

Received 10/10/25  
9:50 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

Town of Durham  
Board of Selectmen  
Monday, October 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.  
Cafeteria, Community Center, and Remote via Zoom  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Recording**

**Passcode: 1t1=gc8Q**

1. Call to Order  
First Selectman Rea called the Board of Selectmen meeting of Monday, October 6, 2025 to order at 6:00 p.m. Also present: Selectman Hennick. Absent: Selectman Chadd.
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 AS PRESENTED. 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. Ethics Commission, Regular, 2028  
None.
  - c. Ethics Commission, Alternate, 2028  
None.
  - d. Fire Company Trustees, D, 2026  
None.
  - e. Sustainable Durham, Alternate, 2027  
None.
6. Discuss and take action to accept Early Voting Grant funds from the Connecticut Secretary of the State  
First Selectman Rea explained this grant is to help offset the labor costs for Early Voting. The town is required to offer early voting for 14 days and requires 4 staff members per day.  
  
**MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, TO ACCEPT EARLY VOTING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CONNECTICUT SECRETARY OF THE STATE. VOTE: ALL AYE**

7. Discuss and take action to approve the 2025-2026 Winter Market Rules and Regulations  
First Selectman Rea explained there were no major changes from the 2024-2025 Winter Market Rules and Regulations.

**MOTION BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, SECONDED BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA TO APPROVE THE 2025-2026 WINTER MARKET RULES AND REGULATIONS AS PRESENTED. VOTE: ALL AYE**

8. Approval of Meeting Minutes: September 15, 2025

**MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, AS PRESENTED. VOTE: ALL AYE**

9. Approval of Tax Refunds

**MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN HENNICK TO APPROVE 15 TAX REFUNDS TOTALING \$14,812.59 AS PRESENTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR. VOTE: ALL AYE**

10. Old/New Business

First Selectman Rea discussed the following:

- a. Birch Mill Road update: an application was submitted to Inland Wetlands and will be discussed at their November 10th meeting.
- b. Hiring: the town hired Wyatt Pedersen as the Part Time Evening Assistant at Community Center. He started last week.
- c. Durham Fair was extremely successful this year. The town did receive correspondence from some neighbors on Main Street regarding parking/State ROW. This will be discussed at an after action meeting this Thursday.
- d. Facilities Department Update:
  - i. LED lighting project underway at the Community Center
  - ii. Emergency Operations Center generator installation is wrapping up
  - iii. Boiler at Fire Dept: a pre-bid conference was held on October 3rd with (13) contractors in attendance. The Bid opening is October 14th
  - iv. Library exterior stair project is also wrapping up
- e. Conservation Commission/White Farms Update: First Selectman Rea will be attending the Conservation meeting on October 14th to discuss correspondence received about Whites Farm gate/access
- f. Main St Sidewalks North: DOT has noted issues with some parking lots on Main Street that are in the states right-of-way and is requiring lease agreements with these property owners before the sidewalk project begins. The state is also requiring all crosswalks on Main Street become ADA compliant or be removed. Town engineers are working to add this to the bid contract. Given these delays, town engineers still hope to have contract ready for construction for Spring 2026.
- g. Fire Pond: the Health District recommended an environmental company be consulted to conduct soil testing, groundwater sampling etc. First Selectman Rea is looking into this further.
- h. 51 Main Street: submitted letter to Historic District Commission requesting demolition. The Historic District Commission has requested the town submit an Application for Certificate of Appropriateness.

- i. Social Services: the Social Services Office has officially moved to the Community Center.

Selectman Hennick asked why the state would even give the option of removing crosswalks. First Selectman Rea agreed and explained the crosswalks were designed many years ago and he cannot get a clear answer on why certain locations were installed. DOT will not sign off on the sidewalk plans without the ADA crosswalk design included. In speaking with the town engineer, all but the crosswalk at Old Cemetery Road have fairly easy fixes to become ADA compliant.

11. Selectmen Comments

None.

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

Roger Kleeman: noted an article in the Hartford Courant where Governor Lamont was criticized by State Auditors for not accurately tracking time sheets or mileage sheets for the vehicles in his fleet. He expressed concern that the town is also not tracking mileage and asked why the towns auditors have not brought this up, and expressed concern that the town does not keep an inventory sheet for anything, specifically in the facilities department.

Rick Parmelee: agreed with comments made by R. Kleeman, felt the period for Early Voting was too long, noted the state aid for town roads was removed from the town meeting call, sign missing on Seward Road, Compensation Review/Personnel Policy Commission should be up to speed/setting salaries, access to White Farms should not be restricted and recommended setting hours, and parts of the sidewalk on Main Street are not compatible with ADA standards.

Jon Scagenlli, Registrar: explained the Early Voting days/hours are set by the State and recommended reaching out to Stephanie Thomas

Carol Kleeman: noted tripping hazards and overhanging tree branches on some parts of Main Street sidewalks. First Selectman Rea will look into who is responsible for tree limbs.

Stevan Akerley: the town does brush hogging on town roads to remove overhanging limbs.

13. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.,

Respectfully submitted,

Jaclyn Lehet