

**MINUTES OF THE SALISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2017 – 7:00 PM  
SALISBURY TOWN HALL, 5 BEACH ROAD  
COLCHESTER ROOM**

**PRESENT:** Selectmen Wilma McDonald, Chairman; Henry Richenburg, Freeman J. Condon, Chuck Takesian, and Ronalee Ray-Parrott

**ALSO PRESENT:** Neil J. Harrington, Town Manager, and Agnes Donovan, Secretary

**I. Call to Order/Salute to the Flag**

Chairman McDonald called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Colchester Room, Salisbury Town Hall. She then announced, per the Open Meeting Law, that this meeting is being recorded and broadcast live.

Selectman Condon asked for all to join him in a moment of silence in memory of Barbara Chouinard.

**V.** Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to take Article V out of order and hear Comments by Visitors at this time.

Bill Grelich, resident of Atlantic Breeze II condominiums, presented a petition in opposition to the Town's private fire protection (hydrant) fees and then addressed the Board. He stated he was representing condominium owners of Atlantic Breeze I, Atlantic Breeze II, North Pointe Village, Sawyer Farm, Salisbury Woods, Village at Salisbury Square, Wingate and 111 Beach Road Condominium Trust. Mr. Grelich said that collectively these condo owners represent 364 units and 500 voters. He stated that he was here to voice concern and displeasure over the hydrant fees, claiming that imposing these fees on condominium owners is unfair and discriminatory. The current rate is approximately \$1000 per hydrant per year and the Board has already adopted a schedule that calls for these fees to increase to as much as \$2283 per year in 2019. He said these rates mean higher condo fees for owners, noting that some units are in 40B developments and other owners are retirees on a fixed income. He noted that Mr. Harrington recently held a meeting to discuss the issue of delinquent hydrant fees and that he hopes additional meetings will be held to discuss this issue, as he and his fellow condo owners are looking for a mutually agreed upon resolution. Finally, Mr. Grelich said that if an agreement is not reached, condo owners have discussed other alternatives and have not ruled out a legal challenge.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes - none**

**III. Old Business – none**

**IV. New Business**

**a. License Renewals:**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to renew a **General** license, with the same conditions/restrictions that may have been on the original license and all subsequent renewals for: Corbin's Boat Yard - 4 Second St., and Ambassador Limousine – 128 Elm St.

**b. New Licenses**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to approve a **Common Victualer** license to Carmelos, LLC – 18 Broadway (previously Wicked Waves)

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Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to approve a **General** license to OC Stone, Granite & Marble, LLC – 102 Bridge Rd.

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to the Winner's Circle Running Club for their annual Pat Polletta 2-mile Rail Trail Race on June 2, 2017.

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to Alzheimer's Associates for their annual Ride to End Alzheimers on June 24, 2017.

**c. License Amendments - none**

**d. Committee Appointments - none**

**e. Update/Presentations: COA Director/Finance Director/Library Director**

**Liz Pettis, COA Director**, advised the Board of the ongoing accomplishments of the COA. Through volunteers the COA has assisted citizens with tax preparation, and with staff have delivered approximately 40 Meals on Wheels daily to the homebound, have provided 500 rides for hospital visits and shopping, and have conducted 243 outreach consultations. The staff also assists seniors with applications for services, they connect seniors to proper outsources, and they provide medical equipment such as canes and walkers as requested.

Ms. Pettis advised the Board that May is "Older Americans Month." The COA will have a Cinco de Mayo lunch on May 4<sup>th</sup>, and a Mother's Day Brunch. Ms. Pettis mentioned some of the classes conducted at the senior center, including classes to re-enter the workforce, cooking, dance, fitness, and computer classes. In addition, the COA is introducing a six-week balance class on Wednesdays to prevent falls, and that all classes are free. There are other activities including guest speakers. She advised the Board that Chief Fowler is hosting a tour of the Police Station, including a breakfast, on May 22nd. Ms. Pettis said that if any property owners or proxy is interested in the Tax Work off Project they should contact her. Ms. Pettis also advised the Board that there will be a Senior Field Day in July and a Pickle Ball League.

**Karen Snow, Finance Director/Town Accountant**, advised the Board that the FY2016 audit is complete and the Town received an unmodified statement, which is the best outcome. She advised the Board that the Affordable Trust was audited and also received an unmodified statement.

Ms. Snow then provided a status report on the FY17 Operating Fund. She stated that approximately 80% of the funds have been expended to date and that snow and ice budgets were overspent. On the revenue side, she stated that motor vehicle excise, local meals excise and other local receipts are looking good. She stated she is watching expenditures. Ms. Snow stated that the revenues are coming in on target for the Sewer Enterprise Fund. She stated that the Water Enterprise Fund is challenging as there were unexpected maintenance capital outlay expenses. She stated the Finance office is busy working with the Fire and Police on payroll, trying to communicate about how hours, rates and schedules work. She stated that the Finance department is working on a Compensated Absence

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Program so that when employees leave or retire the employee and Town has a handle on expenditures and knows the payoff amount. Ms. Snow said there may be an Article at Town Meeting to set aside money for Compensated Absences.

Ms. Snow also stated that she is working on the FY18 budget. She has met twice with the Warrant Advisory Committee. Challenges include the increase in the Triton school budget, including the debt service that is going up due to the new stadium, as well as the Essex Regional Retirement assessment increase. She noted that health insurance only had a 5% increase for FY18, which was less than the expected increase.

**Terry Kyrios, Library Director**, reported that the new library has been open a year and a half. She stated that most of the building issues are resolved. She stated the Library staff is concentrating on programming for all ages and interests. She advised the Board that there will be guest speakers, that the Friends of the Library are sponsoring an Art reception night, and there is a therapy dog program where the children come and read to the dogs. The Library is planning a busy week for April school vacation. Activities include a drop-in coloring event, Yoga for kids, a dance party, and a kids movie matinee.

Ms. Kyrios advised the Board that the Library has passes to many museums that are free to the public. She stated they are working on broadening communications for Library events and services. She is trying to get information into the local paper in the Salisbury Notes section, she is doing bookmarks and a monthly calendar, and the Friends of the Library has produced pamphlets. She stated that she is updating the website once a week and that it has a link for children activities, and that there is a Facebook page for the Library.

**f. Vote to Approve FY17-19 Contract for the Police Patrolmen**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Condon; unanimously voted to approve the FY17-19 contract for the police patrolmen.

**g. Vote to Approve Renewal of Contract for the Police Chief**

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously voted to approve a renewal contract for the Police Chief.

**h. Vote to Approve Renewal of Contract for the Chief Administrative Aide to the Town Manager**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Condon; unanimously voted to approve a renewal contract for the Chief Administrative Aide to the Town Manager.

**i. Vote to Accept Monetary Donation to the Fire Department**

The Town manager advised the Board that the Fire Department received an unsolicited donation from the Firefighters Charitable Foundation for operational services and that the donation has to be accepted by the Board. Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to Accept the Monetary Donation to the Fire Department.

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**V. Comments by Visitors (continued)**

Larry White, Chairman of the Rowley Finance Committee, advised the Board that Rowley just finished its FY18 budget. He stated that Rowley cannot fully fund all departments including the Police and Fire departments because of the school increase. He stated the Rowley Finance Committee recommended acceptance of the FY18 budget with a 4-3 vote. He stated that Rowley is at a breaking point due to the Triton School increase, Pine Grove school renovation and the Triton stadium expense. He wants to work with the other two towns for a more reasonable budget for schools.

**VI. Sewer/Water**

**VII. Correspondence** – Selectman Ray-Parrott read a press release from the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association advising all that Melinda Morrison, Town Clerk of Salisbury, recently qualified for the Massachusetts Town Clerk's Association prestigious Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk designation.

**VIII. Hearings – none scheduled**

**IX. Town Manager's Report**

Mr. Harrington gave a brief overview of his written report, a copy of which is available in the Selectmen's office.

**X. Selectmen's Report**

**a. Ratification of Signing of Weekly Warrants:**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to ratify the signing of the following weekly warrants: W17-152 through W17-159.

Selectman Takesian stated he was away for the last meeting but that he thought it was a great honor that the new Emergency Management Center is named after former Selectman Terry Marengi.

Selectman Ray-Parrott advised the Board that Parks and Recreation Committee will hold a fundraising event on Saturday, April 1st. This is the annual "Tortoise and the Hare" event, and over 100 runners are already registered for this event. The Children's one-mile Fun Run will start at 10:30 AM and the three-mile walk starts at 11:00 AM. There will be a party after the event.

Selectman Richenburg asked about the problems that the Town has been encountered with its phone lines in recent weeks. Mr. Harrington stated that the initial problem was a Verizon issue and the Town had gone the better part of three weeks with inconsistent phone service. On some days, employees could call out, but the public could not call in. On other days, it was the opposite. People trying to call Town Hall expressed frustration that they were getting busy signals, and he had experience a phone line going dead in the middle of a conversation he was having with a resident. Gradually, the Verizon issues got better, but then the Town's phone server crashed. It is now back up and running, but will eventually need to be replaced. Selectman Richenburg asked Mr. Harrington to invite a Verizon representative, and not just a public relations person, to the next Board meeting.

Chairman McDonald stated there will be a discussion on marijuana at the next meeting so that the Board can hear input from residents and make an informed decision on how to move forward.

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**b. Subcommittee Reports**

**Lafayette Corridor Sewer Extension:**

Selectman Richenburg stated that they are still seeking funds for this project. He is hoping to have state officials come out and take a tour. Grants are needed for this project.

**XI. Executive Session - none**

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:17PM.

Documents provided at the meeting and on file in the Selectmen's Office:

Copies of licenses as listed

Press release from Massachusetts Town Clerks Association

Town Manager's Report

Respectfully submitted:

Agnes Donovan, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronalee Ray-Parrott, Clerk