

**SALEM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016, 7:00 P.M.
SALEM TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

PRESENT

Kevin Lyden, First Selectman
Stuart Gadbois
David Kennedy

ABSENT

Edward Chmielewski
Robert Ross

1. CALL TO ORDER:

First Selectman Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 2, 2016, Regular Meeting

M/S/C: Gadbois/Kennedy, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2016 with the following amendments:

Page 3, Item 5(b), 2nd line from bottom:

... and that, while the Town does have ~~along~~ *a long* tradition and...

Page 4, Item 5(b), 6th line from top:

... Member to the ~~Democratic Town Committee~~ *Board of Finance*....

Page 4, Item 5(b), 2nd line from bottom:

...vacancy and the Town's political committees were able to work together ~~and~~ in an effort to do...

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

4. CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A. Salem Fire Department Turndown letter

The Salem Fire Department's application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) being offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate to replace their current 28-29 year old fire truck was denied. As such, one of the members of the Fire Department attended a workshop on September 1, 2016 to obtain information regarding the current year's grant and priorities. Should the truck not meet the current year's qualifications, First Selectman Lyden would like to request that the item be placed on the Capital Plan. He commended both of the Fire Companies for stretching the life of their vehicles and expressed the need to support the volunteers of the Town.

First Selectman Lyden also expressed his appreciation and commended the Town's Emergency Responders as well as those from surrounding towns who not only risk their lives on a daily basis, but also helped put out the recent fires at 343 Old Colchester Road. A notice was sent out last week informing the townspeople that an investigation is being conducted by the Connecticut State Police and a reward of up to \$2,500.00 is being offered for information leading to an arrest or conviction. He urged anyone with any information to contact the Connecticut Arson Hot Line at 1-800-84ARSON.

M/S/C: Lyden/Gadbois, to add the following item to the Agenda:

Item 5E Schedule Amnesty Days at Transfer Station for October 8, 9 and 12, 2016.

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

5. AGENDA:

- A. Appoint Kimberly Bradley to Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission – Alternate Position (see attachment A).

M/S/C: Lyden/Gadbois, to appoint Kimberly Bradley as an Alternate Member of the Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission. Discussion: Ms. Bradley is a Soil Scientist and Ecologist who is looking forward to serving on the Commission. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

- B. Appoint Marshall Collins to Multi-Purpose Path Committee (see attachment B)

M/S/C: Lyden/Gadbois, to appoint Marshall Collins to Multi-Purpose Path Committee. Discussion: Mr. Collins, an avid runner and hiker, looks forward to serving on this Board of Selectmen-appointed Committee. The bridge is in the process of being constructed and there is an active proposed STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) Grant for this fiscal year. Salem Land Trust President Linda Schroeder is also considering meeting with the Committee to create a booklet of all of the paths located in the Town. First Selectman Lyden felt that Mr. Collins would be a nice addition to the Committee. In response to Selectman Kennedy, who requested that the Committee provide input welcoming or accepting Mr. Collins into the Committee prior to his appointment, First Selectman Lyden expressed his appreciation of his comment and reminded him that the Committee is a Board of Selectmen-appointed Committee. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

- C. Authorize the First Selectman per Section 5.05 A7 to file for State Clean Diesel Program Grant

The Town is seeking to replace a 1991 Ford F-350 Diesel Truck through the Federally-funded State Clean Diesel Program Grant. If awarded, the Grant would fund 25% of the

cost of the replacement of qualifying vehicle(s). The Board of Finance has also been made aware of the application.

M/S/C: Kennedy/Gadbois, to authorize the First Selectman to file for the State Clean Diesel Program Grant to replace the 1991 Ford F-350 Diesel vehicle, per Section 5.05 A7 of the Town Charter. Discussion: Should the Town receive the Grant, the Board of Finance would need to make an additional appropriation and, being under \$30,000.00, a Town Meeting would not need be required to obtain approval for the purchase. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

D. Tax Refunds

M/S/C: Gadbois/Kennedy, to direct the Town Treasurer to issue refunds, recommended and certified by the Tax Collector, as presented to the Board of Selectmen in the amount of \$2,363.39 (two thousand three hundred sixty-three dollars and thirty-nine cents) on the 6th day of September 2016. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

E. Schedule Amnesty Days at Transfer Station for October 8, 9, and 12, 2016.

M/S/C: Gadbois/Kennedy, to schedule Amnesty Days at Transfer Station for October 8, 9, and 12, 2016. Discussion: Residents were reminded that mattresses and electronics can now be recycled and may be brought in at any time. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor.

6. **REPORTS:**

A. First Selectman

First Selectman Lyden announced that the United Way Mobile Food Pantry will be at the back of the School tomorrow evening from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. He reported that 84 families, several of which are from Salem, benefited from the Mobile Food Pantry last month. With this in mind, he stated the importance for the Town to watch their spending and find ways to be more efficient with their funds. The Mobile Food Pantry distributes food every first Wednesday of the month.

The Salem Seniors held a luncheon at Witch Meadow Campground with a guest speaker from the Eastern Connecticut Transportation Consortium (ECTC), who presented a new program offering door-to-door service for seniors, age 60 and over, with 36 one-way vouchers for medical transportation for \$24.00. Vouchers will be available for half price to Salem Seniors members.

Members from O'Connor Davies Accountants and Advisors have been working in Town Hall to finalize the Town's audits. Preliminary audit figures indicate that the General Government has underspent by \$200,000.00 during fiscal year 2015-2016 — a

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great achievement by all of the Boards/Commissions within the General Government. A presentation will be provided to the Board in the near future. He expressed his appreciation to all of the departments who work diligently to enhance services and increase efficiencies in an effort to be good stewards of the townspeople's money.

He encouraged the people of the Town to get involved by volunteering as an emergency responder or joining as a member of one of the many Town organizations, including the Historical Society, Lions Club, Friends of the Library, and PTO. He thanked the volunteers who have been active with the Town, adding that the Town truly does run on volunteers.

1. Board of Education (BOE)

Former BOE Chair Stephen Buck was thanked for his service and Michael Siebert, an experienced member of the Board, was welcomed as the new Chair.

2. Board of Finance

The Board of Finance is beginning to review the Capital Plan with each of the departments. The First Selectman commended the Board in their efforts to create consistency within their Capital Plan, for maintaining a healthy Unassigned Fund balance, and doing a good job in projecting the State's cuts.

B. Economic Development – *no report*

C. Library Board

The new Librarian Vicky Coffin has entered into her second week on the job and is doing well.

D. Planning & Zoning Commission

The Commission is currently working on revising the regulations for Age-Restricted Housing. Commissioner Joseph Duncan was elected Chair and Commissioner Vernon Smith was elected Vice Chair of the Commission.

E. Recreation Commission

The summer programs have come to a close. Fall Soccer and Fall Ball are now underway and the Trick or Trunk event has been scheduled. The public was encouraged to visit the Town website for recreation opportunities for families, children, and adults.

F. Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission – *no report*

8. ADJOURNMENT

M/S/C: Kennedy/Gadbois, to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by: Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Salem