

MINUTES OF THE SALISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 21, 2018 – 7:00 PM
SALISBURY TOWN HALL, 5 BEACH ROAD
COLCHESTER ROOM

PRESENT: Selectmen Ronalee Ray-Parrott, Chairman; Wilma McDonald, Freeman J. Condon, Chuck Takesian, and Donna Abdulla

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 7:03 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.

Re-Organization of the Board

Chairman Takesian asked for nominations for Chairman. Selectman McDonald nominated Selectman Ray-Parrott to serve as Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Selectman Condon. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Selectman Ray-Parrott as Chairman was unanimous.

Chairman Ray-Parrott then asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Selectman Takesian nominated Selectman McDonald to serve as Vice-Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Selectman Condon. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Selectman McDonald as Vice-Chairman was adopted, with four members voting in favor and Selectman McDonald abstaining.

Chairman Ray-Parrott then asked for nominations for Clerk of the Board. Selectman McDonald nominated Selectman Abdulla to serve as Clerk. Selectman Takesian seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Selectman Abdulla as Clerk was adopted, with four members voting in favor and Selectmen Abdulla abstaining.

II. Acceptance of Minutes - none

III. Old Business

Class II License – Congdon Auto Repair and Sales – 50 Elm St.

Mr. Congdon stated that 100 ft. of new fencing has been constructed, and that a portion of the old fence is still there and in fair condition but he will be replacing it.

One abutter living at 13 Harrison Ave. said she just drove by the property and reported that the whole fence is in deplorable condition. There are numerous sections laying sideways and there is no fence on the back section.

Selectman Condon explained that because the Board is not dealing with the back side of the property they cannot force Mr. Congdon to put a fence up in the back and he wanted to clarify that what has been asked for and is required is on the right side of the property. Selectman Takesian pointed out that Mr. Congdon said 100 feet of fencing has been done, but the Board requires 300 feet.

Selectman McDonald said she drove by and said it looks more like only 30 feet of new fencing had been installed, which is only covering the area where Mr. Congdon's used cars are stored. Mr. Congdon then said he didn't really start with putting up any new fencing until today.

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Condon; unanimously voted to table this item for another two weeks, so that the fencing could be completed.

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IV. New Business

a. License Renewals:

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to renew a **Common Victualer** license, with the same conditions/restrictions that may have been on the original license and all subsequent renewals for: Groundswell Surf Café – 25 Broadway

Motion by Selectman McDonald, 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: Groundswell Surf Café – 25 Broadway

b. New Licenses

Special Event Permits:

Motion by Selectman Takesian, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to the Alzheimer's Association for their annual Ride to End Alzheimer's.

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Abdulla; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to the Lions' Club for their annual Voluntary Toll to be held in Salisbury Square on June 2nd, with a rain date of June 9th.

c. License Amendments - none

d. Liquor License Renewals - none

e. New Liquor Licenses - none

f. Committee Appointments - none

g. Update/Presentations: Historical Commission

Paul Turner, Chairman, thanked the Board for the opportunity to give an update on the Historical Commission. He opened up by reading their Mission Statement which can be found on the town's website. He also expressed some disappointment and frustration over the fact that the Commission is not always notified when there is official town action being taken on items that may have historical significance. He then gave a quick overview of:

- the historical markers in town
- the grist mill on Ring's Island
- the sawmill at Newell River that is behind Johnson Lumber
- the stone wall that surrounds Ferry Lots Lane, which the Commission would like to maintain it in its current condition
- Ben Butler's Toothpick, which is no longer maintained by the Coast Guard; the Commission is looking for someone or an organization to maintain it.
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In closing Mr. Turner said he wanted let everybody know the Historical Commission exists – they are busy and would like the other commissions and boards to use them as an historical access.

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Selectman Condon thanked him and commended him and the Commission on all they do. Selectman Takesian agreed that the history of Salisbury is important and thanked them for their service to the Town. Chairman Ray-Parrott said she knows they are an important board and is hoping that other boards and commissions involve the Historical Commission more, when appropriate.

h. Presentation Re: Salisbury's Housing Production Plan

The Executive Director of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, Karen Conard, and the Commission's Economic Development Planner, Mike Paquette, were present to talk about the town's draft Housing Production Plan, 2018-22 and to urge the Board of Selectmen to adopt the plan. Ms. Conard noted that the Planning Board had voted to adopt the plan for Salisbury at its meeting of May 9th. She explained that the Commission undertook the task of working with its 15-member communities to develop such plans about six years ago and that adoption of these plans would be the culmination of this project. She then gave an in-depth power-point presentation.

Selectman Condon thanked Ms. Conard and Mr. Paquette for coming and asked what types of innovative housing programs can be used to keep a town like Salisbury affordable, so that young people who grow up here, leave for college and want to move back, can afford to do so. Ms. Conard said this is an issue over all of eastern Massachusetts and that there are no easy answers, but by adopting the Housing Production Plan, MVPC can work with communities to develop strategies to enhance affordability and to encourage young people to buy a home in the community in which they were raised.

i. Discussion of Triton's FY19 Budget

Mr. Harrington stated that he went to the Triton School Committee meeting last week and suggested that they develop a sense of balance between what the schools want and what the towns can afford, but he doesn't feel the majority of Committee members heard what he had to say. In the spirit of compromise, he indicated that he would be willing to support an increase for Triton that was in the neighborhood of the 4% historical increases that the Town has been funding over the past five years and that, in conjunction with this commitment, he would be willing to ask the Selectmen to set a special election date for another override. However, the Committee voted to support a new budget for Triton that is more than the Town can afford. He made it clear that the School Committee, by voting to approve such a large increase in the Triton budget, has put the Town in a very difficult financial situation. Selectman McDonald agreed with the Town Manager and said she is very disappointed with the School Committee; by voting against overrides in two of the three Triton communities, the people have spoken and the School Committee didn't listen.

Selectman Takesian pointed out that all the Selectmen went to the meetings at budget time and appealed to the School Committee, explaining that the Town couldn't afford what was being asked; now the Selectmen are being blamed for this budget dilemma and it's not their fault. He said that if Rowley adopts the budget, it looks like Salisbury will need to have an election for another override. He also stated that the entire Board of Selectmen supports education and has always supported Triton's full budget requests; the Town is willing to sit and discuss this situation to come up with a solution. He said he was concerned that without an override the Town will not be able to afford the \$627,000 increase without laying off "X" amount of people.

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School Committee member Linda Litcofski said regardless of what side everyone is on, everyone shares the same problem. Students are our future and she said it was critical for the communities to spend the money necessary to educate the students. She also said she couldn't stress enough how important it is to not cut teachers and special education programs. Selectman Takesian said he understands where the School Committee is coming from and agrees that education is very important. However, Fire, Police, DPW, and Public Safety are also important – lives are on the line and the Town can't jeopardize public safety by cutting these services.

Ms. Roketenetz, President of the Salisbury Elementary School PTA, addressed the Board and asked them to approve the current school budget. She gave examples of how students would be negatively impacted if the Triton budget is cut any further. A few parents also spoke on behalf of their children, urging the Town to accept the new Triton budget.

In closing, the Town Manager said he believes the Town could possibly come back in the Fall and adjust the Town's budget based on various factors, but right now he cannot come up with enough funding to give the schools with as much as they want. He said it is a difficult situation for the Town to be in; we have to continue to talk with the Superintendent and try to come up with a solution, and if we can't, the Town will suffer. He said that all he has ever asked from the beginning of the Triton budget discussions is for the School Committee to find a balance between what they want and what the towns can afford.

V. Comments by Visitors

A Pike Street resident spoke re: the recent Lafayette Road sewer extension vote. He agreed that the sewer extension on Lafayette Road would be very good and asked if the Town could do additional study work to come up with a plan that did not include all the side streets. He asked if there were going to be further discussions with MVPC to identify prospects for economic developments along the Lafayette Road corridor and, if so, he said that he and some other people in the area would be interested in being part of a study committee.

VI. Sewer/Water

VII. Correspondence

VIII. Hearings

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 Condon, Second by Selectman Abdulla; unanimously voted to ratify the signing of the following weekly warrants: W18-172 through W18-179.

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XI. Executive Session

Discussion of Value and Potential Acquisition of Real Property in Proximity to Bayberry Lane

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Condon; unanimously voted to go into Executive Session at 8:40 PM to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property in proximity to Bayberry Lane, as a discussion of this matter in public session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board of Selectmen; that those present at the executive session will include member of the Board, the Board's secretary, the Town Manager and the Chief Assessor; and that the Board not reconvene in public session.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at the close of the Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

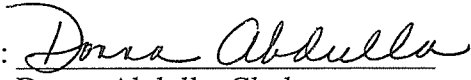
Documents provided at the meeting and on file in the Selectmen's Office:

Copies of licenses as listed

Town Manager's Report


Respectfully submitted:

Janet E. Flannery, Secretary

Approved: 
Donna Abdulla, Clerk

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Selectmen

From: Neil J. Harrington, Town Manager 

Date: May 21, 2018

Re: May 21st Report to the Board

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

1) Lafayette Road Corridor Sewer Extension Project

As you know, the warrant article seeking to borrow \$26 million for the Lafayette Road Corridor Sewer Extension Project was defeated at Town Meeting on May 14. The sewer study committee is planning to meet and review this situation to determine whether an alternative plan may be studied, or whether to recommend that attempts to bring sewer to this portion of town be terminated. We will report back to the Board with our findings.

2) Rte. 1A Resurfacing

Late last week, MassDOT announced that roadway re-paving will be conducted along Rte. 1A from Salisbury Square to just past the police station on Beach Road. This road work, which began on Sunday night, will include milling of the street during the evening hours through Thursday, followed by a break over the Memorial Day weekend, and then re-paving to take place next week. This is an unexpected bonus for the Town which it being accomplished with extra resurfacing funds being made available by MassDOT District 4.

3) Town Awarded Community Compact IT Grant

I am pleased to announce that Salisbury last week was awarded a \$63,790 grant from the State's Community Compact IT grant program, which will allow us to continue our new fiber network from the police station to the Broadway Mall, and to purchase and install a backup server for the Town which will be housed at the police station for use as a "hot spare" if one of our existing servers fail. Completion of our fiber network system will eventually allow SCTV to broadcast live events from the beach, as well as helping the Town to move closer to being prepared for power outages and other potential disruptions, by allowing our municipal offices to have the ability to access and maintain electronic data during these events. Thanks go to Chief Assessor Cheryl Gorniewicz and Town Planner Lisa Pearson for writing the grant, and also to Tim Petronio from Net Tech for his expertise in advising us on technical requirements for our fiber optic system.