



Salisbury Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2022

Approved

Selectman Brett Walker, Chair	Present
Selectman John W. Herbert	Present
Selectman Jim Hoyt	Present
Town Administrator April Rollins	Present
Recording Secretary Jennifer King	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 **motioned** that they approve the draft meeting minutes of July 20, 2022 as written. Selectman Hoyt **seconded** the motion which **passed** with all in favor.

3) Signatures

Chairman Walker noted that the Selectboard had reviewed and signed Accounts Payable & Payroll Registers. They also reviewed the following, signing as required:

- ◆ Report of cut (Map 240, Lot 29) (Barry)
- ◆ Abatement of Current Use Penalty (Map 240, Lot 37.1) (Neibling)
- ◆ Personnel Policy: Juneteenth added to holiday schedule

The documents are available for public inspection.

4) Department / Board / Committee Reports

a. **Fire Chief / Road Agent**

Bill MacDuffie Jr. asked if a resident were to purchase and install speed limit signs on their road, is that something that needs approval by the Select Board?

Chair Walker replied that he doesn't really have a problem with someone doing that, but would like the resident to

appear before the Select Board first so that is on record because the Select Board has the responsibility to maintain the road. Selectman Hoyt added that people could possibly start to put up any sign they want, which is why they would like them to go through the Board for approval.

Selectman Herbert asked when Raccoon Hill will be paved. Bill MacDuffie Jr. said he knows it's on the list, but he's not sure of an exact start date at this time.

b. Highway Department Advisory Committee

The Highway Advisory Committee updated the Selectmen on the work they have been doing recently pertaining to the future of their highway department. At the last meeting, they discussed areas of town that have property for sale they could potentially purchase. Prior to that, they conducted some research of the expenditures of comparable towns that have a Public Works Department versus a Highway Department. They also received a quote from the State for a basic bare-bones dump / plow truck.

c. Transfer Station

Chair Walker said that they have the compactor. It was installed on Friday morning. Manager Bert LaFlamme said that it is running great. Brett Walker said that they currently have a Wednesday and a Saturday's worth of trash in the container now and it is not yet 75% full. It will take time to determine how much they will save in terms of container hauling.

Selectman Herbert asked if they have come up with a solution to cover the 3-foot gap between the cement wall and the container, as this presents a significant safety hazard / liability issue. Chair Walker said they discussed a number of options, and decided that a steel barrier made of expanded steel would work the best. They would install railings as well. Chair Walker would love to have this completed before the weekend if possible. Materials costs total \$1,282.50.

Selectman Hoyt **motioned** that they accept the quote from Dan Philbrook of \$1,282.50 for materials to install a metal grate cover with railings to cover the 3-foot gap between the compactor and the cement wall at the Transfer Station. Selectman Herbert **seconded** the motion which **passed** successfully.

Chair Walker asked for input from the Selectmen about constructing a warming hut near the compactor for the employees to use in the winter. Selectman Herbert suggested that even on an 90 degree day, a place to stand out of the direct sun would be helpful. They will get some measurements and put together an RFP.

An audience member asked if they will be recycling plastics again. Chair Walker answered that they don't really have anywhere to sell it at this time. Selectman Herbert added that there is no place that will really take it for processing at this time. Chair Walker said he does encourage people to separate their glass and cardboard, as they can get money for these items, and it actually costs them if they are included with regular trash.

d. Old Home Day Committee

Selectman Herbert gave an update on the previous night's Old Home Day Committee meeting. The dunk tank for the Dunk the Selectmen booth is unavailable. Everything else is really well planned and ready to go. Selectman Hoyt added that their vendor slots are full and they are ready to go. They are still seeking people to work with the kids at the games, etc. They were on site last night and noted that they had a water leak. This was passed onto TA Rollins to be addressed.

e. Salisbury Free Library

The Trustees of the Salisbury Free Library presented the Selectmen with an update on the Library: They need the name of the contractor to remove the sign over the door. TA Rollins will send them the contractor info.

They still want to make sure they get the outside of the building washed, but they don't have anyone to do this yet. Selectman Hoyt said that it may not be a priority for this year. This year is not a great year for money and there is some work that needs to be done at the Town Hall that is more pressing at the moment. The Library Trustees are concerned about the mold that is collecting on the outside of the building.

They also need a small piece of gutter installed near the front door. Selectman Herbert said they can have someone that is doing some work for the Town to install this as well. The Trustees also expressed concern about some buckling shingles above the door as well. Chair Walker told her that they can certainly obtain pricing for pressure washing the building and go from there.

Chair Walker really feels it would be a good idea to do an audit of all of their Town buildings to determine a list of priorities. They have a small budget for building repairs and they need to figure out the best way to spend it. They should inspect the roofs of all of their buildings as a start.

Selectman Hoyt is also concerned about power-washing the building, as it can remove paint and damage the already deteriorating clapboards. Selectman Herbert said that if it is only a few hundred dollars to clean the building, that's not going to affect too many major projects.

5) New Business

a. Mango Security Quote

TA Rollins presented the Selectmen with a quote from their current alarm monitoring company to replace all of the smoke detectors installed at Academy Hall, adding heat detectors as well.

Discussion regarding the issues with the current system took place (system is old, alarm seems to sound for no reason at times. What value does it provide? Do the smoke detectors alert the Fire Department? Should they look at replacing more than just the smoke detectors?). Chair Walker does not feel that the current system holds any value because it does not alert emergency services. He doesn't want to spend \$4,000 upgrading a system and still have the same problems they currently do. He would like to see about getting a quote from another company. TA Rollins pointed out that Mango may not want anyone else working on their equipment so they may end up having to replace the security system as well.

6) Old Business

a. No Through Trucking / Whittemore Road

TA Rollins presented the Board with a copy of their current No Through Trucking Ordinance.

A resident of Whittemore Road commented about the truck traffic flying up and down Whittemore Road. The residents of that road are tired of the traffic and have concerns about safety while they are out walking with their kids.

Bill MacDuffie Jr. said it's not just Whittemore Road with this problem; it's everywhere.

Chair Walker said that this is something that would go to Town Meeting. Asking that they not allow truck traffic is

not going to eliminate the problem, but shift it to someone else's neighborhood. He suggested asking the State Police to patrol that road as well.

Selectman Herbert agreed, adding they should have one of those speed feedback signs put in the area to see if that helps incur some awareness. Chair Walker noted the costs to move it as well as to reactivate their subscription to run it again. The people who drive recklessly show zero regard for those signs, so he doesn't hold any faith in the ability of those signs to slow anyone down. Also, once people get used to the sign being there, the speed eventually picks up again. He would rather pay the State Police that money for enforcement.

Chair Walker also feels that the heavy truck traffic problem may end up solving itself as the housing boom cools off with the increased interest rates.

Bill MacDuffie Sr. suggested putting the speed limit back to 25 mph (which would be something to be decided at Town Meeting). Bill MacDuffie Jr. asked if the trucks weren't allowed on the road, would there still be a problem?

An audience member said that it would be less money put into repairing the road. Bill MacDuffie Jr. countered that the money would just go to fixing the road handling the increased traffic.

Chair Walker said that in the meantime he will ask TA Rollins to reach out to request increased patrols along the road for the time being. He also asked residents to contact TA Rollins at the Town Office if they are having a particular issue.

b. Chair Donations

TA Rollins reported to the Selectmen that they have so far received \$100 in donations for their old chairs.

c. Window Restorations

This project has been delayed due to staffing.

d. APRA / Broadband Expansion

TA Rollins reported that the 2nd Tranche Payment was received.

Eversource is still evaluating the poles, so the expansion project on North Road has been slowed.

7) Selectmen's Reports

a. Planning Board

Selectman Herbert gave an update on the Planning Board meeting held on July 25. They approved a home occupation for Chris Connors to operate a home office for her landscaping business.

b. Tucker Pond Improvement Association (TPIA)

Selectmen Herbert also attended a meeting of the TPIA to discuss the cyanobacteria contamination on the pond. The consultant they met with had some recommendations to improve the quality of the water, including improvement of the septic systems of the properties. Culverts on Warner Road were being overrun and not functioning properly. They can get some Federal environmental grants to help with these improvements, but they have to be applied for by the Town. The TPA will get the information together so that they can do this.

c. Tree Removal

Chair Walker gave a shout out to Bill Partridge for completing a challenging tree removal.

8) Public Comments

a. TDS Fiber / Broadband

Marcia Murphy asked if the broadband project has to be completed by a specific time to satisfy grant requirements. TA Rollins responded that they have 3 or 4 years for the work to be completed.

b. Cemetery Signs

An audience member stated that the cemetery signs are up with the exception of one.

9) Town Administrator's Report

a. SB 239

TA Rollins read to the Selectmen the SB 239 audit notification requirement that only recently became effective.

b. Highway Block Grant Fiscal Schedule

TA Rollins reported that the first payment has been received in the amount of \$20,675.02.

They will receive a second payment in October for about the same amount, one in January 2023 and another in April 2023 for \$13,783.35 each, for a total of \$68,917.72.

Marcia Murphy asked what happens to the grant money. TA Rollins answered that it goes into the general fund and is presented on the revenue side of the budget. It is not for any specific purpose.

10) Nonpublic Session

Chairman Walker **motioned** to go into nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Selectman Herbert **seconded** the motion. Roll-call vote: Hoyt-aye; Walker-aye, Herbert-aye.

The Board entered nonpublic session at 8:04 p.m. and reconvened the public session at 8:14 p.m.

Chairman Walker announced that the Board unanimously voted to appoint David Raplayea as the Salisbury Town Treasurer at the current rate of pay, effective Monday, August 15, 2022.

The minutes of the nonpublic session meeting were not sealed.

11) Next Meeting

Chairman Walker made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. Selectman Herbert **seconded**. The **motion passed**. The next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 7 pm at Academy Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer King

Recording Secretary

*These minutes were approved at the Board of
Selectmen's meeting of August 17, 2022.*