

Received 10/27/26
2:47 PM Jodi Moore, ATC

Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen
Monday, October 19, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
3rd floor, Town Hall, and Remote via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording

Passcode: gtmh.j0^

1. Call to Order

First Selectman Rea called the Board of Selectmen meeting of Monday, October 19, 2026, to order at 7:00 p.m.
Also present: Selectman Chadd. Absent: 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 CHADD TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AND TABLE ITEM NUMBER 12: TAX REFUNDS. VOTE: 2 AYE

4. Public Comment (Open to agenda items only)

None.

5. Expiration of Terms (per Charter Sec. 2.7):

- a. Ethics Commission, terms ending April 30, 2026 (1 regular, 1 alternate)
None.

6. Accept nominations and vote to fill the following vacancies (per Charter 2.6):

- a. Building Code of Appeals, 2028
None.
- b. Economic Development Commission, 2027
None.
- c. Ethics Commission, Regular, 2028
None.
- d. Ethics Commission, Alternate, 2028
None.
- e. Sustainable Durham, Regular, 2027
None.
- f. Sustainable Durham, Alternate, 2027
None.
- g. Sustainable Durham, Regular, 2028
None.

7. Update on North Main Street Sidewalks

Aaron L. Mortensen, P.E., from Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates presented an update on the North Main Street sidewalk project, mostly covering the crosswalk portion of the project. The project was stalled with Department of Transportation due to the crosswalks not being ADA compliant. A. Mortensen reviewed each location with little changes. The crosswalk at Old Cemetery Road will require the relocation of the location of the crosswalk and improvements to the private driveway that comes onto Old Cemetery Road. This area will also require a rectangular rapid flashing beacon system. A. Mortensen has submitted these plans and the town is awaiting final approval from Department of Transportation.

8. Discuss and take possible action to award the Demolition of Structure 51 Main Street bid

The town received a total of eight bids for the project. The Building Official is still reviewing the bids and hopes to have his recommendation at our next meeting.

9. Discuss and take action to approve a Resolution with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for a grant of \$25,000 for Restoration of Allyn Brook Park Project

The town received a grant for \$25,000 for the Restoration of Allyn Brook Park project. The scope is not finalized, but the Facilities Manager, Public Works, Recreation Chair and Director would like to replace the walkway in front of the pavilion, enhance the pavilion lighting and provide lighting for the playscape area. This resolution will go along with the final scope and grant, due November 1st.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR A GRANT OF \$25,000 FOR RESTORATION OF ALLYN BROOK PARK PROJECT. VOTE 2 AYE

10. Discuss and take possible action on Proposed Draft of the Plan of Conservation and Development

First Selectman Rea would like to have the full board here to vote and noted the Planning and Zoning Commission will hold their Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Town Hall. He reiterated comments about looking into sewers/development on Main Street.

The board will discuss and vote at their next meeting.

11. Discuss 2027 Farmers Market

First Selectman Rea stated the Recreation Commission voted to give the Farmers Market back to the Board of Selectmen earlier this year. The board then agreed to table the 2026 Farmers Market, including the Winters Market, to get a better handle on what the town would like to see.

The FY26-27 budget is \$5,000 (\$3,000 for stipend and \$2,000 for programs/supplies), this budget only goes through June 30, 2027. First Selectman Rea explained his office has received a few calls of interested parties looking to run the market moving forward. The town needs to have a plan in place in early 2027, as there is state training required from the State of CT. Selectman Chadd felt we should post for the Market Manager position and see what we get.

12. Approval of Tax Refunds

Tabled until the next meeting.

13. Old/New Business

First Selectman Rea discussed the following:

- a. Early Voting has started on the 2nd floor of Town Hall. Days/hours will be October 19– November 1, 2026, from 10 am to 6 pm each day. There are extended hours from 8 am to 8 pm on Tuesday, October 27 and Thursday, October 29. To vote Absentee, please contact the Town Clerks Office
- b. Help feed Durham residents in need this Thanksgiving, please contact Morgan or visit the town website for donation requests and information.
- c. Trunk or Treat will take place this Saturday, October 24 at the Community Center
- d. Drug Take Back Event will also take place on Saturday, October 24 at the Community Center
- e. Shady Lane update: construction progress meeting with the contractor and engineers on Wednesday the 21st
- f. Future Local Traffic Authority: received recommendations for Maiden Lane and David Road. Some actions to be taken by Public Works and some actions to be discussed as a future LTA agenda
- g. Thank you to everyone who attended the America250 Encampment event and the volunteer/committee members. It was a huge success.

14. Selectmen Comments

None.

15. Public Comments

Donia Viola: has received multiple letters in the mail from a water company asking to sign up. First Selectman Rea confirmed the town had not sent any letters out and any letters she received were most likely a scam. Scams can be reported directly to the CT State Police or the First Selectman's Office.

D. Viola: spoke in detail about her disappointment and disgust with the proposed revisions for the town charter. She questioned many of the unknown implications from these revisions and does not feel the voters have accurate information to decide how to vote.

Rob Dudko: spoke about speeding on David Road and noted a petition with 16 other residents requesting the town consider the following: Paint a dividing stripe(s) down the middle of the length of David Road, Post 2-3 speed limit signs (no higher than 25 mph) along the length of David Road. Both inbound and outbound, Create a three-way stop at the intersection of David Road and Casa Lane, Consider mulled rumble strips on the blind curve and steep graded section of David Road. Mulled rumble strips do no harm to snow plows and Consider sinusoidal or wave-like strips that reduce noise.

Roger Kleeman: felt the town should hold a meeting with all residents on David Road because it is a dead end, asked where the Shady Lane extra material is going, felt the crosswalk at Strong School should be removed as the church is no longer in business, felt the new sidewalks will be hard to shovel for some areas. First Selectman Rea responded the Shady Lane contractor has a contract with the Durham Fair regarding the extra materials.

Rick Parmelee: spoke about requirements and credentials needed for the contractors working on Shady Lane, the Building Official should be given work – not the Facilities Manager, disturbed by the banning of police at polling locations, spoke about issues on David Road that need to be addressed, . First Selectman Rea responded the Durham Registrar of Voter's wrote a letter to allow the State Troopers in the voting area.

D. Viola: expressed that children are often running around during the summer concerts at Allyn Brook which is very distracting for other attendees, the town should consider asking attendees to control their children.

Janet Morganti: spoke in favor and explained the need for additional lighting at Allyn Brook.

16. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Jaclyn Lehet