

**MINUTES OF THE SALISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017 – 7:00 PM  
SALISBURY TOWN HALL, 5 BEACH ROAD  
COLCHESTER ROOM**

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

**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 7:00 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 on SCTV.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes**

**Minutes of June 12, 2017 - Regular Session and Executive Session**

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of June 12, 2017 - Regular Session and Executive Session as written.

**III. Old Business - none**

**IV. New Business**

**a. License Renewals:**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; 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: Face to Face – 90 Main St., Creative Touch Designs – 26 Ocean Front So., and Salisbury Speedway – 2 Broadway

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to renew a **Sunday** license, with the same conditions/restrictions that may have been on the original license and all subsequent renewals, for Salisbury Speedway – 2 Broadway

**b. New Licenses – Special Event Permits**

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to Granite State Wheelmen – Annual Seacoast Century Weekend – Sept. 23, 2017

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to Parks & Rec for their annual Seaside Brewfest on July 22, 2017

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to approve a **Special Event Permit** to the National Guard for a Table Display on July 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> and Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

**c. License Amendments - none**

**d. Committee Appointments**

**Library Trustees – 2 openings – 2 applicants: Nicholas Sullivan and Jane Purinton**

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Condon; unanimously voted to re-appoint Nicholas Sullivan and Jane Purinton to the Library Trustees for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2020.

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**Planning Board – 2 openings – 2 applicants: Don Egan and Louis Masiello**

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously vote to re-appoint Don Egan and Louis Masiello to the Planning Board for a five-year term to expire June 30, 2022.

**License Commission – 2 openings – 1 applicant: Karen Jacobs**

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously voted to re-appoint Karen Jacobs to the License Commission for a three-year term to expire on June 30, 2020.

**e. Update/Presentations: none**

**f. Tom Saab Re: Sewer Usage Billing**

Mr. Saab said that the attorney for the Salisbury Beach Citizens for Change had been delayed and requested that this item be tabled until after he arrives. Selectman Ray-Parrott moved that this item be tabled until after agenda item VII (Correspondence). Selectman McDonald seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**g. Fred Bishop Re: Drainage Issues**

Mr. Bishop came in prior to tonight's meeting and withdrew his request to be on the agenda.

**h. Vote to Approve Town Manager's Contract, FY2018 – FY2020**

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously voted to table this item until after the Executive Session.

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Condon; unanimously voted to move into Executive Session at 7:15PM to conduct a strategy session for a new contract for the Town Manager, FY2018 – FY2020, as a discussion of this item in open session may compromise the negotiating strategy of the Board, and the Board will return to open session. Those present will be the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Neil Harrington and Secretary, Janet Flannery. Roll Vote: Selectman Ray-Parrott – yes; Selectman Condon – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Richenburg – yes; Chairman Takesian – yes.

The Board returned to open session at 7:21 PM.

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman Richenburg; unanimously voted to remove agenda item IV (h) from the table.

Motion by Selectman Condon, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted to approve the Town Manager's contract for FY2018 – FY2020.

**i. Vote to Approve Firefighters Contract, FY2016 – FY2017**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously vote to approve the Firefighters Contract, FY2016-FY2017.

Selectman Richenburg moved that agenda item IV (f) be removed from the table. Selectman Condon seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

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Mr. Saab thanked the Board for the opportunity to appear tonight. He then invited the Board to the annual meeting of the Salisbury Beach Citizens for Change on August 8, 2017 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM at the Blue Ocean Music Hall.

Mr. Saab said he was present to discuss a fair and equitable sewer billing system based on water usage. He said he had started researching this issue six years ago and has been discussing and researching it along with other homeowners in Salisbury for 15-16 years. He thinks it is now time for action on the part of the leadership of Salisbury. He also wanted to personally thank the Town Manager, Don Levesque and Jim Dondero for taking the time to meet with him and Atty. Magliochetti several times on this matter. He then said he understood about the fixed costs within the sewer enterprise fund budget, but still believes that a system of sewer billing based on water meter usage is more equitable than one based upon EQRs. He said that it was unfair for people who live alone to pay the same amount for sewer as families with five or six people.

Atty. Magliochetti addressed the Board and said that the most recent meeting held with Town officials was the most enlightening one. He referred to data presented by Jim Dondero and he questioned a lot of the figures and information that was provided. Several points were brought up that he didn't agree with and the data that was presented raised some troubling questions. He mentioned, for example, that the Town's data showed that there is a large discrepancy between the amount of gallons that the Town says are produced by its wells and the number of gallons measured by all the meters in town. He asked the Town to provide an explanation for this discrepancy and stated that, from a legal perspective, this kind of misinformation opens up the possibility of a legal challenge to the current sewer billing methodology based on EQRs. He believes a partnership between the Citizens for Change group, the Selectmen and the Manager can work together to change the current sewer billing system, but he also suggested bringing someone in from the outside to examine the Town's data with a new set of eyes. The Board was asked if they are open to a fair and equitable sewer billing system based on water use.

Chairman Takesian said he believes the Board has given this issue to the Manager to handle, which indicates that the Board is committed to working cooperatively. However, he said he is not going to poll the individual members at this point.

Mr. Harrington stated that the data that was presented by the Town and Mr. Dondero at the last meeting was provided by Pennichuck and that, although the data raised some questions, the Town has not been misleading anyone with regard to the sewer billing issue. He said that the major question about the data relates to the discrepancy between the amount of water measured by the meters at the Town's wells and the water measured by all of the meters at homes and businesses in town. There is a major difference between these two numbers and the Town needs to find out why. He said he understands that a portion of this difference is the amount of water consumed by Town-owned buildings that is not billed, and that there is also a certain amount of unaccounted for water, which is typical of every community, but he needs to contact Pennichuck for a better explanation of the data. However, the issue of how many gallons is measured at the wells vs. how much is measured by home and business meters is not related to how many gallons of water are processed at the sewer plant every year, nor is it related to whether the current sewer billing system is fair. These are separate issues. He said that he would be happy to continue to meet and discuss the sewer billing issue with Mr. Saab and Atty. Magliochetti.

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**V. Comments by Visitors**

**VI. Sewer/Water**

**Vote to Approve Contract Extension for Operations and Maintenance of Town's Water Supply System with Pennichuck Water Service Co.**

Mr. Harrington stated that he had provided a memorandum to the Board explaining that Pennichuck Water Services Co. was the only entity that responded to the RFP the Town had issued in the spring for the operation and maintenance of its water supply system. He, along with Don Levesque and Lisa DeMeo, reviewed Pennichuck's bid and determined that they met all of the technical qualifications. There was also a meeting held with Pennichuck to discuss the terms of their financial offer, but Mr. Harrington said that he was not comfortable accepting the offer and recommending it to the Board of Selectmen for approval. He said he believes the Board needs to meet with officials from Pennichuck and hear from them directly. Since their present contract runs out on June 30, he requested that the contract be extended for 60 days until the terms of a new contract can be agreed upon. He noted that he had included a proposed 60-day extension agreement in the materials sent to the Board for the meeting and recommended that the Board approve the 60-day extension.

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to approve and sign the Contract Extension for Operations & Maintenance of the Town's Water Supply System with Pennichuck Water Service Company.

**VII. Correspondence**

Notice from Comcast Re: Channel Line Up Information and S&H Price Change

**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 Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to ratify the signing of the following weekly warrants: W17-192 through W17-199.

**b. Subcommittee Reports**

**Lafayette Corridor Sewer Extension:** Mr. Richenburg stated that there was nothing new to report. The Town is still seeking additional sources of funding for the project.

**XI. Executive Session**

**Conduct Strategy Session for Contract for Town Manager, FY2018 – FY2020**

The Executive Session was held at 7:15 PM under item IV (h).

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**XII. Adjournment**

Motion by Selectman Richenburg, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:24 PM.

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

Minutes of June 12, 2017 Regular and Executive Session

Copies of licenses as listed

Letters from applicants for Committee Appointments

Copies of Town Manager's and Firefighters Contracts

Information on the Contract Extension for O&M Maintenance of Town's water Supply System

Town Manager's Report

Respectfully submitted:

Janet E. Flannery, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_



Ronalee Ray-Parrott, Clerk

