

**Town of Salem
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
September 6, 2011**

Present: James Fogarty, Kevin Lyden, Robyn McKenney, Elbert Burr

Absent: Robert Ross

Call to order:

K. Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

Kevin Lyden thanked the town hall staff, public works, resident state troopers, and emergency personnel at both firehouses for keeping the residents safe during Hurricane Irene.

The 10th Anniversary of 9/11 is approaching, Kevin Lyden asked residents to take the time to reflect and honor the families that lost so much that day.

The pledge of alliance was recited.

M/S/C (Fogarty/Burr) to add the minutes of the Board of Selectmen Special Meetings on August 8 and 23 to the agenda. Vote: approved unanimously.

1. Approval of Minutes

M/S/C (Fogarty/Burr) to approve the Board of Selectmen August 2 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: approved unanimously.

M/S/C (Fogarty/McKenney) to approve the Board of Selectmen August 8 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: approved unanimously.

M/S/C (McKenney/Fogarty) to approve the Board of Selectmen August 23 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: approved unanimously.

M/S/C (McKenney/Burr) to approve the Board of Selectmen August 31 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Vote: Robyn McKenney, Elbert Burr, Kevin Lyden approved; Jim Fogarty abstaining.

2. Correspondence/Public Comments:

K. Lyden announced tickets are available for the Salem Volunteer Fire Company Chicken & Rib dinner for September 17. Please purchase your tickets ahead of time; no tickets will be sold at the door.

Correspondence – None to report.

Public Comment – Chief Eugene Maiorano spoke on behalf of the Salem Volunteer Fire Company and Gardner Lake Fire Company, thanked Kevin Lyden for his availability and work during Hurricane Irene. He also stated that the public works crew stationed at the firehouses was very helpful during the storm.

3. Agenda Additions or Revisions:

No Agenda Additions or Revisions.

4. Agenda

A. Hurricane Irene Update

K. Lyden informed the Commission on how the Town responded during the storm. The firehouses were opened for showers, hot coffee, ice, and food. Approximately 300 residents used the facilities.

Signs were put up at the transfer station along with informational handouts at town hall to help residents. Newspapers were contacted daily with information from the town.

Interim superintendent Kay Griffin delayed the start of school until September 6.

On the Town of Salem website is a hurricane awareness list.

S. Spang called residents ahead of the storm that would need electricity due to medical reasons and made them aware they could be out of power for several days.

During the storm, the fire departments responded to calls for sump pumps. Residents should be aware they would need their own generator for their use.

The emergency personal will not be put at risk during a storm.

J. Forgarty asked if a write up could be done for the town residents to help them prepare for the next storm.

Hurricane Irene caused the Town to have storm related expenses.

Seventy-five percent of these expenses should be reimbursable by FEMA.

M/S/C (Fogarty/Burr) for the Board of Selectmen in accord with section 10.11 of the Salem Town Charter, approve the initial public emergency expenditures recommended by the First Selectman in the amount of \$24,513.12.

Vote: approved unanimously.

There was no major damage done to any town property.

Peter Sielman asked K. Lyden to update the CL&P response during the storm.

K. Lyden informed the Board the town was first informed by CL&P a crew would be in Salem to help get the roads open. At 6:00 A.M. Sunday morning, the CL&P liaison arrived which was very helpful, however, the information given to her by CL&P was very limited. By 4:00 P.M. Monday two work trucks arrived in Salem, only to be pulled out of Salem two hours later to go to other towns. K. Lyden felt as though the communication was very poor.

B. Set Amnesty Days at Transfer Station

M/S/C (McKenney/Burr) for Amnesty Days to be November 2, 5, and 6, 2011 at the Salem Transfer Station.

Vote: approved unanimously.

C. Tax Collector Refunds

The report from the Tax Collector was reviewed.

M/S/C (Fogarty/Burr) for the Board of Selectmen to direct the town treasurer to issue refunds recommended and certified by the Tax Collector report dated September 6, 2011 in the amount of \$64.03.

Vote: approved unanimously.

(See attached)

5. Reports

- A. First Selectman** – The pavilion has been ordered. It should be delivered by October 1. Two bids have been received; a third one is needed for installing the pavilion.

A walk through meeting will be held tomorrow for the sidewalk project. Three to four bid packages have been distributed.

K. Lyden has increased the insurance general liability for the Town of Salem to \$6,000,000.00. After discussion with the selectmen, he will increase that amount to \$10,000,000.00.

A Minimum Budget Requirement of \$77,000.00 is needed for the school. The amount needs to be funded even though it might not get used. A penalty could occur if the requirement is not funded. Peter Sielman asked if the MBR could be avoided by capital items to the School's budget. K. Lyden informed him it probably could be but it would be too late for this year.

- B. Public Safety** – The Resident State Troopers were both on duty during the hurricane. They worked 12 hour shifts.

Discussion took place concerning the non-functioning lights at Salem 4 Corners and the tree that fell on route 85 during the storm. DOT said they are instructed to put cones out in troubled areas. The Town of Salem crew put out the stop signs at the Salem 4 Corners and the one lane road signs on Route 85.

- C. Public Works** – D. Bourdeau asked when the brush pile will be closed on the Gadbois Property.

- D. Board of Finance** – The BOF is now a full board; there are no open spots. The auditors are working with the BOF.

- E. Board of Education** – R. McKenney reported CMT scores were in. Salem students did well and scores had improved. A new elementary math program is being introduced. The new interim superintendent Dr. Kay Griffin seems to be working out well. "No child left behind" was discussed at the meeting. The lead custodian is staggering work hours so the different crews will have direct contact with him.

- F. Planning and Zoning Commission** – An outside teller machine is being installed at Chelsea Groton Bank. Discussion was held at the P&Z meeting concerning the dumpsters and deliveries in the back of the building. Public Act 11.79 applies to bonding on subdivisions. A 6 month moratorium for subdivisions is slated to starting October 1, 2011. There will be a public meeting on September 27.
- G. Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission** – No report.
- H. Zoning Board of Appeals** – No report.
- I. Library Board** – No meeting in August.
- J. Recreation Commission** – The Red Sox baseball game was cancelled due to the hurricane. There will be a New York City “Day on Your Own” October 1, 2011. Seats are still available. Zumba will start in October.
- K. Economic Development Commission** – No report.
- L. Salem School Building Committee** – The new boilers are installed on concrete platforms; October 1, 2011 is the finish date for the furnace project. However, that date might change due to losing a week because of the storm. The second part of the renovation project is in the planning stages.
- M. Building Department** – No report.
- N. Transfer Station** – K. Lyden reported Gary Alligood did a good job during the aftermath of the storm.

6. Public Comment

None

7. Future Action Items

1. Town Events Policy – Work will start on this policy due to the installation of the pavilion.

Adjournment

M/S/C (Forgarty/Ross) to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Diane Weston

Recording Secretary