



Selectmen's Meeting Summary

August 5, 2020 – Behind the Town Hall

Chairman Ken Ross-Raymond	Present
Selectman John W. Herbert	Present
Selectman Jim Hoyt	Present
Town Administrator April Rollins	Present
Municipal Assistant (Vacant)	N/A

Visitors: There were approximately 100+ residents in attendance plus Lieutenant Lavoie and Sargent Baldassare of the NH State Police

Chair Ross-Raymond opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Review & Approval of Draft Minutes:

- July 15, 2020 - Selectman Herbert made a motion to approve the July 15, 2020 meeting summary. Selectman Hoyt seconded. All voted in favor.

Signatures:

- Review Accounts Payable & Payroll Registers – Payroll & AP were available for public inspection.
- Review Accounts Payable & Payroll Registers – BOS signed.
- Yield Tax – Landry, Tax Map 256, Lots 1 & 3 – BOS signed.
- PA-28 Inventory of Taxable Property – BOS signed.
- PA-16 Reimbursement to Towns in which Federal & State Forest Lands is Situated – BOS signed.
- Intent to Cut – Emery, Tax Map 239, Lot 30 – BOS signed.

Department Updates:

- Fire Chief - Fire Chief MacDuffie, Jr. explained that he has had an offer of \$16K for the old ambulance and asked the BOS for permission to move forward with the sale. Selectman Herbert made a motion to allow the Fire Chief to move forward with the sale of the old ambulance. Selectman Hoyt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Transfer Station – TA Rollins stated Pete Ballou has asked if the door to the backhoe's garage had been completed. Manager Williams replied no, the wall is not complete and he would need help to nail it in. Chair Ross-Raymond offered to help Manager Williams. TA Rollins noted the Historical Society has requested that the Town waive the fees to dispose of their "E-waste". Selectman Herbert made a motion to waive the fees. Selectman Hoyt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: None at this time.

Old Business:

- Lighting at the Transfer Station - TA Rollins noted that the lighting at the Transfer Station should be completed by the end of this month.
- Academy Hall Doors and TC/TC stair railings – TA Rollins explained that the back door needs to be repaired, the TC/TC's door needs to swing out instead of in to be in compliance with the safety audit and the railings need to be repaired now that they are being utilized for curbside service. The Board suggested contacting Ralph Platte for an estimate.

Selectmen Report: None.

Town Administrator's Report:

- Budget Recommendation for 2021 – TA Rollins asked if the Board would like to make a recommendation to Department Heads so they can start preparing their budgets for 2021. The Board asked that this be placed on the September 2, 2020 meeting agenda.
- Backhoe Repairs – TA Rollins stated the Town has received a bill for the backhoe repairs in the amount of \$2,387.04 dollars and asked if the Board would approve the funding come from the Transfer Station Capital Reserve Fund (CRF). Selectman Herbert made a motion to authorize payment to Beauregard for the backhoe repairs in the amount of \$2,387.04 dollars, with the funds to come from the Transfer Station CRF. Selectman Hoyt seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board took a fifteen (15) minute recess until 6:30 p.m.

Public Hearing @ 6:30 – Tire Disposal Fees – Chair Ross-Raymond opened the Public Hearing at 6:30 pm. Selectmen Herbert read aloud the proposed fee schedule that was printed on the meeting agenda. Selectman Herbert noted these fees are being set to simply recuperate the costs of residents throwing tires away for which the Town is charged. Selectman Herbert made a motion to approve the new tire disposal fee schedule effective immediately. Chair Ross-Raymond seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:38 p.m.

Public Informational Meeting – Police Coverage – Selectman Herbert explained that he would be moderating the meeting which would follow the spirit of “Robert’s Rules of Order”.

Chair Ross-Raymond stated he would like everyone to understand that the decision in regards to policing is not up to the Selectmen. It is up to the people (Legislative Body) and the Town can provide information, but it is your choice to vote. Chair Ross-Raymond said the additional policing can be on the Town’s warrant as a warrant article or it can be submitted as a petition warrant article and there are deadlines for both.

Selectman Hoyt stated that residents have approached us for extra coverage in our Town and asked what other options there may be, such as to utilize another Town’s police or increase the hours for the State Police. Selectman Hoyt noted some people are in favor and some are opposed, so he would like to see some kind of middle ground. If enough people are interested in increasing the policing it needs to be done as a Town, but it should be put to a vote.

Selectman Herbert noted that if residents would like to establish a committee they can or the BOS could establish one under their authority. They could hold meetings until March, but whatever is proposed will be in the Town Report.

Chair Ross-Raymond introduced Lieutenant Lavoie and Sargent Baldassare of the NH State Police.

Mary Heath asked if there are problems with the service we are receiving now? Chair Ross-Raymond replied no, residents are not asking to establish a police department and there have been some questions/comments on “Facebook” regarding additional policing. The Town receives four (4) hours of coverage weekly currently. Chair Ross-Raymond noted Salisbury has been without a police department for ten (10) years and the State Police do a great job.

Larry Sparks stated the decision for additional policing should be based on data. Larry Sparks asked how Salisbury compares to other Towns. Selectman Hoyt replied yes, but we have to get that data first. Larry Sparks stated it seems like there is bad blood in the Selectmen’s meeting minutes and we need to be sure the data is accurate which is just my view.

Selectman Herbert explained that the Town gets monthly data from the State Police and read the total number of incidents from the report for the month of April. Selectman Herbert noted Salisbury’s numbers are substantially lower than most communities.

Chair Ross-Raymond stated he has the data for the past year and read the statistics which are reflected below.

Police Department Comparison						
	Salisbury	Boscawen	Franklin	Andover	Webster	Warner
Population	1,382	4,000	10,000	2,400	1,872	2,833
Police budget	\$19,800	\$608,513	\$3,000,000	\$212,194	\$258,000	\$554,150
Full-time Officers	-	7	13 - 19	2	2	4
Part-time Officers	-	-	2	3	4	-
Calls for service past year	-	4,093	20,000	2,758	700	4,022
Calls for service State Police past year	327	202	170	227	60	707
Total # calls for service	327	4,295	20,170	2,985	760	4,729
Average # monthly calls for service	27	357	1,680	248	63	394

Judy Elliott explained that six (6) years ago she tried to reinstate the police department through a petition warrant article at approximately \$60K and she had met with the Sheriff’s Department & the State Police, but the article was voted down. She is glad that this is being revisited. Judy Elliott noted the figure she provided for the article was not good and feels an advisory or volunteer committee will make a difference. Judy Elliott stated she would also like to see a police presence, so people can be “one on one” with an officer and be more than just enforcement, but become part of the community. Judy Elliott noted she would also like to see an officer on the committee.

Marcus (Albin) Zuech stated it is normal to have a police department, the difference is that this is a small community and the coverage is different due to the density, but we have the coverage that is

comparable to our size. Brett Walker replied the statistics presented are not compared to other communities of our size or other Towns without police departments.

A Salisbury Citizen explained that she used to live in Bradford and they always knew when the police were on or off duty and where they would go or not go in Town, so having our own police department will not make a difference.

Dave Linnanne stated he called to complain regarding a dog running loose and the State Police responded in twenty (20) minutes. Chair Ross-Raymond noted that some of the response times are as low as one (1) minute but the average is sixteen (16) minutes.

Joshua Nixon asked if the Select Board would ask for a show of hands to see who is in favor and who is opposed. Selectman Herbert replied maybe after some more comment.

Joseph Landry asked how many complaints were on file and TA Rollins replied one email. Joseph Landry stated the State Police are doing a great job (applause) and we are trying to fix a problem and there is no problem. Joseph Landry noted there is never anyone at the Board's meetings, so where are the complaints? Selectman Hoyt replied that no one ever said a lot of residents complained.

Sal Morgani stated police won't stop crime, we would just have more people to solve crime.

Jeff Nangle stated having the State Police in Town is reassuring because we couldn't ask for any higher standard (applause).

Kelly Cote asked if this meeting was to establish an advisory committee. Selectman Herbert replied it is to hear the people's views and decide how to place the issue on the warrant. Kelly Cote noted establishing the committee will not have a cost besides the cost of volunteer hours.

Faith Partridge stated she has seen comments that the Sheriff's Department will do the extra patrols for half of the funding and also that Webster's police department is involved somehow? There was no response from anyone in attendance.

Pete Ballou stated twenty-five (25) signatures would be needed for the petition article and he is not going to say that there isn't some better option, but the Selectmen are here to make it work for you. Chair Ross-Raymond noted gathering information is usually up to the petitioners but the Town would be willing to help in anyway it could.

Lieutenant Lavoie explained occasionally they are activated by their "NAB/DOPE" hotline (narcotics unit) and there hasn't been anything significant in Salisbury but in some of the surrounding communities.

Bill MacDuffie Sr. asked if the Town has 24/7 coverage with the State Police and Lieutenant Lavoie replied yes. Bill MacDuffie Sr. noted if we had our own police we would not have 24/7 coverage. Chair Ross-Raymond noted we also do not pay for dispatch with the State Police, so that would also be an additional cost.

Selectman Herbert stated the Town recently put up the driver feedback signs and there are reports produced from those signs to show average speeds. The reports show approximately 90% of motor vehicles traveling on Route #4 speed. Selectman Herbert asked for a show of hands. A large majority of the residents in attendance were opposed to additional police coverage.

Public Comments:

- Gayle Landry thanked the Town of Salisbury for their patience and understanding while the TC/TC offices were closed and urged them if they had any questions or concerns to contact her, Jim Zink-Mailloux or TA Rollins. If there is a Selectman that has a concern about the Tax Collector's Office being closed, I hope he contacts me directly.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 6 p.m. in the Academy Hall's parking lot.

Adjournment: Selectman Herbert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM. Chair Ross-Raymond seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted:
April Rollins, Town Administrator

Meeting Summary reviewed and accepted on September 2, 2020.

Selectmen, Town of Salisbury

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