.,
Respectfully submitted,
Jaclyn Lehet

2025 Durham Fair Traffic Pattern

