

**TOWN OF SALEM  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 19TH, 2020 – 7:15 P.M.  
SALEM TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

**PRESENT**

Kevin Lyden  
Edward Chmielewski, Jr.  
Ron LaBonte  
Hugh McKenney  
Terri Salas

**ABSENT**

*none*

**ALSO PRESENT**

Atty. Brian Estep

**CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Lyden called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*E-mail public comment to [SelectmenPublicComment@salemct.gov](mailto:SelectmenPublicComment@salemct.gov)*

No comments were received via e-mail or the white dropbox located in front of Town Hall.

**3. AGENDA:**

**A. Executive session with legal counsel regarding legal strategies for current lawsuit  
The Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. v. Town of Salem pursuant to  
C.G.S. Section 1-200(6)(B).**

- M/S/C LaBonte/Chmielewski to enter into Executive Session with Atty. Brian Estep at 7:21pm
- M/S/C McKenney/Salas to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:30pm and resume the Special Meeting

**B. Review and Adjust Town Counsel Budget for FY 2020/2021**

**(Discussion and Action)**

- M/S/C McKenney/Chmielewski request the Board of Finance to consider increasing the Legal Counsel, Town Issues (Line 5-126-208) by \$20,000 for the Fiscal Year 2020/2021
  - Selectman McKenney felt it was important to add sufficient funds to the Town Counsel Budget due to the lawsuit by Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company and suggested requesting an additional \$50,000 to the Town Counsel Budgets. Other Selectmen agreed to requesting additional funds for the Town Counsel Budget. Discussion ensued and Selectman Lyden felt that \$20,000 would be adequate at this time. The Board of Selectmen wanted it to be known that they are supportive of the \$50,000 appropriation and were in agreement to endorse additional requests as needed.

**Voice Vote, 5-0, all in favor**

**C. Review and Approve Emergency Responders Awards**

**(Discussion and Action)**

- Approved Emergency Responders Awards as submitted with allowing First Selectman Lyden to review points and approve additional awards to those who were called away for Military, COVID or work related issues beyond their control.

**M/S/C Chmielewski/Salas**

**Voice Vote, 5-0, all in favor**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S/C: LaBonte/Salas, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m.**

**Discussion: None.**

**Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.**

**Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Meredith Eisenberg, Recording Secretary for the Town of Salem