

**Town of Salem  
Board of Selectman  
Regular Meeting  
March 1, 2011**

**Present: R. Asafaylo, J. Fogarty, K. Lyden, R. McKenney, & R. Ross**

**Call to order:**

**K. Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:30, introduction of Diane Weston as recording secretary and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

February 1, 2011 Regular Board of Selectman Meeting

**M/S/C (Fogarty/Asafaylo) to approve the February 1, 2011 minutes as presented.**

Page 2 B. Vision Committee, D. Asafaylo stated the end of the paragraph 4 “and try to make it less vague.” should be removed.

**M/S/C (Fogarty/Asafaylo) to approve the minutes as amended. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

February 3, 2011 Special Board of Selectman Meeting

**M/S/C (Fogarty/Ross) to approve the February 3, 2011 minutes as presented.**

The “t” in Selectman was omitted from the title.

**M/S/C (Fogarty/Ross) to approve the minutes as amended. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

**2. Correspondence/Public Comments:**

Jim Savalle informed the BOS the qualifying criteria of GLVFC and SVFC for the annual incentive program will be the same as prior years.

Peter Sielman had comments on the following:

1. Congratulations to Bob Ross on the editorial in The Day newspaper.
2. Discussions have and will take place with towns in Connecticut for a portable Virtual Town Meeting so towns can share one system. Attendance has increased for the VTM use.
3. If K. Lyden could discuss the Route 11 toll booths.
4. Concerning the last town meeting if a Parliamentarian might be considered to assist with the town meetings. Could it be put on the call for the town meeting?

**3. Agenda Additions or Revisions:**

Add:

F) Titon Electric Pricing

G) Conduct at Town Meetings

**M/S/C (Fogarty/McKenney) to add items F) Titon Electric Pricing and G) conduct at Town Meetings to the agenda. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

#### **4. Agenda**

**A. Endorse Additional Appropriation to Salem Volunteer Fire Company for \$8,096.00 to Repairs Account #0222-054-5499.**

**1. Direct \$1,150.00 February endorsement to Repairs Account #0222-054-5499.**

**M/S/C (Lyden/Ross) to approve requested funds for additional maintenance items for the SVFC. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

See attached letter dated February 13, 2011 for repair listing.

A request was submitted from the SVFC and GLVFC for \$1,150.00 from the FEMA Civil Preparedness Fund be moved to the equipment account.

**M/S/C (Lyden/McKenney) to direct \$1, 150.00 that was appropriated at the February 1, 2011 BOS meeting to SVFC Equipment (account #0222-054-5499).**

**Vote: Approved Unanimously**

#### **B. Appoint Salem School Building Committee**

K. Lyden informed the BOS the SSBC is now being formed. Members are Elbert Burr, John Bernier, Robert Green, and Steve Buck. He would like to have 5 or 6 members on the committee.

**M/S/C (Asafalo/McKenney) to appoint Elbert Burr, John Bernier, Robert Green, and Steve Buck to the Salem School Building Committee. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

#### **C. Vision Statement**

The draft revision for the Vision Statement has a typo error on page 2 of 2: it should read “provide” not “provides”.

**M/S/C (Asafaylo/Fogarty) to adopt the resolution for the Vision Statement as follows:**

**1. Resolved that the Salem Vision Statement be endorsed by the Salem Board of Selectmen on March 1, 2011.**

**Vote: Approved Unanimously**

**M/S (Asafaylo/Lyden) to adopt the resolve as follows:**

**2. Resolved that all Salem boards, Commissions, Standing Committees and validly appointed ad hoc committees, are strongly encouraged to embrace the Salem Vision Statement endorsed by the Board of Selectmen On March 1, 2011 ad strategic principles in the conduct of all tasks and deliberations within their jurisdiction.**

B. Ross suggested “strongly encouraged” be replaced with “shall”.

Discussion took place that the BOS cannot be authorities with the Vision Statement.  
K. Lyden stated any changes will need to go back to legal for review.

R. McKenny stated she felt the word of “embrace” should be replaced with another word. The word “consider” had previously been discussed. B. Ross suggested “follow”.

**M/S/C (Asafaylo/Lyden) to withdraw motion to approve the resolution at this time.**

**Vote: Approved Unanimously**

Members were asked to forward to K. Lyden suggestions for replacing the word “embrace”. Once that is done, the resolution will be sent back to the town attorney. R. McKenny asked if this could be put on the agenda for the BOS Special Budget Meeting (date to be determined).

J. Fogarty reviewed with everyone the “balances with natural resources” in the Vision Statement. The line in question had been removed.

Janet Griggs explained more about circulation of the Vision Statement. The Vision Committee suggested putting the final version in “Our Town Salem”, posted in Town Hall bulletin board, newspaper article, and printed copies available in the Town Hall corridor. D. Asayfalo suggested have the statement put on the town website and a letter be sent to the groups surveyed for the statement.

Commissions and Boards will receive copies. B. Ross suggested a cover letter should be signed by the First Selectman. Janet will be the contact person for K. Lyden for the Vision Committee. The BOS will rework the wording for the Special Budget Meeting, send the resolution to legal, and then discuss the resolution at the next BOS Regular Meeting.

D Asayfalo had 4 titles for discuss for the Vision Statement:

1. Enforcement of statement
2. Review meeting minutes
3. Quarterly meeting
4. Review

K. Lyden stated there will be no enforcement by the BOS for the Vision Statement.

J. Fogarty suggested if other BOS are on other committees, they could see how that committee is dealing with the Vision Statement.

K. Lyden stated meeting minutes are public record and are available to everyone. If the Vision Committee feels the need to monitor the results of usage of the Vision Statement, that one of their committee members could easily do that.

Janet Griggs stated once the Vision Statement was adopted, the Committee will be disbanded.

R. McKenny suggested the Boards have a goal oriented report in terms of the Vision Statement. POCD is state mandated item under P&Z which will be monitored by the Town Planner. Some of the Vision Statement blends with the POCD.

K. Lyden stated it will be hard to show measurable results of the Vision Statement.

B. Ross suggested the annual report is the best place for the selectmen to ask all departments to comment on the Vision Statement as it pertains to their departments.

**D. Set Special Meeting Date To Review**

The BOS Special Budget Meeting will be held on March 8, 2011 at 5:00pm.

The agenda will be:

1. Special Budget Review
2. Discussion of Vision Statement Issues

**M/S/C (Fogarty/Ross) to hold the BOS Special Budget Meeting on March 8, 2011 at 5:00pm.**

**Vote: Approved Unanimous**

**E. Tax Collector Refunds**

Statement reviewed from the Tax Collector.

**M/S/C (Fogarty/McKenney) for the BOS to direct the town treasurer to issue refunds recommended and certified by the Tax collector report dated 3.1. 2011 in the amount of \$1,967.70.**

**Vote: Approve Unanimous**

**F. Titan Energy Electricity Pricing**

CL&P's lower pricing for municipalities was not what the BOS thought it was going to be. Discussion concerning the electric rates between a one, two or three year contract took place.

K. Lyden recommended the three year contract to secure the rate.

**M/S/C (Asafaylo/Fogarty) to authorize the first selectmen K. Lyden to enter into a multiyear contract with Titan Energy Company as proposed in the letter dated February 25, 2011 for three years. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

**G. Conduct at Town Meetings**

Discussion took place concerning the conduct at the Town Meeting between the residents and the moderator.

D. Asafaylo suggested a trained skillful moderator be used. He also stated the audio was not suitable for home use and better equipment for this might want to be purchased. He also stated he felt the presentation to the public and there was no charge at the meeting to keep order. The petitioners asked for a side by side comparison between the first plan and the second plan.

R. McKenney felt that the communication for the petitioner as to what they could present at the meeting was not made clear to them. It was clear the petitioners did not know what was expected of them. R. McKenny asked if the selectman should have more of a role at the meeting.

J. Fogarty stated the process did not run smooth, rethinking of the moderator and use of the Virtual Town Meeting should be addressed. A side by side comparison could not have been done with two very different plans. He felt as though Plan A was very broad with a lot of assumptions; plan B seemed clearer.

B. Ross stated the moderator has control of the meeting. BOS is deliberately kept out of the running of the town meeting. The opportunity was offered in the meeting for the petitioners to state their case. He felt having two authority figures at the meeting could be problematic.

K. Lyden suggested the moderator have an assistant to run the Virtual Town Meeting part of the meeting. The petitioner files a petition with the Town Clerk but the BOS sets the meeting agenda. He also stated the Town charter states the moderator is in charge of the meeting.

Peter Sielman informed the BOS that John Butts, who served as moderator, requested that he run the laptop for the meeting. Peter suggested a parliamentarian be used to assist the moderator. He suggested it be put on the call so the town can decide if they want a parliamentarian.

Gene Maiorano said he felt as though the residents could have their say at the meeting. The petitioner should have done their research and presented their comparisons. He felt by using the Virtual Town Meeting, it makes the meetings longer.

## 5. Reports

- A. **First Selectman** – Thank you to the town crew and emergency responders over the past two months for keeping us safe with many weather related issues. The Gadbois property now has two addresses, 89 Norwich Road and 24 Forsyth Road. This was needed for recognition for each area for emergencies. The fields will not be named. The office that was used for the Probate Court Room will now be Conference Room 3.
- B. **Public Works** – The weather over the winter will put the town crew behind on their work this spring. They will tackle their work list as the weather breaks. The town is responsible for mail boxes if the plows physically hit the mailbox. The town is not responsible for mail boxes knocked down by snow. Residents should have their mailboxes on sturdy posts. Thank you to the residents for helping make the snow removal an easier task.
- C. **Building Report** – No report.
- D. **Salem School Building Committee**- Members appointed earlier in meeting. See 4. Agenda B, page 2 of 5.
- E. **Board of Education** – The BOE approved their budget, they will present it to the BOF this Thursday. K. Lyden has a packet that has their past mid-year evaluation, action plans and the 2011-2012 school calendar for any BOS member to review.
- F. **Board of Finance** – Busy working on the 2011/2012 budget.
- G. **Planning and Zoning Commission** – Sue Spang will inform the BOS with updates.
- H. **Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission** – Sue Spang will inform the BOS with updates.
- I. **Economic Development Commission** – Two buildings on Hartford Road (Salem Four Corners) will be taken down by the end of March. B. Ross informed the commission that K. Lyden, Peter Sielman, and David Bingham did a great job testifying before the Transportation Committee. The committee was very receptive to the use of tolls to fund the completion of RT 11.
- J. **Zoning Board of Appeals** – No report.
- K. **Recreation Commission** – No report.
- L. **Public Safety** – No report.
- M. **Transfer Station** – The expense to have the compactor replaced has been placed in the Capital Plan. By going to single stream recycling, the town is spending less money getting rid of garbage and receiving more money on recyclables.

- N. **Library Board** – A partial budget will be presented to the BOF. The Library Board is asking for increases on salaries, equipment and maintenance service fees. The expense of the placement of the refurbished cupola on the old library will be approximately \$5,000.00. The building department will need to see if the building is structurally able to hold the cupola.
- O. **Town Vision Committee**- See 4. Agenda C, page 2 & 3 of 6.

**6. Public Comment**

None

**7. Future Action Items**

- BOS Yearly Calendar “Tickler List”
- Town Offices Computer Network
- Town Events Policy

**Adjournment**

**M/S/C (Fogarty/Asafaylo) to adjourn at 8:54**

**Vote: Approved Unanimously**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Diane Weston**

**Recording Secretary**