

Received 10/27/26
3:22 PM Jodi Moore, ATC

Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen
Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
3rd floor, Town Hall, and Remote via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording

Passcode: jT\$Mz5X5

1. Call to Order
First Selectman Rea called the Board of Selectmen meeting of Monday, May 4, 2026, to order at 7:00 p.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 CHADD, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. VOTE: ALL 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. Ethics Commission, Regular, 2028
None.
 - c. Ethics Commission, Alternate, 2028
None.
 - d. Sustainable Durham, Alternate, 2027
None.
7. To consider amending the charge of the Charter Revision Commission to extend the deadline for submission of the draft report to July 1, 2026.
First Selectman Rea said that Laura Francis sent a memo requesting an extension for another month. He also spoke with Town Council about the effects of amending the deadline, which would not be a huge change for the Board of Selectmen. The small amount of time the Charter Revision Commission will lose if amended will be at the end stages, while additional time during this stage would be more valuable. If the public hearing happens toward the beginning of step 5, the timeline should proceed without issue. First Selectman Rea urged the Board of Selectmen to listen to the Charter Revision Commission meetings or read the minutes.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO AMEND THE CHARGE OF THE CHARTER TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE DRAFT REPORT TO JULY 1, 2026. VOTE: ALL AYE.
8. Discuss next steps: Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices (ATESD)
First Selectman Rea opened the discussion by noting the ordinance passed unanimously. The company assisting the town with speed studies are on the Capital Region COGS preferred vendor list. Per the town's procurement policy, they can be used as a vendor without going out to bid. The town can still decide for this to go out to bid. First Selectman Rea was made aware by Police Chief

Perno that West Haven did an RFP that 13 vendors responded to. The vendors were narrowed down to three, one of which is Altumint, the vendor that did Durham's study. West Haven ultimately chose Altumint citing their main reason was that they had boots on the ground in Connecticut. Their account manager Kevin Halloran lives in town. There is a satellite office on Ozick Drive. Multiple other towns are considering Altumint including Milford, North Haven and Orange.

Selectman Hennick said that there is no expenditure associated with this project. He also felt going to RFP and having vendors outline their proposals could be favorable. First Selectman Rea agreed that there would not be a cost but showed concern that many towns are showing interest, which could lead to a delay for Durham if they had to go through the RFP process.

First Selectman Rea met with the vendor Dacra Tech, who does Middletown and Washington who gave insights to consider including the court room or administrative implications. Other towns have police departments that can handle these tasks, but Durham does not have anyone who could lead in this area. Selectman Chadd felt that with the clear license plate photos and vetting documentation, the town would simply serve as a final confirmation or quality control. First Selectman Rea gave a brief overview of "courtroom management" which includes if the ticket was paid, contested or ignored, and that the due process was documented. He is not aware of any towns doing debt collections for this program but felt it would eventually require it. First Selectman Rea wants to ensure this is dealt with before any issues arise. Both Altumint and Dacra could assist with the "courtroom management" process.

Selectman Chadd spoke in favor of using Altumint since they are on procurement vendor list as well as their successful relationship with the town to date; citing their open communication.

Selectman Hennick spoke in favor of using Altumint, stating their commitment to come to Durham's public hearing from Virginia as well as being on the procurement vendor list. He reiterated that he would be more supportive of going to RFP if there were expenditures involved, which there are not.

First Selectman Rea will have Altumint send over a proposal.

Selectman Chadd asked how many cameras would be needed. First Selectman Rea responded saying there has been a lot of feedback, two studies, and he has spoken with the Resident State Trooper about camera placement. First Selectman Rea also wants to do two 24-hour red-light studies; one on Haddam Quarter Road and the other on Route 147. Selectman Chadd suggests to go to the state for approval on 12 cameras so the town has the approvals, even though the current plan is six. First Selectman Rea mentioned that it was a good idea, giving an example of if DOT rejects one placement, they will have a "Plan B" placement at another location.

9. Discuss proposed revisions to § 14-1 Removal of snow from sidewalks ordinance

Selectman Hennick opened the discussion saying he understands the concerns around changing the language from "Board of Selectmen" to "First Selectman", but these issues need to be fixed immediately without waiting. He also spoke in favor of the time and fine. Selectman Chadd agreed.

First Selectman Rea noted that out of the past three winters, the past one was the only issue.

10. Approval of Call to the Annual Budget Meeting

First Selectman Rea noted that per charter, the budget meeting must be during a certain time frame.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD TO SET ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING, NOTING THAT ITEM 6 COULD CHANGE DUE TO ECS FUNDING: ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF DURHAM HEREBY WARN THE ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING WILL BE HELD AT DURHAM COMMUNITY CENTER, 144 PICKETT LANE ON MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026, AT 7:00P.M. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. To elect two members for a two-year term to the Durham Middlefield Interlocal Agreement Advisory Board set terms to expire June 30, 2028
2. To fill one vacancy for a term expiring 2028 to the Compensation Review Personal Policy Board.
3. To elect one member to a 5-year term on the Compensation Review Board expiring 2029.

4. To amend the town's existing streets and sidewalks ordinance, Article 1 in the General Section 14-1, removal of snow from sidewalks.
5. To adopt a 5-year local capital improvement plan.
6. To adopt the total town budget of \$8,999,685 less state and local revenue in the amount of \$3,764,341 for a net town budget of \$5,235,344.

VOTE: ALL AYE.

11. Local Traffic Authority:

a. Approval of Memorial Day Parade Detour Plan

First Selectman Rea noted the traffic plan will be the same: Route 17, the detour north, will be Higganum Road through Bear Rock Road, Maiden Lane and Haddam Quarter Road. Route 17 south will be Haddam Quarter Road, Maiden Lane, Bear Rock Road to Higganum Road, and Route 68 will be Old Wallingford Road to Tuttle Road to Sawmill Road. Rea spoke with the Resident State Trooper who will be putting a person closer to the green to avoid drivers pulling out of businesses toward the green.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, TO APPROVE THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE DETOUR PLAN. VOTE: ALL AYE.

12. Old/New Business

- a. First Selectman Rea again mentioned they will bring up the procurement policy at the next meeting; encouraging others to look at it.
- b. First Selectman Rea mentioned they recently posted revised bids for the boilers at the library and HVAC at the Public Works Garage and is looking to hold a special Board of Selectmen meeting to award the bids and secure funding for the projects.
- c. First Selectman Rea attended Little League's opening night and shared the fields looked great and the League is excited the town is moving forward with the Allyn Brook renovations.
- d. First Selectman Rea noted the fire at Cozy Corner this past Friday, thanking Durham Fire Chief Wall, Durham Fire Company, Middlefield Fire Chief Tyc, Middlefield Fire Company, North Branford Fire and Middletown's South Fire District for their continued support. First Selectman Rea spoke with the Cozy Corner owner Tony who is in a state of shock but is looking to rebuild. The town would be honored to support their rebuilding efforts as this business has meant a lot to the people of Durham.
- e. First Selectman Rea gave a reminder of the upcoming District 13 budget referendum at the Community Center from 6:00a.m. to 8:00p.m.
- f. America 250 events, including: an open house with the Durham Historical Society, an Art Creative 250 showcase on Friday, June 5, 2026, from 6:00 – 8:00p.m. at the Community Center and the Star-Spangled Town-wide Picnic June 6, 2026, at 2:00p.m. at the community center.

13. Selectmen Comments

Selectman Hennick echoed comments about the Cozy Corner fire, stating the Board of Selectman should do anything practical for these wonderful people to assist in reestablishing this business.

14. Public Comments

Jackie Carr expressed concern about speed cameras on Main Street that cars would divert to Maple Avenue to avoid the cameras. She asked if a camera is being considered for installation on Maple Avenue. First Selectman Rea stated that a camera on Maple Avenue is being considered.

MOTION BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA, SECONDED BY SELECTMAN CHADD, TO GO TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:35P.M. VOTE: ALL AYE.

15. Executive Session: Potential Acquisition of Real Estate

MOTION BY SELECTMAN HENNICK, SECONDED BY FIRST SELECTMAN REA TO GRANT FIRST SELECTMAN REA PERMISSION TO ENTER INTO A ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH SHIPMAN & GOODWIN, LLC. VOTE: ALL AYE

16. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:45p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Jason Beaudoin, Recording Secretary