

**MINUTES OF THE SALISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021 – 7:00 PM
SALISBURY TOWN HALL, 5 BEACH ROAD
COLCHESTER ROOM**

PRESENT: Selectmen, Donna Abdulla, Chairman; Wilma McDonald, Chuck Takesian,
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 Abdulla 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.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes
Minutes of March 22, 2021**

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Takesian; unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of March 22, 2021 as written.

III. Public Comment - none

IV. Old Business - none

V. New Business

a. License Renewals:

Motion by Selectman Condon, 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: Pushcart Caterers – State Reservation.

Motion by Selectman Condon, 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: Salisbury Winnelson Co. – 2 Fanaras Drive, Unit 2A and B. Hersey – 99 Beach Road for sale of camp firewood.

b. New Licenses - none

c. License Amendments - none

d. Liquor License Renewals - none

e. New Liquor Licenses - none

f. Committee Appointments - none

g. Update/Presentations: COA Director/Library Director

Liz Pettis, COA Director, provided several examples of how people in the community stepped up to assist Salisbury's seniors during the time of Covid restrictions: in order to combat isolation, the COA Activities Coordinator developed a "Happy Mail" program and cards were sent out monthly to the homebound, along with books and puzzles; Triton Middle School students delivered "Pies on Wheels"; Vynorious Piledriving provided cakes for the homebound; Wayne Capolupo and SPS renovated the Hilton Center kitchen area with flooring and a commercial stove; the Tritons school system supplied

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lunches for two weeks; the Lions Club provided Thanksgiving turkey dinners and Easter Ham dinners; two volunteers cleaned, cooked, baked and supplied many home cooked dinners for those unable to cook; Newburyport Five Bank provided additional funding allowing the Center to create handicapped access to the bathroom facilities; Olympic Roofing provided restaurant meals on Friday evenings at the onset of Covid and throughout the Fall; and the van driver, members of the Board of Selectmen and many volunteers assisted with those deliveries.

Ms. Pettis also reported that in the last eight weeks the Senior Center staff have scheduled almost 700 vaccine appointments for its members at the Page School, Holy Family Parish Hall, Convenient Care MD, the Senior Center and Amesbury High School. She is presently working closely with Health Director Jack Morris and Fire Chiefs Scott Carrigan of Salisbury and Ken Berkenbush of Amesbury to ensure all those 60 years and older who want the vaccine can get it.

The Hilton Center continues to offer core services, as follows: Outreach Coordinator Emily Thompson is working with DTA and UMass to expand SNAP participation and to improve nutrition; there are three volunteers from AARP currently assisting seniors in preparing their tax returns every Monday until May 3; the COA is continually assisting clients with transportation outside the Merrimack Valley area through the NEET program and also offer curb-to-curb van service three days a week to medical appointments, grocery stores and errands, and is continuing to offer two weekly walking groups, as well as knitting and quilting programs. The property tax work off program still has some openings, and if someone is 60 or older or a veteran and owns property they can apply. Individuals volunteer 62.5 hours in one of the Town's departments in exchange for a property tax abatement.

Terry Kyrios, Library Director, reported that when the staff was sent home in March of 2020 after Covid restrictions were put in place, she continued to be at the library doing paperwork, working on projects, answering phones & e-mails/issuing library cards, re-setting passwords for people, emptying the book drop, quarantining materials and cataloging and preparing new materials. The Assistant Director, Cara Rothman, handled technology questions by calling or e-mailing patrons and assisting with digital downloads. She and Ms. Rothman then began planning for curbside deliveries, which started on June 3 of 2020.

The reference librarian, Kristen Packer, tried to find contents of interest to local residents and kept the website and Facebook pages updated, adding new content when appropriate such as Ancestry. Children's librarian Joan Cox managed the children's Facebook page and website keeping it fresh and interesting for families and explained the craft – videos from Children's Museum NH, NE Aquarium, Franklin Park Zoo, Food Network and other libraries' children's rooms. She also re-imagined story hour and prepared "Story Hour in a Bag" every 2 weeks, providing two books on a theme, a paper craft, and a song/game/puzzle/toy. Circulation librarian Joan Bomba called the library's regular elderly patrons and those who didn't have access to computers/WIFI and explained how curbside would work. Books and materials were packed up in paper tote bags – patrons would call from the parking lot and a staff member would take their order out. This is still an option now. The new Assistant Director, Nicole Kramer, joined the team in January and began to offer virtual programming right away.

The Library averages 650 adult curbside totes and 200 kids story hour totes each month. Circulation for March 2019 – February 2020 was 44,348 and for March 2020 – February 2021 was 19,070.

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Finally, the library re-opened last Monday, April 12, and it's mainly been people browsing, picking up holds or curbside, staff assisted copying/faxing/scanning. There are four computers patrons may use but their time is limited to 45 minutes.

h. Schedule Pole Hearing for National Grid to install a pole on Old County Road

Motion by Selectman Takesian, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to schedule a Pole Hearing for National Grid to install a pole on Old County Road on April 26, 2021 at 7:15 PM.

i. Schedule Pole Hearing for National Grid to install to construct underground conduit on Broadway

Motion by Selectman Takesian, Second by Selectman Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to schedule a Pole Hearing for National Grid to construct an underground conduit on Broadway on April 26, 2021 at 7:25 PM.

j. Vote to Lay Out Liberty Street as a Town Way

Mr. Harrington reminded Board members that they had previously voted their intention to lay out Liberty Street as a public way, and now needs to formally vote to lay out the street, so that it can be approved at Town Meeting.

Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Takesian:

Whereas the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Salisbury, acting pursuant to G.L. c.82, §§21-24, having deemed that common convenience and necessity require the layout as a public way of Liberty Street, hereby lays out the foregoing road as a town way as shown on the plan referenced below, and

Whereas the boundaries of said way as laid out are shown on a plan entitled "Roadway Acceptance Plan of Land in Salisbury, MA showing Liberty Street," dated February 26, 2021, prepared by Hancock Associates (2 sheets), which plan was referenced to the Planning Board and which plan is hereby adopted as a part of this order, and all land lying within the above described boundaries of Liberty Street is hereby laid out as a town way.

The aforementioned plan is hereby forwarded to the Town Clerk for filing and the foregoing layouts are hereby reported to the Town for acceptance.

The motion was adopted unanimously.

k. Vote to Approve Extension of Licensed Premises Plans for the Salisbury Sports Pub

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald, that the Board of Selectmen, as the local Liquor Licensing Authority for the Town of Salisbury, hereby approves the application of Salisbury Sports Pub for an alteration of premises to allow for an extension of the location in which the licensee may legally serve alcohol outdoors where food is also available until November 1, 2021.

Such approval shall be contingent on the licensee meeting all requirements of the "Guidelines for Extension of Premises to Patio and Outdoor Areas" issued by the Mass. Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) on July 8, 2015, and the "Advisory Regarding Guidelines for Extension of Premises to Patio and Outdoor Areas" issued by the ABCC on August 6, 2015.

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Such approval also shall be contingent on the licensee receiving approval from the Town's Director of Public Health, which approval shall indicate compliance by the licensee with all emergency declarations and executive orders issued by the Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth relative to containing the spread of the Coronavirus, and all policies and specific guidances promulgated by the Mass. Department of Public Health, including mandatory safety standards, for the re-opening of restaurants under the Commonwealth's "Re-Opening Massachusetts" plan.

Such approval also shall be contingent on the licensee adhering to the following conditions imposed by the Board of Selectmen as the Town's Liquor Licensing Authority:

- (1) All patrons of the licensed premises shall wear personal protective equipment (masks) unless seated.
- (2) No drinks may be served outdoors in any sort of glassware, whether in a bottle or otherwise.
- (3) All patrons of the licensed premises shall be seated; no standing allowed.
- (4) The licensee must commit to employing adequate security at point of entry and take any and all measures to ensure that all alcohol is consumed on the premises only.
- (5) If the licensee utilizes umbrellas or other devices for providing shade for patrons, they must remove or close such umbrellas or devices no later than the end of each business day.
- (6) The licensee, whose outdoor seating areas includes property owned by the Town, such as a sidewalk or public way, must provide written proof that the Town is listed on the licensee's insurance policy as additionally insured, in an amount no less than \$1 million.
- (7) If the licensee's outdoor seating areas includes a step down from curbing to a public way, they must visibly display a "watch your step" or other suitable warning sign for patrons.
- (8) If the licensee leases the premises where alcohol is served, they must provide written documentation to the Liquor Licensing Authority that they have permission from the property owner to utilize the space where they intend to serve alcohol outdoors.

Selectman Takesian moved to amend the motion by adding the following at the end of the first paragraph, following the words "November 1, 2021": "or two months after the initial Order is lifted, whichever is earlier." Selectman Condon seconded the amendment and it was approved unanimously.

A vote was then taken on the original motion, as amended, and it was approved unanimously.

I. Vote to Approve Extension of Licensed Premises Plans for Gracie's Bar & Grille

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald, that the Board of Selectmen as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority for the Town, hereby approves the application of Gracie's Bar & Grille for an alteration of premises to allow for an extension of the location in which the licensee may legally serve alcohol outdoors where food is also available until November 1, 2021, or two months after the initial Order is lifted, whichever is earlier; such motion to include all of the contingencies and conditions as stated above in the approval of a similar alteration of premises for the Salisbury Sports Pub. The motion was approved unanimously.

m. Vote re: Endorsement of "An Act Relative to a Streaming Entertainment Operator's Use of the Public Rights-of-Way" (HD 1440) and "An Act Relative to Digital Entertainment on public Rights of Way" (SD 834)

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Motion by Selectman McDonald, Second by Selectman Condon; Voted to endorse the Act Relative to a Streaming Entertainment Operator's Use of the Public Rights-of-Way" (HD 1440) and "An Act Relative to Digital Entertainment on Public Rights of Way" (SD 834). VOTE: 4 yeas; Selectman Takesian abstained. Motion carried.

VI. Sewer/Water

VII. Correspondence

VIII. Hearings - none

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 Ray-Parrott; unanimously voted to ratify the signing of the following weekly warrants: W21-74 through W21-79.

Selectman Condon asked that the vote taken previously under Agenda Item V(k) be re-considered. Selectmen Takesian seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Selectman Condon then made a motion to approve the extension of licensed premises plans for the Salisbury Sports Pub, with the qualifications and conditions included in Ms. Ray-Parrott's original motion. The motion was seconded by Selectman Ray-Parrott, and a vote was taken as follows: 4 in favor, 1 abstention (Selectman Abdulla). Motion carried.

Chairman Abdulla made the following announcements:

Town Hall is now open to the public and Selectmen's meetings will be open to attend as well, with social distancing. Selectmen will also resume taking public comment from attendees.

Due to Covid restrictions, the Town is not allowed to have a Memorial Day Parade, but there will be a small ceremony on the Town Common and a "laying of the wreath."

She acknowledged the death of Robert Pike, who was the Town's Tree Warden for many years and also performed a significant amount of work for the Town in the sewer and water department.

A request was sent to the Postmaster in Newburyport to have the Salisbury drive-up mail box reinstalled next to the Post Office, but to date there has been no response.

Selectman Ray-Parrott reminded everyone that there is a leash law in the Town. Many complaints are being received about dogs running without a leash and people are not picking up after their dogs. She also mentioned that there is a dog park where the dogs can run. She also noted that volunteers are needed for various boards and commissions and she urged people to reach out and volunteer.

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XI. Executive Session - none

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Selectman Takesian, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:03 PM.

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

Minutes of March 22, 2021

Copies of licenses as listed

Town Manager's Report

Info re: National Requests for Public Hearings

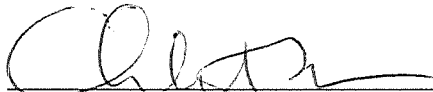
Copy of Extension of Premises Requests

Copy of the Endorsement under item V(m)

Respectfully submitted:


Janet E. Flannery, Secretary

Approved:


Chuck Takesian, Clerk

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Selectmen

From: Neil J. Harrington, Town Manager 

Date: April 12, 2021

Re: April 12th Report to the Board

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

1) Covid-19 Vaccination Update

As you may have read in the paper recently, our regional 9-community collaborative has passed the threshold of 10,000 vaccinations distributed over the past several weeks. While we have a long way to go, this is a significant milestone and everyone who is coordinating and volunteering for these clinics is to be commended. At the behest of the collaborative, I have written a letter to the Commissioner of DCR asking permission to utilize the Salisbury Beach State Reservation as a drive-up vaccination clinic site. As you know, Health Director Jack Morris has been advocating for the use of the Reservation for such a clinic for some time. I am hopeful that, under the direction of the collaborative, and with the weather getting warmer, the Reservation site can be made available so that large numbers of the general public, who will be eligible to receive the vaccine starting on April 19, will be able to do so. Also, Liz Pettis informed me recently that there are approximately 30 homebound people in Salisbury who are unable to access a clinic, but that she has a plan, in coordination with the Fire Department, to make sure that vaccines can be brought to the homes of these people as soon as possible, hopefully within a few weeks.

2) Beach Nourishment Issues

Over the past two weeks, I have participated in several remote meetings with Salisbury Beach homeowners and our legislative delegation focused on trying to convince the State to pay for sand to be placed, at the homeowners' expense, on the areas hardest hit by the storm that occurred several weeks ago. To date, there has been no commitment on the part of DCR to pay for this sand, which will enhance the sustainability of State property as well as provide relief for the several homeowners whose properties now lay vulnerable. We will continue to pursue this goal diligently, with the hope of convincing the State of the worthiness of this investment.

On a related front, I am happy to report that the State has agreed to pay for 75% of the dredged material from the Piscataqua River that is slated to be placed near shore in Salisbury and Newbury when this project gets underway, which should be late during this coming Fall. As I noted before, there is an estimated 300-350,000 cubic yards of dredged material that our two towns have agreed to split on a 50/50 basis. This means that Salisbury could receive between 150-175,000 cubic yards of dredged material. At an estimated disposal cost of about \$3.00-4.00

per yard, the total cost to place this material near shore off Salisbury Beach could be between \$450,000 and \$700,000. With the State agreeing to pay for 75% of this cost and to act as the non-federal sponsor of the project, the net cost to Salisbury is estimated at between \$112,500 and \$175,000. With this in mind, I intend to ask for an appropriation at Town Meeting beyond the current \$150,000 that we currently have set aside, in case a larger amount of material is available and the cost is at the upper end of the current estimate. If the dollar amount needed is less than what is appropriated, the Town can hold the extra funds in reserve for additional beach nourishment purposes whenever it might become necessary.

3) Beach Parking Regulations

As you know, at the last Selectmen's meeting the Board adopted updated regulations and rates for parking at the beach this summer. I have left a copy of this information, which has been posted in multiple places on the Town's website, for you tonight. The enforcement of these regulations will begin on May 1 and run through October 15. Starting today, people can buy resident and other parking passes via the Town Clerk's office. I also wanted to note that over the past few weeks the Clerk's office has worked with the company whose Flo-Bird "app" is used to pay for parking at the kiosks to institute an online way for people to purchase the new weekly 7-day passes, so that they can be purchased even if the Town Clerk's office is closed. People wishing to do so can download the Flo-Bird app and pay online for these passes. As a final reminder, all passes are now license-plate specific. There will be no more stickers on car windows or placards hanging from rear view mirrors.

4) Beach Project Construction Updates

The Driftway rehabilitation project is slated to begin next Monday, April 19. It will continue until no later than June 30, when the Town's State grant funding for the project must be spent. Driftway will then be open for the remainder of the summer and final paving and striping will occur after Labor Day. Between now and the end of June, there will be several times when Driftway will be completely closed to the public, but we are working on a plan to open up an egress from Central Ave. when it is feasible and safe, so that we can keep Broadway open during certain times of the summer.

As you know, with two restaurants receiving approval for outdoor seating on the north side of Broadway, if and when Broadway is open this summer cars will need to exit via Central Ave. With the intersections of Beach Road/Cable Ave. and Broadway and Railroad Ave. expected to be very busy with construction of the new Welcome Center and public restrooms causing disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, there will be times when vehicles will not be allowed on the loop at Broadway for public safety reasons. I met with members of the Salisbury Beach Partnership last week to discuss their plans for the summer, and this topic received a significant amount of attention. We will need to be flexible, so as not to negatively affect merchants to the greatest extent possible, but we will also need to be cognizant of the safety of those visiting the beach at all times.