

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 5, 2013
7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Kevin Lyden, Robyn McKenney, Elbert Burr, Robert Ross, Lewis Buckley

CALL TO ORDER: K. Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Approval of Minutes

M/S/C (Ross/Burr) to approve the Board of Selectmen, February 5, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

Page 2, **G. Discussion Disposal of Town Owned Property Valued at Under \$500.00**

R. Ross stated he would like a notice to go to departments that the First Selectman has this authority and this should be flagged in the Charter for *possible future* revision.

Page 2, **I. Discuss Village Center Zone**

Omit: (See page 5)

2. Correspondence/Public Comments:

Resident Maryann Casciano addressed the BOS concerning the relocation of the community garden. She would like to see a plan in place for the garden, and not have it moved again in the future. The Zemko property or the Community Park was mentioned for the garden. She stated the purchase of the Zemko property was an excellent opportunity for the Town, but would like to see a committee formed to work on a long range development plan for the property. Maryann stated she would like to volunteer to be on the committee if one is formed. She feels the property should be an enhancement for the Town.

3. Agenda Additions or Revisions:

Additions to agenda and lettering:

- F. Employee Salary Issue**
- G. Tax Collector Refunds.**

M/S/C (Ross/McKenney) to approve the addition and lettering of agenda items.

Vote: approved unanimous

4. Agenda

A. Schedule Annual Town Meeting for May 1, 2013

M/S/C (Ross/Buckley) to schedule the Annual Town Meeting for Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the multi-purpose room at Salem School.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

B. Schedule Special Board of Selectmen Meeting

M/S/C (Ross/Buckley) to schedule a Special Board of Selectmen Meeting for Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 6:00 PM, Salem Town Hall for review of the General Government Budget.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

C. Approve Emergency Election Procedures, Registrars of Voters

M/S/C (Burr/Ross) to approve the Salem Emergency Election Procedure as presented by the Salem Registrars of Voters effective upon approval and acceptance by the Connecticut Secretary of State's office.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

(See attached)

D. Recommend to the Board of Finance \$10,000 insurance reimbursement be appropriated to the Recreation Commission

M/S/C (Burr/McKenney) to recommend appropriation in the amount of \$10, 022.85, to Department 5-645-645, Recreation Commission maintenance line.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

(See attached)

E. Appoint Will Spang to EDC

M/S/C (Lyden/Buckley) to appoint Will Spang to the Economic Development Commission.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

F. Employee Salary Issue

M/S/C (Ross/Buckley) the Board of Selectman recommends the salary for the First Selectman be increased to \$70,000.00 annually in the Town general government budget for fiscal year 2013-2014.

Vote: For: R. Ross, L. Buckley, R. McKenney, and E. Burr. Opposed: K. Lyden

Motion carries.

(See attached)

R. Ross stated the salary for the position of the First Selectman is not sufficient for the amount of effort that is involved with the position. The incumbent First Selectman has not been consulted on this matter.

K. Lyden stated he was uncomfortable with the motion, but it does matter for the future of recruiting for the position of First Selectman.

L. Buckley stated the salary should be increased to attract residents into the position in the future.

R. McKenney stated it will show that the position of the First Selectman is valued for the Town. It is a very important position with a lot of responsibility.

G. Tax Collector Refund(s)

M/S/F (Ross/Burr) for the Board of Selectmen to direct the town Treasurer to issue refunds recommended and certified by the Tax Collector as presented to the Board of Selectmen on March 5, 2013 in the amount of \$542.62.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

(See attached)

5. Reports

A. First Selectman –

Mary Ann Chinatti, CZEO, Planner, Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer for the Town of Salem has accepted a position in Thompson, CT. She will be leaving the end of March. K. Lyden thanked Mary Ann for 10 years of service to the Town of Salem.

K. Lyden has enlisted SCCOG for use of their planners when needed by the Town of Salem.

K. Lyden updated the Board on the purchase of the Zemko property. Cars have been removed from the property. Debris still needs to be removed and the buildings need to be swept before the property purchase can be finalized. The back building will be used for Public Works; Recreation, library and the School will be able to have storage at the site. The use for the buildings in the front of the property has not been determined yet. A section of the property might be used for the community garden.

The school construction should be completed in 2013 and the trailers will be gone from the old library site shortly after.

B. Public Works – The town crew took down two trees at the Community Park.

C. Building Department- No report.

D. Salem School Building Committee- E. Burr informed the Board the project is moving ahead. Selection of equipment has been ordered; change orders have been involved and approved; and discussion has taken place on the alarm system, doors locks, etc. The 1940 part of the school is scheduled to be completed in early June, and the bulk of the project will be done over the summer.

- E. Board of Education** – R. McKenney reported at BOE meeting the technology for the school was discussed. The technology upgrade plan and will be presented to the BOF. The school calendar for 2013-2014 has been set; February vacation has been omitted. It is set to coincide with the regional and East Lyme calendar. A safety forum will be held in East Lyme on March 20, 2013.
- F. Board of Finance**- The budget work has started for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. Meetings will be held on March 14, 21, and 28 for the budget. The grand list has increased slightly.
- G. Planning and Zoning Commission** – E. Burr reported the P&Z Commission has discussed their general rules and regulations; the driveway ordinance was approved. A discussion was held on the POCD.
- H. Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission** – The owners of the Salem Town Center attended the past meeting to discuss the issues of the litter into the wetlands. They will need to submit a plan of action to the Commission.
- I. Economic Development Commission**- R. Ross reported the Commission has met with the Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce to help promote Salem for business. There are retail opportunities in the town for businesses. A pamphlet will be worked on for distribution to showcase Salem.
- J. Zoning Board of Appeals** –Approval was given for Congdon’s Garage for a business to reopen at the site.
- K. Recreation Commission** – Summer programs are being planned. Two bus trips will be offered; May 11 will be New York City and May 19 will be the Bronx Zoo. Please go to salemct.gov for more information.
- L. Public Safety**- No report.
- M. Transfer Station** – The old compactor will be relocated to the recycle area. By doing this, it is hoped to save \$500 to \$600 a month.
- N. Library Board**- L. Buckley reported there is a small increase in use at the library. The library is a resource; they are looking for ways to use the library as a community center. Their budget has been finalized and will be presented to the BOF. The job descriptions have been approved and finalized. A draft is being put together for a library survey for distribution.
- L. Buckley asked if SCCOG for planning and zoning is temporary until a replacement can be found.
- K. Lyden stated he will need to discuss options with the Planning and Zoning Commission. He will have the Commission members visit SCCOG to view the options available.
- R. Ross stated the service from SCCOG has been used before when he was in the First Selectman position and was very pleased with the services provided.

6. Public Comment

S. Spang thanked the Board for approval of the Emergency Election Procedures.

S. Spang updated the Board of the Unsung Hero Award. The banquet will be held on April 7, 1:00PM at the Gardner Lake Fire Company. Linda Parker and Sue Spang have tickets available for purchase.

Norm Rabe stated he thought the proposal for the increase of the First Selectman's salary is very important and the Town should not underpay for what they expect to receive.

7. Future Action Items

Adjournment

M/S/C (Ross/Burr) to adjourn at 7:50 P.M.

Vote: Approved Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted

Diane Weston

Recording Secretary