

**TOWN OF SALEM  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.  
SALEM TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

**PRESENT**

Kevin Lyden, First Selectman  
Edward Chmielewski  
Stuart Gadbois  
David Kennedy  
Robert Ross

**ABSENT**

*none*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, First Selectman Lyden presented Selectman Ross with a plaque in recognition of his outstanding service and leadership to the Town of Salem as a former First Selectman and member of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Ross thanked the Board, stating that he has enjoyed serving the Town over the past ten years, during which they have accomplished many things. He also expressed his appreciation to the First Selectman for his leadership and doing a great job.

Selectman Chmielewski requested a moment of silence in honor of the First Selectman's mother, Eleanor Marie Lyden, who recently passed away.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, First Selectman Lyden congratulated and expressed their pride and appreciation to all of the Townspeople who ran for Boards and Commissions.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. October 3, 2017 Regular Meeting

**M/S/C: Ross/Gadbois, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2017 with the following amendments:**

**Page 1, Item 5, last sentence:**

Selectman Ross also suggested posting the information *on* the Town website...

**Page 2, Item 6A, third sentence:**

Selectman Kennedy, who is *in* favor of...

**Page 2, Item 6B, first sentence:**

The Town is currently... made up of members *of* from the towns of ...

**Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company Chief Jim Savalle reported that each of the Resident State Troopers would be receiving new AED Defibrillators for their vehicles along with training/refresher training. In addition, through the Town's Safety Committee, each of the Town Hall, Library, and Public Works staff members will be receiving AED training/refresher training. Estimated at \$1,500.00 - \$1,600.00 each, the purchase of the defibrillators is being funded through the Town's Ambulance Funds. The career staff currently maintains the 24 defibrillators located throughout the Town. He thanked Selectman Ross who played an active role in starting the Lifesaver Program and acquisition of the defibrillators.

Selectman Chmielewski thanked him for his service.

**6. AGENDA:**

**A. Update Board of Selectmen on Storm Restoration**

First Selectman Lyden reported that he is working with Eversource to remedy the protocol issues encountered following the recent storm, including the timely cutting and clearing of trees and making the roads safe for travel and the order of energizing the Town, which should begin with the Fire Companies, Town Hall, and Salem School. While Eversource has been trimming more trees and installing hardened wires, trees caused 95% of the Town's outages.

Selectman Ross expressed his appreciation to the First Selectman and Public Works Department for their hard work. First Selectman Lyden thanked him, adding that both the Public Works and Emergency Services do a great job.

**B. Oath of Office Ceremony – November 15, 2017**

Everyone was invited to attend the upcoming Oath of Office Ceremony next Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. E-mail and snail mail invitations will be sent tomorrow. Those unable to attend will need to take their Oath of Office with the Town Clerk. A program and cake, coffee, and water will be served.

**C. Recreation Commission Vacancy**

Newly appointed Recreation Commission Chairperson Teri Natoli expressed her delight in serving on the Commission and reported that Alan Maziarz, who currently runs the Town's youth basketball program, was approached and has expressed an interest in serving on the Commission. She also reported that the Commission might be seeking interested candidates to fill a possible additional upcoming vacancy. She is looking forward to promoting the health and wellness of the Town through the Commission.

**M/S/C: Ross/Kennedy, to appoint Alan Maziarz to the Recreation Commission.**

**Discussion: Selectman Kennedy commended Mr. Maziarz, who, he felt, would do a very good job. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.**

First Selectman Lyden requested that she thank former Recreation Commission Chairperson Sue Spang for her years of service on the Commission.

In response to Selectman Chmielewski who commended the Commission for their hard work, Chairperson Natoli responded that their accomplishments are made possible with the help of “many hands”, including Public Works.

**D. Tax Collector Refunds – none**

**7. REPORTS**

**A. FIRST SELECTMAN**

First Selectman Lyden reported that the State has finally passed the budget and the Town is slated to receive funding of new and re-authorized programs by the end of the month. While there are still some moving numbers, the adopted fiscal year 2017-2018 budget for Salem, according to the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, will be a 4.4% decrease or approximately \$150,000.00. While the Town is within budget for this fiscal year, there is some concern for the future. He provided the Selectmen with the *Adopted Fiscal-Year 18 State Budget Impact*, which discusses such items as the structural changes made in the budget, the Davis-Bacon Act, ECS Funding, and Teacher Retirement System.

**B. BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE)**

The BOE and First Selectman will be requesting the Board of Finance for an extension and additional direction regarding their respective proposed tier cuts, as requested by the Board of Finance, based on the State budget.

**C. BOARD OF FINANCE**

The Board will be meeting tomorrow and begin reviewing any future Capital Requests.

**D. PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

The Commission has been continuing their discussion regarding cluster developments and is planning to hold a Public Hearing on January 16, 2018 to discuss the Cluster Development Regulation, Expansion of a building with non-conforming setbacks, Accessory Apartment approval, and Temporary Healthcare Structures.

First Selectman Lyden commended the Commission on a doing a great job and making the Regulations clear and understandable.

**E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

The Commission is continuing to work on their strategic five-year plan and business plan. Selectman Gadbois and Elbie Burr attended an interesting *Fundamentals in Economic Development* Workshop hosted by the City of Groton.

**F. RECREATION COMMISSION – none**

**G. LIBRARY**

Selectman Ross commended the Friends of the Library, who raised approximately \$6,300.00 at their recent Annual Used Book Sale. The Book Sale reflected a true community building event that engaged the help of the Salem Library Knitters; Clamshell Quilters; over 50 adults, including 6 non-Salem residents; three Girl Scouts, and; members from the Our Lady of the Lakes Church. Selectman Gadbois commended them on their accomplishment, taking into account the effects of the internet and the increase in the digital book sales.

Selectman Ross also reported that the foot traffic in the Library is up by 1,300 patrons and a new big screen television has been installed behind the counter, advertising their upcoming events. He commended the Library on a phenomenal job.

First Selectman Lyden added that, though the Town does not have a designated Community Center, the Library, along with both of the Fire Companies, serves as the Town's unofficial Community Center with all of the community activities that take place at those locations.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/C: Ross, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Discussion: Selectman Chmielewski expressed his pleasure in working with and learning from Selectman Ross over the years. Selectman Ross stated that he would continue to be available to help and serve the Town in any way necessary. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Salem