

**MINUTES OF THE SALISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 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

**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.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes  
Minutes of May 23, 2022**

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Abdulla; unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of May 23, 2022 as written.

**III. Public Comment**

**IV. Old Business - none**

**V. New Business**

**a. License Renewals:**

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald; 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: Marie's Restaurant – 85 Beach Road and Dairy Queen – 96 Elm Street.

**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: DPW Director/Planning Director**

**Lisa DeMeo, DPW Director, reported the following:**

- The Household Hazardous Waste day is scheduled for Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at the Public Works Garage from 8:00 AM – 12:00 noon. There is no charge and it is for residents only.
- Chapter 90 paving has been completed on Pike Street, Collins Street and Blacksnake Road. Longmeadow Drive, Ferry Road (from Beach Road to Grover Street) and Glenwood Road will be paved in the Fall. Line striping for the recently-paved streets will be done soon.
- Funds for the FY22 tree maintenance have been fully expended.
- Mowing/maintenance of the 4 cemeteries, 5 fields, and 7 town buildings is being done by two employees. Landscaping at town buildings, cemeteries and park is being done by the current

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staff. Public Works staff advertised the project to renovate the tennis courts at Lion's Park, and the work is now complete. Jenn Roketenetz of Parks and Rec. oversaw the project.

- Permits for the recycling center are now managed by the Town Clerk. DPW staff is working with DEP and CDM to file the appropriate environmental reports for the recycling center.
- Parking kiosks have been installed in most locations at the beach and adjustments are being done as needed.
- The transition to taking over the operation of the water system is going well. Staffing has been identified, the billing is in good shape and the trailer issues have been worked out.
- Hydrant flushing was conducted between April 25 and May 2. Notices were placed in the paper and on social media.
- Water meters on Meaders Lane, Shady, Short and Gove Lanes were to be replaced this summer as part of a CDBG project, but due to supply chain issues the start date is yet to be determined.
- Construction continues on the Lafayette Road sewer project: the pump station on the corner of True Road is well underway, installation of the main under Smallpox Brook is complete and is being cleaned up now.
- The required cleanup of the graves at Longhill Cemetery was advertised for April and May. Public Works has been removing items that are not approved by the Cemetery Commissioners. Several cemetery projects are being scheduled, which will be funded by ARPPA.
- DPW is coordinating with Mass/DOT on their paving of Rabbit Road, which the Town just found out about last week. She also continues to work with MassDOT on design issues and the recent public meetings relative to the North End Boulevard project.

**Lisa Pearson, Planning Director, reported the following:**

- She continues to work with the Boys & Girls Club on providing funding for scholarships for their summer program.
- Millennium is finishing up with the engineering for the entire Forest Road neighborhood safety improvement project and the first phase of construction, which includes a sidewalk on the western side of Forest Road from the brook northward to Gerrish Road is underway. This phase must be complete by June 30. She is continuing to seek funding for additional sidewalks.
- She is working with MVPC on updating the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as the Affordable Housing Plan.
- She is working with MVPC to create a storm water bylaw for the Town.

**h. Vote re: Proposed PARC Grant Application – Planning Director Lisa Pearson**

Ms. Pearson addressed the possibility of the Town applying for funding to create a "pocket park" on the corner of True and Lafayette Road, which is the parcel that the Town purchased for purposes of locating the main pump station on for the Lafayette Road sewer project. This parcel abuts the rail trail and since it is a large site, she said it make sense for the Town to provide a connection to the rail trail there, as well as additional parking, so that those looking to park close to the rail trail won't have to park in True Road, which would be unsafe. She mentioned that there is a \$100,000 limit to the amount of funding available for any one project under the State's small PARC grant program, and that all projects require a local match. She asked that the Board support her idea for this small park and vote to approve submittal of the grant application.

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Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted to approve the application for the PARC grant, as outlined by Ms. Pearson.

**i. Presentation by Breezeline (formerly Atlantic Broadband) re: Proposed New Cable Television License**

Nadine Heinen from Breezeline gave a short presentation on a proposal from the company to be issued a license to operate in Salisbury. She was accompanied by two other representatives from Breezeline. She stated that their goal is provide fiber optic cable and internet service to residents and businesses, with uninterrupted connectivity and streaming. Rates will be competitive with any other company. Members of the Board asked several questions about the proposal and asked Ms. Heinen to comment on the quality of Breezeline's customer service operation. She informed the Board that the company experienced significant staffing issues due to Covid over the past two years, but that there were in the process of hiring more customer service personnel, and she was confident that their customer service performance would be satisfactory by the time they were able to operate in Salisbury.

Chairman Takesian then allowed Lance Wisniewski, Executive Director of SCTV, to ask the Breezeline representatives several technical questions about the type of service they intended to provide and whether they would commit to matching the financial commitment to local cable TV that was outlined in the current Comcast agreement with the Town. Ms. Heinen said that the answer to this question was "yes." She also stated that more information would be provided at the ascertainment hearing that the Town is required to have before considering whether to issue a license.

**i. Vote to Schedule Ascertainment Hearing on Proposed New Cable Television License by Breezeline (formerly Atlantic Broadband)**

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman McDonald; unanimously voted to schedule the Ascertainment Hearing at 7:15 PM on July 18, 2022.

**VI. Sewer/Water – no action**

**VII. Correspondence - none**

**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 Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Abdulla; unanimously voted to ratify the signing of the following weekly warrants: W22-101 through W22-104.

Selectman Ray-Parrott wanted to personally thank Senator Tarr for his efforts to try and get a better reimbursement rate for school transportation.

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**XI. Executive Session - none**

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion by Selectman Ray-Parrott, Second by Selectman Abdulla; unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:43 PM.

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

Minutes of May 23, 2022

Info on PARC Grant

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: June 13, 2022

Re: June 13<sup>th</sup> Report to the Board

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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) New Public Restroom at Beach

After several delays due to a subcontractor's failure to deliver and install hand railings on the handicapped access ramps to the new public restroom and Welcome Center facilities at the beach, the new restroom facility in the corner of the parking lot at Beach Road and Cable Ave. was opened to the public on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Early reports are that the new facility is getting lots of use. The Town is still waiting for the final railings to be delivered for the Welcome Center building at the west end of Broadway, which is the last impediment to this building also opening to the public.

The Town has hired two new staff people at DPW to oversee these new facilities and to supervise the summer work staff at the beach. So far, things are going well. The Town also has expanded hours of operation for both facilities during the summer months, from 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM, 7 days a week.

2) Memorial Day Parade

The traditional parade resumed this year, following the elimination of Covid restrictions, and the event was very well attended. The moving flay display erected throughout the Common by the Lions Club was inspirational, there was a great turnout from the Police and Fire Departments, and the Elementary School and Triton band participation were greatly appreciated.

3) North End Boulevard Project Meetings

On May 19, 24 and 26, MassDOT and the Town co-hosted a series of meetings designed to hear the concerns of property owners along North End Boulevard about the proposed plan to implement a series of roadway improvements on this stretch of road, from the beach center to the New Hampshire line. Most of the concerns expressed related to potential loss of parking in areas within the State's right-of-way that has been used for several years by residents and visitors. Roll out plans of the current draft design plans for the project were made available for viewing by those who attended the meetings, so that they could review the potential impact of the project on their individual properties.

Officials from MassDOT explained the process for designing and seeking funding for the project, and informed those attending that the project must meet current the State's current policy objectives for improvements along this type of roadway, including the necessity of providing accommodations for all modes of travel, including bicycling and pedestrian paths. Many of the residents objected to the bike path, but were informed that if it were not included, the project would not receive a high enough score to be rated worthy of funding. Some residents expressed the desire to see no project at all, rather than one that might impinge on where they have parked for several years. Property owners were informed that plans were still in the preliminary stage and that MassDOT and Town officials would be meeting in the near future to assess the results of the three meetings and talk about the best way to move forward.

#### 4) Takeover of Water Operations

The transition toward the Town's takeover of the operations and billing for our water system is progressing well, and we are on track for ending Pennichuck's contract at the end of the fiscal year. Additional staff have been hired and the remaining staff should be in place before June 30. The trailer that will house the new Water Division has arrived, and a concrete pad has been poured, on which the trailer will be placed.

Since the vote at the last Selectmen's meeting to change to a quarterly billing system for water, the Town has publicized this decision by posting information on our website and social media platforms and a mailing to all water customers is going out this week. A new phone number and email address has been set up for customers to call if they have questions. Several people have begun to call and ask why they have not received a water bill for June, and have been told that the first bill under the new quarterly billing system will not be issued until after July 1. So, I will remind people again – there is no need to call inquiring about your water bill for June. New quarterly bills will be issued after the Town takes over from Pennichuck at the end of this month.

#### 5) Merrimack River Beach Alliance

On June 10, I attended the first in-person meeting of the MRBA in several months. Among the topics of discussion was a decision to set up a new sub-committee of the group to address specific concerns related to beach erosion and nourishment at Salisbury Beach. The first meeting of the new sub-committee should take place in the new few weeks. This will be a good opportunity for those citizens who have been actively pursuing ways to secure sand following storm events on Salisbury Beach to garner the support of the MRBA group in their lobbying efforts to get the State to respond to Salisbury concerns.