



Salisbury Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2021

Approved

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

Attendees: Over 15 citizens attended the meeting in person at Academy Hall. A few members of the public attended via Zoom.

1) Open Meeting

Chairman Brett Walker opened the meeting at 6:04 pm.

2) Meeting Minutes

Chairman Walker made a **motion** to accept the meeting minutes of March 17, 2021 with one name correction. Selectman Herbert **seconded**. The **motion passed** with all in favor.

3) Signatures

Chairman Walker noted that the Board reviewed the Accounts Payable and Payroll Registers. They also reviewed the following:

- ◆ Timber Yield Report - Chandler, Tax Map 221, Lot 15
- ◆ Timber Yield Report - Kaiman, Tax Map 248, Lot 24
- ◆ Timber Yield Report - Batchelor, Tax Map 246, Lot 7
- ◆ Intent to Cut - Nixon, Tax Map 219, Lots 42.1 & 41
- ◆ Veteran's Exemption - Boyce, Tax Map 210, Lot 3
- ◆ A Notice of Lien in the amount of \$1,628.35 dollars
- ◆ A Forest Stewardship Plan – Loffredo & Hostetler, Tax Map 231, Lot 1

4) New Business

a. Annual Cleaning Service

Town Administrator April Rollins noted that the Town had received an email reminder for cleaning of the furnaces from Huckleberry Propane along with an offer of a 20% discount. The last cleanings were done in 2014. Both the Town Hall and Academy Hall will receive service. Selectman Hoyt suggested that the thermostat at Town Hall also be checked. New wires may be needed.

b. NH State Police Statistics for March 2021

Chairman Walker read off the March statistics for calls to Salisbury:

Type of Call	#	Type of Call	#
Complaint – Animal	4	Assist DCYF	1
Burglar Alarm	3	Department Assist / Detail Required	1
Hazardous Operator	3	Mental Person	1
Civil Standby	2	Motor Vehicle Accident	1
Domestic - Past Tense	2	Road Obstruction	1
Restraining Order	2	Sex Offender Registrations	1
Burglary in Progress	1	Traffic Stop	1
DWI	1	Wanted Person	1
Request for Service	1	Welfare Check	1
911 Hang up	1		
Total for March 2021			29

c. Summer Hours for Selectboard Meetings

Selectman Hoyt suggested moving the Selectboard meetings from 6 pm to 7 pm during the summer as things are busier. Selectman Herbert thought that was a good idea.

Selectman Hoyt made a **motion** to begin holding Selectboard meetings at 7 pm starting in May. Selectman Herbert **seconded**. The **motion passed** with all in favor.

5) Department Updates

a. Road Agent

Road Agent Bill MacDuffie Jr noted that most of the dirt roads had been taken care of. Also, everything had been unposted. The Town website was updated accordingly.

b. Fire Chief

Chief MacDuffie Jr shared that the Fire Department received a grant for a new gear washing machine and a dryer. A quote received from Bergeron Protective Clothing totaled \$17,283.

It was agreed to wait until additional paperwork was received before making a motion to accept the grant.

c. Transfer Station

TA Rollins shared that the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) sent an invoice to the Town for association dues. This includes voting rights. The voting representative for Salisbury needed to be updated. Chairman Walker suggested that Transfer Station Manager Bert LaFlamme be given the option. TA Rollins would speak with Bert about it.

6) Board Committee Updates

a. Planning Board

Selectman Herbert noted that at the April 5 meeting of the Planning Board, Doug Greiner agreed to continue as the Chairman and Joe Schmidl would be Vice-Chair. The board held a Public Hearing for a subdivision at 289 New Road owned by the Jarvis family. They want to provide a lot upon which their son could build a house. The meeting was continued to April 19 as the board requested additional information from the architect. Selectman Herbert noted it was an unusual piece of property due to the shape and condition of it with wetlands and a hill.

b. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Chairman Walker continues to watch the NH Municipal Association (NHMA) website for updates regarding the act. It looks like the allocations may be distributed in two payments, not one. That would create challenges in terms of the timing of the TDS broadband project and funding. Chairman Walker asked the NHMA if the Town paid for the project with the first ARPA payment and a note, could the Town later use the second payment to pay off the note. He had yet to receive guidance on this. He also noted that the Treasury Department would not be providing any guidance until May 11, after the Salisbury Town Meeting.

Chairman Walker noted that the good news about the ARPA funds is that the money does not need to be expended until the end of 2024. The funds can be carried forwarded. According to the act, the first payments must be distributed within 60 days.

Regarding Town Meeting, Chairman Walker suggests that instead of rescinding the bond article, they ask the voters to allow the Town to borrow \$53,000 to complete the project, then pay off the loan when the second ARPA distribution is received. However, if it turns out the funds can't be used that way, other grant money would need to be found.

Selectman Herbert believed the second payment would come no earlier than a year after the first payment. If TDS didn't start the work doesn't do anything for a year, then there wouldn't be a problem. He gathered from what he heard from Scott Brooks, the project wasn't starting right away. Selectman Hoyt countered that Scott Brooks was still trying to get the details in time for Town Meeting on May 1. Chairman Walker suggested lowering the amount shown on warrant article at Town Meeting. He was concerned that the full \$120,000 would not be received in time to cover installation costs.

Chairman Walker asked Selectman Hoyt to reach out to Scott Brooks about payment scenarios in regards to ARPA payments. Selectman Hoyt said he'd do so the next day.

7) Public Comments

A member of the public said he believed Scott Brooks from TDS said that even with full funding installation of broadband would be 30 months out. Selectman Hoyt answered that Mr. Brooks said it was possibly 30 weeks out, not months. Chairman Walker said he believed Mr. Brooks noted that TDS had not applied for grants in the past

due to long timelines; he did not believe that was still the case.

Lisa Kaiman, owner of 7 Montgomery Road, addressed the board. She noted that TDS was looking at poles near her property. The TDS worker said it would be 6 to 8 months before broadband was installed. Ms. Kaiman stressed that she really truly needed reliable internet for her property in order to make her entire project work. She owns dairy cows. Her milking robot completely relies on internet. Currently, she has HughesNet, but it is very unreliable. The robot would not work well with it. Ms. Kaiman said she would vote strongly in favor of getting broadband installed. She also shared that when she purchased the property, she browsed a national website that shows where internet was available. Salisbury was listed as having internet. It didn't say Salisbury minus a small area of town.

A member of the public asked if there was anyway to have a meeting after May 11 to learn what is possible. Chairman Walker noted that while guidance was expected by that date, there was no guarantee.

Gayle Landry asked what would happen if voters voted down the broadband article; would it delay everything? Chairman Walker said he would rather not have taxpayers have to fund the broadband. That might mean waiting another year; the worse case scenario. Alternatively, they try to find funding through another portion of the act or via another grant. The more he reads, the more it looks like the \$143,000 won't be available in the next 30 days. Selectman Herbert added that according to the act, the Federal Government has 60 days to distribute funds to States and the States have 30 days to distribute funds to Towns.

Gayle Landry shared that the Friends of the Salisbury Library were announcing a town-wide yard sale to take place on Saturday, May 22. Details were still in the works.

8) Nonpublic Session

Chairman Walker made a **motion** to enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A-3:II(b) at 6:29 pm. Selectman Hoyt **seconded**. Role call vote: Walker - Aye, Hoyt - Aye, Herbert - Aye. The **motion passed**. Town Administrator April Rollins was present.

The board voted to hire Wendy Pavnick as the Recording Secretary effective April 5, 2021 at a rate of \$18 per hour with a 3 month probationary period. Chairman Walker made a **motion** to leave nonpublic session, **seconded** by Selectman Herbert. The **motion passed** with all in favor and the public session reconvened at 6:37 pm. No motions were made to seal the minutes.

9) Adjournment

Chairman Walker made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Hoyt **seconded**. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberley Brown Edelmann
Recording Secretary

These meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted on April 21, 2021

Selectmen, Town of Salisbury