



Salisbury Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2022

Approved

Selectman Brett Walker, Chair	Present
Selectman John W. Herbert	Present
Selectman Jim Hoyt	Present
Town Administrator April Rollins	Excused
Municipal Assistant Kimberley Edelmann	Present

Attendees: Several citizens attended the meeting in person at Academy Hall; one attended via Zoom.

1) Open Meeting

Chairman Walker opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

2) Meeting Minutes

Selectman Herbert made a **motion** to approve the minutes of August 10, 2022. Selectman Hoyt **seconded**. The **motion passed**.

3) Signatures

Chairman Walker noted that the Selectboard had reviewed and signed Accounts Payable & Payroll Registers. The documents are available for public inspection.

4) Department / Board / Committee Reports

a. Fire Chief / Road Agent / HDAC

Road Agent Bill MacDuffie Jr reported that paving of Raccoon Hill Road was expected to take place in September. If an opening comes up, the work might begin earlier than that.

Fire Chief Bill MacDuffie Jr noted that DHART (Dartmouth Hitchcock Advanced Response Team) landed at the Salisbury Safety Complex. Despite watering, the prop wash from the helicopter was intense, raising a lot of wet sandy dust. He said they would definitely look into what it would take to pave the parking area / landing zone.

The Highway Department Advisory Committee had not met since the previous Selectboard meeting.

b. Transfer Station

Chairman Walker noted that the new ramp was now in place. He thanked Dan Philbrook for the excellent work.

Selectman Hoyt reported that he had visited the Transfer Station with Dan Philbrook to discuss ways to allow for two people to dump into the compactor at a time. He asked Mr. Philbrook to write up an estimate for the work.

Chairman Walker explained to Selectman Herbert that they had decided that pressure treated wood was too expensive and that a steel bridge over the ram would be better and last longer. Two different size decks were considered. One had more railings. Two options and cost estimates had been received.

Selectman Herbert asked what the time frame would be to get the work done and how it would be funded. Chairman Walker said there was money in the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund. About \$10,000 had been set aside for site work, but they hadn't used much of it yet. Dan Philbrook said he could build the ramp in the following week.

Selectman Hoyt said two cement blocks would need to be moved, providing more space. Bill MacDuffie Jr suggested that any solution decided upon needed to prevent people from backing up onto the ramp.

Chairman Walker made a **motion** to accept the estimate of \$3837.61 from Dan Philbrook for construction of the ramp. Selectman Herbert **seconded**. The **motion passed** with all in favor.

The construction of a 6 foot x 8 foot attendants' booth / operators' hut was discussed. It was agreed that one needed to be constructed as soon as possible, ideally in October after the haunt was done. It would need to provide room for two employees and include power, heat and light. Chairman Walker said that he and Selectman Hoyt agreed to do the construction, billing the Town for materials only. Chairman Walker noted that a licensed electrician would have to do the electrical work.

Chairman Walker said he believed TS Manager Bert LaFlamme was interested in eventually getting a baler.

Chairman Walker reported that based on what he had observed since installation of the new compactor at the Transfer Station, he expected to see a significant reduction in transportation costs. Based on the small sample size so far, he expected a six week cycle would mean sending 4 closed containers and 1 open container with some variations. It works out to about 35 containers, but for budgeting, they will probably want to figure 40 containers. Before the compactor, it was 2 to 3 containers per weeks being sent out; roughly 105 to 110 containers per year.

In 2020, the Town budgeted around \$32,000 or \$34,000 for hauling away trash. For this year, they budgeted \$24,000 as it was not known when the compactor would be put into use. Next year's budget was expected to be less, although it would depend on Casella's fees.

Chairman Walker noted that he not yet seen the tonnage reports. The compactor was squeezing out liquids which were collecting on the ground and causing unpleasant odors. This would need to be addressed. Possibly the fire department would be asked to periodically hose down the area.

c. Zoning Board

Chairman Walker reported that the Whyte variance had been approved.

d. Planning Board

Selectman Herbert reported that every two years the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) comes up with their 10 Year Plan of projects which will be done in individual towns. In the past, the Town of Salisbury has projects on the list but they make it onto the 10 Year Plan. The Town has the opportunity to propose projects that the Town wants NHDOT to do.

The Planning Board recommended to the Selectboard that two projects be proposed to NHDOT. The first was to

put traffic calming islands on Route 4. This had been proposed several years ago. They would start after the vet's office to just before the intersection of Route 127, then down to Whittemore Road. Selectman Herbert likened them to the islands in the middle of the road between Boscawen and Penacook. They slow traffic down.

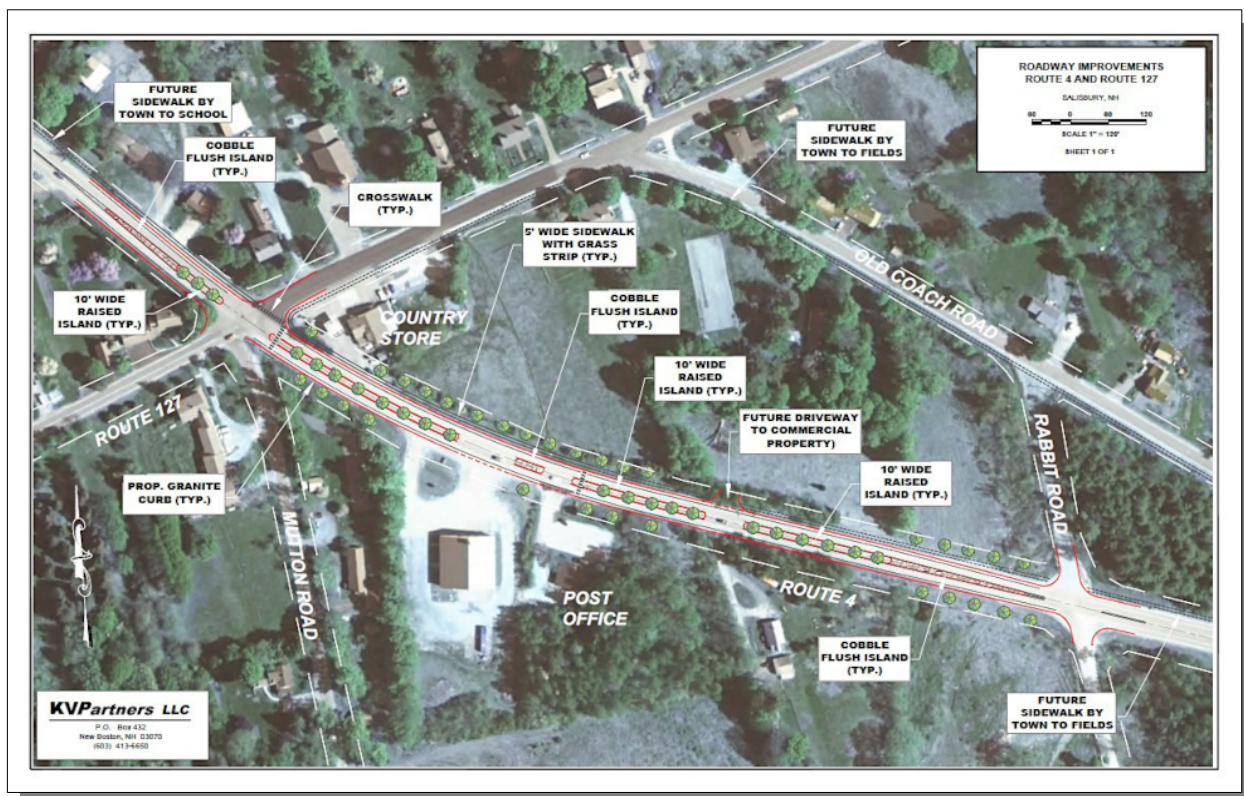
The other project was to address the intersection of Whittemore Road and Route 4. The intersection was currently angled and did not offer good visibility of oncoming traffic for drivers. The proposed project would make the intersection a proper 90 degree intersection.

Selectman Herbert note that there were other project ideas of putting in sidewalks & curbing, but those would be Town projects, not State and the Town would never do them.

Selectman Hoyt asked if would be cheaper to put in a traffic light. Chairman Walker felt the State would never do that on Route 4.

Selectman Herbert reported that the Planning Board didn't know what the selection criteria was that was being used by the State. They wanted to submit both projects. However, it was the Selectboard who had to approve it as the Town files the submission with NHDOT.

Chairman Walker wondered if the Route 4 islands project would be more acceptable to the State if they modified it and reduced the amount of work. Maybe just having the islands go from the Safety Complex to Whittemore.



Marcia Murphy asked how islands would affect residents; how would they get into their driveways? Chairman Walker explained that there would be tapered cuts in the islands for driveway access. The idea was to slow traffic but not reduce access.

Selectman Herbert said the State would cover the full costs. The submission needed to be made by August 26. He made a **motion** to approve submission of the two projects, one with a shortened series of islands on Route 4. Chairman Walker said the Planning Board should review it again. He noted that the letter from NHDOT requesting

project submissions was dated July 28. Selectman Hoyt suggested separation the two projects; he agreed with the Whittemore project, but not the islands project. No one seconded the motion.

Selectman Hoyt made a **motion** to submit the Whittemore Project to the State. Chairman Walker **seconded**. Selectman Herbert abstained. The **motion passed**.

Chairman Walker made a **motion** to not send the islands project to the State. He wanted the Planning Board to reconsider the project and reduce the scope, then prepare to send it to the State in 2 years time when the next window for NHDOT projects opens. No one seconded the motion.

Kimberley Edelman noted that the NHDOT application paperwork included a question about how involved the public had been in regards to the proposed project. It also requested supporting evidence including letters of support from citizens. Any letters would need to be written very soon to meet the August 26 deadline.

5) New Business

a. Senate Bill 401: Special One Time Highway Block Grant

The Town recently received a check from NHDOT in the amount of \$58,163.44. A letter from NHDOT explained that it was a special one time highway payment in accordance with "SB 401: Payment for Maintenance, Construction and Reconstruction of Class IV and V Highways". The bill became effective in July 2022. Section 338:2 of the bill directs the NHDOT to divide and distribute \$30,000,000 between all NH municipalities based on the distribution methods of Block Grant Aid "Apportionment A". It was a one time payment separate from the regular quarterly payments.

Chairman Walker noted that a Public Hearing to accept the funds was already scheduled and posted for September 7, 2022 at 7:30 pm. He said that before then, he would read the bill to learn more about how the money may be used by the Town. He would also learn if the funds could be encumbered.

b. July State Police Statistics

Chairman Walker read the NH State Police call statistics for July, as follows:

Type of Call	#	Type of Call	#
Alarm 10-52A	2	Police Information	1
Assist Citizen	2	Restraining Order Information & Services	1
Civil Matter	1	Safe School Activities	1
Directed Enforcement Patrol	2	Selective Enforcement	1
Dispute	2	Serve Subpoena	3
DWI - Alcohol	1	Sex Offender Address Verification	2
Hazardous Operator	1	Suspicious Activity	2
Medical Assistance	1	Traffic Enforcement / Motor Vehicle Stop	15
Motor Vehicle Crash w/ Injury	1	Violation Final Restraining Order / Temporary Restraining Order	1
Other Public Service / Welfare Check	1	Total Calls	41

6) Old Business

a. ARPA Funds

Chairman Walker noted that the ARPA funds were all accepted at the Public Hearing of May 19, 2021. Therefore, a second Public Hearing was not necessary to accept the second tranche.

7) Selectmen's Reports

a. Old Home Day - Thank You Volunteers!

Selectman Herbert said he thought the day went really well. The church ran out of chicken. Selectman Hoyt felt it went really well and the kids were having a great time. Reptiles on the Move was a pretty big hit. The clown was a pretty big hit. Chairman Walker said if you keep the kids there, the families will stay. If kids are bored, families go home.

Chairman Walker thanked the Old Home Day Committee and all of the volunteers. It was a good event.

Selectman Hoyt congratulated the new "Citizen of the Year", Bill MacDuffie Jr.

8) Public Comments

a. Library Water

Library Director Melissa Lesniak noted that the library was without water on Wednesday and Thursday. As the Director, she felt she should have been notified. Selectman Hoyt replied that had they known the Library water was attached to the Town Hall water system, they would have notified her. However, they did not know the two buildings shared one water system. He explained that the water had been shut off to make repairs to a leak which he had discovered while checking to see if there was a shut off for the outside sillcock.

Director Lesniak asked what other systems might be similarly impacted. There were none known.

Director Lesniak also reported that nearly 20 people shared with her disappointment in the Old Home Day Parade. Chairman Walker asked what those people did to help with the parade. It was an entirely volunteer activity. It was advertised. Everyone was welcome to participate. Director Lesniak mentioned the lack of floats. Chairman Walker asked if the Library had a float, if the cribbage club have a float, if any of those complaining had floats. He stressed again that the parade was put together by volunteers. Selectman Herbert added that they were unable to find a band for the parade. The committee worked hard on that, but was unsuccessful.

Chairman Walker said he felt one of the reasons they don't have more people volunteering in Town was because when they do volunteer, the 20 people who didn't do anything complain about the work that the volunteers did.

Selectman Hoyt said he spent a lot of time on the Old Home Day. By Monday, he was exhausted.

Director Lesniak said she would like to have a float in the parade next year.

Dora Rapalyea said she was on the the OHD Committee representing the church. She went to the meetings. She said that 6 people put on the event. She felt instead of complaining, people should step up and help out.

Director Lesniak noted that circulation increased to 244 in July, up 50%. She believed that was due to the increase of people moving to Salisbury. She wanted to figure out how to get more of them involved. Selectman Herbert said getting volunteers is a challenge. Selectman Hoyt noted that meetings are open for people to attend. Director

Lesnisk said she will help get communications out, market ideas, etc.

Chairman Walker said the 6 people on the OHD Committee were on the edge of not wanting to do it again. Negative feedback is discouraging and not helpful. Selectman Hoyt said he hadn't heard any negative feedback.

Director Lesniak said her niece and mother-in-law had a blast. She did not know why people complained to her. She wondered if it was because she was new to Town.

Bill MacDuffie Jr said he observed and appreciated the amount of work that Selectman Hoyt and Chairman Walker put into the weekend Old Home Day event.

b. Old Coach Road Cut-Off

Dora and Dave Rapalyea shared that they nearly got T-boned at the intersection of Old Coach Road and Route 127 by a speeding vehicle that cut across the lawn on the dirt section. Kimberley Edelmann shared that she had also had two near misses in the same way.

The Board discussed a couple options and said they would address the problem.

c. Bobcat

Gayle Landry shared that she recently spotted a bobcat along side the Town Office building. It walked on the lawn, crossed the street, then headed into the woods.

9) Next Meeting

Marcia Murphy asked if the Budget Committee was meeting with the Selectboard at the next Selectboard meeting. Chairman Walker believed that to be the case.

Selectman Herbert made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Chairman Walker **seconded**. The **motion passed**. The next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, September 7, at 7 pm at Academy Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberley Brown Edelmann

Recording Secretary

*These minutes were approved at the Board of
Selectmen's meeting of September 7, 2022.*