

**TOWN OF SALEM
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
SALEM TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

PRESENT

George Householder, Clerk
Deborah Cadwell
Marshall Collins
Janet Griggs
Hernan Salas
Will Evanson, Alternate
John Houchin, Alternate (*seated*)

ABSENT

TJ Butcher, Chairman

GUESTS

none

CALL TO ORDER:

Clerk Householder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: *none*

SEAT ALTERNATE IF NEEDED:

M/S/C: Griggs/Salas, to seat Alternate Member Houchin for Full Member Butcher. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1) Letter from First Selectman Kevin Lyden
- 2) Letter from Treasurer Pam Henry
- 3) Letter from Governor Dannel Malloy addressed to the Secretary of Office of Policy and Management Benjamin Barnes regarding the municipal aid accounts and State's budget. (*read into the record by Board Member Collins*)

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: *none*

AGENDA:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 8, 2017 BOF Meeting

M/S/C: Griggs/Collins, to approve the Board of Finance Regular Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2017. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.

2. TREASURER'S REPORTS

- A. REVENUE SUMMARY**
- B. TRIAL BALANCE**
- C. FUND BALANCE**
- D. OTHER**

The *Balance Sheet* and *Budget vs. Actual* reports (*see file copy*) were reviewed. Clerk Householder will inquire regarding the reasoning behind the negative numbers indicated in the *Balance Sheet* and the derivation of the \$8,133.00 indicated in line item 4-097-070 – Miscellaneous, Insurance Claims/Refunds and the oddities with some of the numbers indicated in line item 5-105 – Salaries on the *Budget vs. Actual* report.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

4. SELECTMAN'S REPORT

In lieu of First Selectman Lyden, who is on vacation, Clerk Householder provided the Selectman's Report. The Fiscal-Year 2016-2017 Audit is scheduled to take place on the week of August 28, 2017. Between \$175,000.00 to \$185,000.00 is expected to be returned to the Town from the General Government. The Mobile Food Pantry served an all-time record of 160 people in 50 minutes, which is concerning due to the current fiscal crisis.

5. DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO INFORMATIONAL LETTER TO SALEM TAXPAYERS CONCERNING STATE BUDGET ISSUES

Discussion ensued regarding the Board's submission to the next issue of *Our Town Salem* and the inclusion of the numbers. Board Member Collins was agreeable to doing so, but felt that a note indicating that the numbers are approximate should be stated. Board Member Griggs felt that a note should also be included that the Town cannot dictate, by State Statute, the budget for the Board of Education. The article will include the Governor's letter, as recited earlier, a pie chart, and the five (5) bulleted items. Clerk Householder will be meeting with the First Selectman to further discuss and finalize the article. Board Member Collins also introduced the possibility of submitting a Letter to the Editor to the local newspaper(s) to expand their effort and reach other readers.

An impromptu visit by Senator Cathy Osten incited a brief conversation regarding such topics as the recently passed labor agreement, current State employee numbers, teachers' pensions, the State's municipal aid funding in relation to the unassigned fund balance of each municipality/town, and the State budget. She is hopeful that the budget will be finalized by the second week of September. Clerk Householder expressed his wish for a more bipartisan effort with the budget. Board Member Collins commended Senator Osten on her hard work as a Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman and the Board thanked her for time.

ADJOURNMENT:

M/S/C: Collins/Houchin, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.

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