

**MINUTES OF THE SALISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022 – 7:00 PM
SALISBURY TOWN HALL, 5 BEACH ROAD
COLCHESTER ROOM**

PRESENT: Selectmen Chairman Chuck Takesian, Donna Abdulla, Wilma McDonald,
Ronalee Ray-Parrott, and Michael Colburn

Selectman Abdulla was present via zoom

ALSO PRESENT: Neil J. Harrington, Town Manager and Janet Flannery, Secretary

I. Call to Order/Salute to the Flag

Chairman Takesian called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM in the Colchester Room, Salisbury Town Hall. He then announced, per the Open Meeting Law, that this meeting is being recorded and broadcast live by SCTV.

Since Selectman Abdulla was present via Zoom, all votes were taken by a roll call vote.

II. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of September 26, 2022 (Regular Meeting) and September 29, 2022 (Special Meeting)

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald; voted to approve the Minutes of September 26, 2022 (Regular Meeting) and Minutes of September 29, 2022 (Special Meeting) as written. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

III. Public Comment

IV. Old Business - none

V. New Business

a. License Renewals

Class I – Priority Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Salisbury – 158 Elm Street

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald voted to approve. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Class II – Bill's Auto Sales – 60 Main Street

Salisbury Auto Salvage – 16 Main Street

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to approve. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Class III – Salisbury Auto Salvage – 16 Main Street

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to approve. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Selectman McDonald suggested that the Board randomly check the Class III to ensure the number of cars on the lots do not exceed the number allowed.

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Repair - Coastal Collision and Accessories – 191 Elm Street
Bob Fuller Truck & Repair Service – 74 Main Street #2A
Claxton Powersport Repair – 142 Lafayette Road
Bill's Auto Service – 32 Pike Street
Vinnie's Garage – 29 Bridge Road

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; voted to approve. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

b. New Licenses

Special Event Permit

Wild Turkey Trot: Road Race on 11/24/22 along the Ghost Trail, sponsored by the Winner's Circle
Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; voted to approve. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Trunk or Treat at the Memorial Parking Lot on 10/27/22 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM sponsored by Parks and Recreation

Motion by Selectman Colburn, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; voted to approve. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

c. License Amendments

General License – CDC Packaging Corp. – 8 Fanaras Drive – change of days & hours of operation
Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald; voted to approve subject to the license holder complying with the Board of Health's Dumpster Regulations, and specifically Chapter 5, Section 5.10.007 (Hours of emptying) and Section 5.10.016 (Service Times). Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Liquor License – R&L Liquors – 105 Elm Street – Change of Managers

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to approve the change of manager for R&L Liquors. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

d. Liquor License Renewals - none

e. New Liquor Licenses - none

f. Committee Appointments - none

g. Update/Presentations: DPW Director/Planning Director

Lisa DeMeo – DPW Director reported the following:

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- This spring paving was done on Pike Street, Collins Street, and Blacksnake Road. Paving will be done in the fall on Longmeadow Drive, Grover Street, Ferry Road (Beach to Grover) and Glenwood Avenue. Pothole filling is also on-going. The town-wide pavement management inventory is being updated and will be provided to the Selectmen when finished.
- National Grid has agreed to take down a small number of trees on Pike Street; preparations have begun for the snow/ice season; salt has been ordered and the equipment is being prepped. However, no contractors have signed up as of today. Street opening permits will close Nov. 18 with all work to be completed by Dec. 2.
- Parks: Mowing and maintenance were done by 2 employees at the 4 cemeteries, 5 fields, and 7 town buildings. Fertilizer was applied at Lion's Park. Replacement of dugouts is being planned. New bleachers were delivered and will be installed in the spring after the concrete pad is designed and installed, along with ADA compliant walkways.
- Partridge Brook – In-kind services (masonry, concrete sidewalk) being provided and concession stand is finished. Seeding, aeration and weeding of the field has been done.
- Kiosks were installed in new locations at the beach due to the construction of the new Welcome Center and restroom facilities. Both buildings were operational all summer and the Town received good feedback. However, there are still some issues to address. The new building in the corner parking lot is now closed for the season; the Broadway building will remain partially open throughout the off-season. The full-time staff worked out well. Seasonal help adjusted to the new routines but she will need more seasonal help next year.
- Hydrant flushing was completed in the spring – notices were posted in the paper and social media. Leak detection was performed over the summer. Several leaks were identified and repaired.
- Construction continues on the Lafayette Road sewer. Contractors who want to be considered to install private service connections need to be qualified. The drainlayers license process has moved from the Board of Health to the DPW.
- The Stormwater NPDES Permit/MS4 year 4 annual report was issued on time to DEP & EPA.
- DPW continues to work with Weston & Sampson on the Route 1 sewer project.

Lisa Pearson – Planning Director reported:

- The Planning Dept. is now fully staffed with the recent hiring of Allison Weaver and Ellen Cornoni.
- Work is on-going on the Master Plan, which was approved by the Planning Board, as well as the Housing Production Plan with MVPC.
- New bylaws are being worked on that will encompass flood plain districts, storm water control, natural resources and solar.
- The Town received a Green Communities Grant for approximately \$130,000 and an ADA Grant for \$225,000. She has also applied for the Mass Trails Grant which will connect the Senior Center to the Ghost Trail.
- The upcoming CDBG Grant application will include proposals to fund scholarships for the SKI Program and the SES Environmental Camp.
- If anyone needs help in filing for fuel assistance for the winter, they should call Lisa Beaulieu.

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h. Vote to Approve and Sign Warrant for State Election to be Held on November 8, 2022

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to approve and sign the Warrant. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

VI. Sewer/Water

VII. Correspondence

VIII. Hearings

7:15 PM – Dangerous Dog Hearing

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to open the hearing at 7:15 PM. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Diana Gronski, who filed the complaint against the dogs belonging to Salvatore Boccello, 25 Atlantic Avenue, Salisbury, was sworn in by Chairman Takesian. She explained that on July 8, 2022 she was walking her 6 lb. Pomeranian on a leash when she and her dog were attacked by two dogs that were running loose on the property. She said her dog was just sniffing around a pole when he was attacked. One of the Boccellos' dog sbit her dog in the head and the other bit him on the back. When she tried to get the dogs off her dog they bit her right hand and left arm. She also claimed that Mr. Boccello came out and had to punch his own dogs several times in order to pry them from her dog. She said she spoke with many residents following the incident and they said the Boccellos' dogs have been known to attack others and are dangerous. She said police reports have been filed, but no one has done anything about them.

Attorney Cohen, representing Mr. Boccello, claimed that the dogs were on a dual leash within the shop where Mr. Boccello repairs motorcycles and the handle got unhooked. The door to the shop was open and Ms. Gronski and her dog were walking close to Mr. Boccello's property line. The dogs are territorial and get aggressive when they believe the owner's property is in danger. He also said that Ms. Gronski brought the vet bills to his client and he paid them. He provided members of the Board with photographs of Mr. Boccello's property and specifically where the incident took place. He also supplied copies of the paid veterinarian's bill. Atty. Cohen said that the dogs are no longer being kept in the shop and Mr. Boccello voluntarily is doing the right thing by taking accountability, training the dogs and leashing them when walking them. Since July, there have been no further incidents.

A few people testified on behalf of Mr. Boccello, all of whom were sworn in by Chairman Takesian. Mr. Schillizzi, 4 Atlantic Avenue, said he met Mr. Boccello and his dogs when he moved to Salisbury and said the dogs are not aggressive with people but they are with other dogs.

A resident at 47 Railroad Avenue said she has owned dogs for over 40 years and has trained and groomed dogs as well. She has known Mr. Boccello for most of that time and has had issues with his dogs but has never seen them off leash. Since the incident the dogs are muzzled and are leashed when they are being walked. She said didn't witness the event but believes he is completely willing to keep his dogs leashed and muzzled.

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Another resident said she knows Mr. Boccello's dogs are always leashed, as she visits their home often and the dogs are well behaved and play with her grandchildren.

Gil Medeiros, 17 Rabbit Road, said he saw Mr. Boccello shortly after the incident and his first words were an expression of remorse. Mr. Medeiros said he believed Mr. Boccello did everything he could.

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to close the hearing at 8:15 PM. Roll vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted that two dogs, named Leroy and Lola, be deemed to be public nuisances and the following restrictions are to be put in place:

1. All dogs owned by the Boccellos are to be leashed at all times while outside the Boccello residence and on public property.
2. Leashes must not be more than 6 feet in length,
3. The two nuisance dogs and the owner must attend dog obedience training.
4. The two nuisance dogs must be muzzled while on public property.
5. No more than two (2) of the Boccellos' dogs are to be walked at a time.
6. The two nuisance dogs are not allowed to be in the shop when the door is open.

There are six (6) dogs registered at this address, but and this Order is effective only for the two dogs deemed to be a public nuisance.

Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

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 Colburn, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to ratify the signing of the following weekly warrants: W23-34 through W23-42. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

XI. Executive Session - none


XII. Adjournment

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Colburn; unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:20 PM. Roll call vote: Selectman Colburn – yes; Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Abdulla – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes. Motion carried.

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Documents provided at the meeting and on file in the Selectmen's Office:
Minutes of Sept. 26, 2022 (Regular Meeting) and Sept. 29, 2022 (Special Meeting)
Copies of licenses as listed
Town Manager's Report

Respectfully submitted:
Janet E. Flannery, Secretary

Approved: 
Michael Colburn, Clerk

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Selectmen

From: Neil J. Harrington, Town Manager 

Date: October 17, 2022

Re: October 17th Report to the Board

Outlined below is a summary of activities over the past three weeks. Please let me know if you have questions about any of these items.

1) Warrant Advisory Committee/ Town Meeting

On September 27, the Warrant Advisory Committee met to review a summary of the FY22 budget, prepared and explained by Finance Director Karen Snow, and to hear from me a summary of the draft warrant articles for the upcoming Fall Town Meeting. Then, on October 11, the Committee held its public hearing on the final warrant, which contains 31 articles. All articles submitted by the Town Manager were positively recommended; two citizens' petitions were not recommended; and action on a third citizens' petition -- to create a new zoning bylaw allowing ground-mounted solar photovoltaic systems -- was postponed pending the results of a Planning Board public hearing on the matter. The Committee will make a recommendation on this article on the floor at Town Meeting. Video clips on the warrant articles can be viewed by logging onto the SCTV website.

2) Whittier Tech Community Forum

On October 6, I attended a community forum hosted by Whittier Tech High School, in which a presentation was made on the school's upcoming plans to renovate or replace the current facility, which is 50 years old. Similar to Triton, Whittier has been approved by the Mass. School Building Authority to do a study of alternatives designed to bring the school's main building into compliance with modern building codes and to address years of deterioration to the physical plant. The school has hired a consultant, who will be presenting design alternatives to all stakeholders, including community representatives, and who plans to develop cost estimates as well, prior to submission to the State. According to the presentation, the earliest work could begin on new facilities at Whittier would be 2025. Those in attendance were informed that there will be other forums during the Fall, and I will be sure to attend, so that I can keep the Board informed of any new developments.

3) Sale of Surplus Tax Title Land

On October 12, the Town closed on the sale of 12 parcels of tax title parcels to Essex County Greenbelt, providing revenue to the Town and the guarantee that this land will be preserved by Greenbelt for open space. This project has been in the works for a few years, and the Town received \$53,000 from the sale of these properties.