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**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MEETING OF
June 18, 2007**

7 The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Monday June 18, 2007, the Salem Town Hall, 33
8 Geremonty Drive, Salem, NH.

9
10 **PRESENT:** Chairman Everett P. McBride, Vice-Chairman, Elizabeth A. Roth, Secretary Arthur
11 E. Barnes, Selectman Michael J. Lyons, Selectman Patrick Hargreaves, and Town Manager Dr.
12 Henry E. LaBranche.

13
14 **CALL TO ORDER**

15 Chairman McBride called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and
16 introduced the Board members, Town Manager Dr. Henry E. LaBranche, and Media Specialist
17 Ms. Judy Day

18
19 **1. Meeting Minutes**

20 **MOTION:** by Selectman Barnes

21 *Motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Selectmen workshop session on May 29,*
22 *2007 as printed*

23 **SECOND:** Selectman Roth

24 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

25 The motion carried unanimously.

26
27 **MOTION:** by Selectman Barnes

28 *Motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Selectmen regular meeting on June 4, 2007*
29 *as printed*

30 **SECOND:** Selectman Roth

31 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

32 The motion carried unanimously.

33
34 **MOTION:** by Selectman Barnes

35 *Motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Selectmen Non Public Session on June 4,*
36 *2007 as printed*

37 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

38 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

39 The motion carried unanimously.

40
41 Selectman Barnes stated he wished to propose an amendment to the June 13, 2007 non public
42 meeting minutes, due to a conflict regarding the original date proposed and recorded for the
43 next meeting.

44 **MOTION:** Selectman Barnes

45 *To amend the minutes of the non public meeting of June 13, 2007 as follows:*

46 *The meeting was adjourned until June 21st at 6:30 p.m.*

1 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

2 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

3 The motion to amend carried unanimously.

4
5 **2. Chairman Comments**

6 Chairman McBride announced the following appointments which were agreed during the non
7 public session held prior to tonight's regular meeting:

- 8
9 • Steve Diantgikis, Alternate Member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment – term to
10 expire in April 2010
11
12 • David Tilton, Regular Member to the Council on Aging – term to expire in April
13 2010
14

15 **3. Public Hearing – Accept Financial Gift – Salem Youth Baseball**

16 Selectman McBride declared the public hearing open at 7:10 p.m. Dr. LaBranche invited
17 Recreation Director, Ms. Julie Kamal to request the Board accept a gift of \$5,000 from Salem
18 Youth Baseball.

19
20 Ms. Kamal introduced herself and explained that the monies offered would go towards the
21 purchase of playground equipment for Michele Memorial Park. There being no public input
22 Chairman McBride declared the public hearing closed.

23 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

24 *Move in accordance with RSA 31:95(b) to accept a donation in the amount of \$5,000 from*
25 *Salem Youth Baseball towards the purchase of playground equipment for Michele*
26 *Memorial Park*

27 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

28 Chairman McBride commented he did not agree with a suggestion that fees should be
29 charged to the leagues.

30 **VOTE:** 5-0-0
31

32 **4. Circle Rental Management, LLC - Request to Rename Meisner Circle to Rosewood**
33 **Drive**

34 Dr. LaBranche explained that a request had been received from Mr. Larry Jacobs, owner of
35 Circle Rental Management, to rename Meisner Circle. He invited Mr. Jacobs to explain his
36 request.

37
38 Mr. Larry Jacobs, 16 Fox Run Way, Salem introduced himself and provided some
39 background regarding when he and his wife had purchased the seven buildings (comprising
40 42 apartments) on Meisner Circle, Salem. He also explained that the previous owner had
41 allowed the buildings to get into a state of disrepair and had not completed landlord checks
42 on the tenants, and that the Police and Fire Departments had attended the buildings for a
43 variety of reasons over the years. The result is that the area has a bad reputation in the
44 community and Mr. Jacobs stated he was having difficulty letting the properties.
45

46 He further explained his goal is to keep the properties as an investment and he is committed

1 to improving their condition, citing examples of improvements he has instituted, and is in the
2 process of evicting tenants who have been a problem. Mr. Jacobs explained that over 50% of
3 the units have three bedrooms which are hard to find and he has a lot of good tenants who are
4 happy to see the changes he has instituted. He pointed out there are no other properties on
5 the street and his prime reason for requesting the change is that he is experiencing financial
6 hardship trying to overcome the previous reputation and negative stigma the street has, as
7 prospective tenants are put off by these, and he stated he thought a name change would help
8 him turn the properties around.

9
10 Selectman Hargreaves quoted from RSA chapter 231, stating his only concern related to
11 conforming to the enhanced 911 telecommunications systems and how a name change will
12 affect public safety agencies. Dr. LaBranche explained the Town has previously made a
13 name change and that it is necessary to notify local and state emergency agencies. He
14 explained that doing so would not cost the Town any money.

15
16 Selectman Hargreaves explained his company recently did work on the properties and
17 therefore would abstain from voting. He confirmed Mr. Jacobs and his wife have done good
18 work on the properties.

19
20 Selectman Barnes stated he did not think the emergency services would agree to change the
21 name to Rosewood, as suggested by Mr. Jacobs, due to a street of this name already existing
22 in Town.

23
24 Chairman McBride agreed the work being done will turn things around and Mr. Jacobs
25 should continue with his good work, however he did not agree with the street name change.

26
27 Selectman Roth clarified that Chairman McBride was not in favor of the change and Dr.
28 LaBranche clarified the Board would not be voting on the issue this evening. He explained
29 the procedure which they would have to follow, culminating in a Public Hearing at a future
30 date, at which the Board would take action.

31
32 Selectman Roth recommended Mr. Jacobs go ahead and pursue the name change as she
33 thought the Town should try to lose Meisner Circle. She had read that Mr. Jacobs was trying
34 to find an old name from the old Town of Salem and stated she thought that would be a nice
35 touch.

36
37 Mr. Jacob asked whether a completely new street or sub division would be treated in same
38 way as the procedure outlined by Dr. LaBranche for 911 purposes and Chairman McBride
39 confirmed that it would.

40
41 Selectman Lyons stated he did not wish to see the Board of Selectmen get into changing
42 street names.

43
44 Selectman Hargreaves requested that Mr. Jacobs be provided with a copy of Chapter 321
45 which Dr. LaBranche agreed he would do. Selectman Hargreaves then suggested Mr. Jacobs
46 contact Mrs. Beverly Glynn of the Historic District Commission for help with historic street

1 names. Selectman Hargreaves quoted from Chapter 321, reiterating Selectman Barnes
2 previous comments about a conflicting name of Rosewood and the emergency services not
3 accepting this name.

4 .
5 **5. Request for Waiver – SMC 253 – Sewage Disposal Systems & Wells**

6 Dr. LaBranche explained that a request had been made by Ms. Suzanne Anganes of 81
7 Shadow Lake Road (who was in attendance at the meeting) for a waiver of SMC 235-7(F)
8 regarding the location of her septic system in relation to Shadow Lake which is a wetland.
9 He referred to the information which had been included in the Board's packets. Dr.
10 LaBranche stated that the Health Officer, Mr. Brian Lockard approved the waiver and was
11 here to answer questions if required by the Board.

12
13 Ms Anganes introduced herself and provided a summary of her request.

14
15 ***Discussion:***

16 Selectman Barnes stated that as representative on the Conservation Commission he could say
17 that these types of systems are generally treated favorably as they have an additional chamber
18 for filtration. Dr. LaBranche stated that the Zoning Board of Adjustment had granted the
19 waiver subject to the Board of Selectmen's approval.

20
21 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

22 ***Move in accordance with SMC Chapter 253-14 (Waiver) to grant the request of Suzanne***
23 ***Anganes for a waiver of the provisions of Salem Municipal Code Chapter 253-F(1) –***
24 ***Hydric B Soils to allow the distance of the proposed septic tank be within 60 feet of the***
25 ***wetland where 75 feet is required***

26 **SECOND:** Selectman Barnes

27
28 Chairman McBride explained the request pertained to a clean solution septic system and
29 referred the audience and viewers to the web site information.

30
31 Selectman Roth asked Mr. Lockard to talk about the safety of the system.

32
33 Health Officer, Mr. Brian Lockard introduced himself. He stated that the installation at 81
34 Shadow Lake Road meets all setbacks except for the tank, and added that the owners are
35 installing an additional leach field. He confirmed his recommendation to accept the waiver.

36
37 Selectman Roth asked for clarification that this system would not pose any health issues and
38 Mr. Lockard confirmed that there should be no problems if maintenance is carried out as
39 recommended. Selectman Roth recommended approval of the waiver with a notation on the
40 plan that the homeowners should maintain the system and a discussion took place during
41 which the Board was informed how the system works and that the maintenance contract is
42 already included with the purchase of the system.

43 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

44
45 Chairman McBride declared a five minute recess at 7:32 p.m. to prepare for the next agenda
46 item, declaring the meeting in session again at 7:43 p.m. He explained he would move to

1 item 7 on the agenda and delay item 6 due to technical difficulties
2

3 **6. National Grid – Hazard Tree Mitigation Program (previously item 7)**

4 Dr. LaBranche explained he had met with Mr. John Upham of the National Grid to discuss a
5 new program they have established to identify trees which pose a hazard to electrical wires,
6 referring the Board to the information in their packets and handing over to Mr. Upham.

7 Mr. Upham introduced himself and Ms. Joan Callahan, explaining that what National Grid is
8 proposing in Salem is not what happened in Haverhill.
9

10 Ms. Joan Callahan, Program Coordinator of the NE Hazard Tree Mitigation Program for the
11 National Grid introduced herself, providing an overview of the hazard tree mitigation
12 program and highlighting the following:
13

- 14 • Trees being identified would be outside the normal zone routinely maintained.
- 15 • The program is designed to identify the worst circuits with tree outages.
- 16 • 85% of tree failure occurs from outside of the pruning and maintenance zone.
- 17 • They want to identify those trees with potential to fall due to damage, obtain
18 permission from owners to prune them and explain to owners what their intention is.
- 19 • The trees are then marked for trimming or removal.

20 Ms. Callahan referred to maps in the Board's packet and spoke about the number of
21 customers who would be affected by one tree in an area falling.

- 22 • They would accept refusal from anyone not wishing to have a tree dealt with.
- 23 • They will work with the DPW in Town to identify potential problem trees.

24 Ms. Callahan stated that Mr. Moldoff did not object to National grid talking to residents. She
25 explained how the arborists would work, stating that wood would be left for homeowners
26 own use if they wish.
27

28 ***Discussion:***

29 Selectman Roth commented that the program seemed to strike a balance between utility and
30 retaining the character of streets and roads. Ms. Callahan clarified for Selectman Roth that
31 they would be looking for trees which are damaged and rotting which have a potential for
32 causing a problem.
33

34 Mr. Callahan explained for Selectman Hargreaves they could probably start the program in
35 two to three weeks time. Dr. LaBranche clarified for Selectman Hargreaves that National
36 Grid would be responsible for the cost of police details.
37

38 In response to Selectman Barnes, Ms. Callahan stated it was possible they might expand the
39 program to the rest of the community, but it would not happen in this fiscal year.
40

41 In response to Selectman Roth, Ms. Callahan explained that when they begin removal of the
42 trees depended on how the permissioning goes.
43

44 Dr. LaBranche confirmed they would have to co-ordinate construction activity in North
45 Salem with this work.

46 Chairman McBride stated he hoped they would work with residents as best they can.

1 Dr. LaBranche asked for a motion from the Board so that they can begin to contact customers
2 and residents.

3
4 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

5 *It is the finding of the Board of Selectmen that they are in approval with the proposed*
6 *National Grid Hazard Tree Mitigation Program for 2007as outlined by their representative*
7 *with the two circuits presented to us here tonight*

8 **SECOND:** Selectman Roth

9 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

10 The motion carried unanimously

11
12 **7. SEA Consultants – Status Report on Organics Removal Project for Water Treatment**
13 **Facility (previously item 6 on the agenda)**

14 Dr. LaBranche explained Mr. Dave Michelsen of SEA Consultants was present to provide
15 the Board with an update on the organics removal project at the Canobie Lake water
16 treatment facility, and the time was approaching for implementation of the project.

17
18 Mr. Rick Russell, DPW Director introduced himself, stating the purpose of the presentation
19 was to bring the Board up to speed with their progress, explaining that some of the
20 presentation would include information already received in April. He informed the Board
21 that they had sent out notification to businesses in Town to see who would be affected and
22 have met with businesses for informational reasons. He also pointed out that they were
23 working with clinics in the area to let patients on dialysis know about the changes. He
24 confirmed customers will get the annual water report which will include information for
25 dialysis patients.

26
27 Tony Zuena, Director of the project with SEA Consultants and Mr. Dave Michelsen, Project
28 Manager provided a presentation (attached) which included a brief history leading up to the
29 project. He explained that Salem was in minor violation of the rules at stage one but that
30 they would not meet stage 2 rules and this led to the current project. He also explained that
31 they had made modest upgrades which has modified the method of erosion control and would
32 soon modify the method of disinfection (a change from chloride to chloramines).

33
34 Chairman McBride asked about other towns using the same method and their level of
35 success, and was told that both Manchester and Massachusetts Water Resource Authority
36 have made this conversion and so far these have been successful.

37
38 Mr. Michelsen explained the next steps in the process and the schedule, together with the
39 benefits of conversion (see copy of presentation, attached).

40
41 In response to Selectman Roth, Mr. Michelsen explained that dialysis patients are affected as
42 it can cause anemia, damaging red blood cells. He explained they are preparing information
43 to be put on the Town web site to answer questions and advise those on dialysis to talk to
44 their physicians. There followed a discussion on who should receive the information and
45 how. Mr. Michelsen stated they were also working with industrial customers regarding the
46 effect on aquariums and getting the word out to stores. He pointed out that a startup date has

1 not yet been set as a Chemist needs to be hired. A discussion took place regarding the start
2 date of the Chemist and their training.
3

4 It was explained to Selectman Hargreaves that the quality of water between beginning and
5 end users would be more stable so will be improved.

6 It was explained to Selectman Lyons that about a year's worth of data and analysis would be
7 required before they are in a position to accurately state whether the interim solutions have
8 been sufficient.
9

10 **8. Salem Community Television – Proposed 2007/2008 Budget**

11 Dr. LaBranche explained that the Board had been given the 2007-2008 Budget for Salem
12 Community Television and he had invited Mr. Tom Giorrasso, Executive Director to present
13 it to the Board. He commented that the budget is on the school fiscal calendar and there is
14 discussion under way to see whether that should be on the Town calendar year budget. Dr.
15 LaBranche also pointed out the following:

- 16 • The budget is revenue neutral
 - 17 • The budget includes moving the two staff positions from part-time to full-time
 - 18 • A proposal to increase Mr. Giorrasso's salary by 4.7%
- 19

20 Mr. Giorrasso handed out additional information to the Board and made his presentation,
21 highlighting the following:

- 22 • They have been able to expand shows in the community, providing examples.
 - 23 • Examples of upgrades
 - 24 • As part of the CIP they are hoping for fiber connections in the high school to improve
25 the Town meeting.
 - 26 • Fiber connections will permit expansion for going live from various locations in the
27 school.
 - 28 • They try to expand coverage and make production value higher each year.
 - 29 • Volunteers of the year
 - 30 • Updated web site for the Town
 - 31 • Video on demand is now up and running
 - 32 • You can now get the last 60 days of meetings and they are trying to expand upon this.
 - 33 • There are three channels to get more robust streaming
 - 34 • They will ask for power back up equipment as there have been over 20 outages at the
35 high school in the year
 - 36 • Next year's spending to include CRT monitors in the Knightly Room
 - 37 • They are working on web cam for traffic and are hoping to expand it to more areas
 - 38 • Equipment upgrades include tripods to handle teleprompters
 - 39 • Staffing
- 40

41 ***Discussion:***

42 Dr. LaBranche explained for Selectman Hargreaves that there is a \$6,700 decrease in the
43 gross budget. He also pointed out that the fact that they had not filled the two part time
44 positions they probably have an Unreserved Fund Balance which will stay in the Trust Fund.
45

1 Dr. LaBranche explained for Selectman Barnes that benefits for the part-time positions cover
2 only social security and the full time position includes retirement and health care. He also
3 stated benefits would depend on what was available in the School District. A discussion took
4 place on revenues from Comcast payments for purposes of clarification.

5
6 **MOTION:** Selectman Hargreaves

7 *Move to approve the Salem Community Television budget for \$353,085.40 for the 2007-*
8 *2008 fiscal year*

9 **SECOND:** Selectman Barnes

10 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

11 The motion carried unanimously.

12 13 **9. Police Grant Application – Public Comment Requirement**

14 Dr. LaBranche explained for the Board that the JAG Program grant requires time for public
15 comment and that Deputy Chief Ganley was available to answer any questions.

16
17 Deputy Police Chief Bill Ganley introduced himself and handed out information on the JAG
18 grant for Rockingham County, explaining that Salem is one of six communities eligible for
19 the monies. He stated that they intend to apply the \$25,496 towards improving the Police
20 Department reporting software, and would be asking for less money in next year's budget as
21 a result. He explained they are still working on bids for the project and would come back to
22 ask the Board of Selectmen to accept funds. In order to meet the public comment and input
23 he explained that the application has been put on the Town web site and his e-mail address is
24 listed for comments.

25
26 In response to Chairman McBride, Deputy Chief Ganley explained that there is no State
27 requirement for standard software and their current software does not allow them to report as
28 required by the State. He explained that the majority of agencies in the State use one
29 software vendor.

30
31 Chairman McBride clarified that no action would be required by the Board this evening.

32 33 **10. Town Manager's Report**

34 *a. Set Summer Meeting Schedule*

35 Dr. LaBranche explained he had offered a recommendation on dates in his
36 Administration memo to the Board, including some dates when Dr. LaBranche will not
37 be available. He asked the Board whether these were agreeable to them according to
38 their schedules and subject to emergency meetings. Chairman McBride agreed with Dr.
39 LaBranche's proposed list to start off with. The proposed dates are:

- 40 • July 16th, 2007 – Regular meeting
- 41 • August 13th, 2007 - Regular meeting
- 42 • August 27th, 2007 - Regular meeting
- 43 • August 31st, 2007 - first budget meeting

44 45 *b. Beach Testing Results*

46 Dr. LaBranche referred to the two memos from the Health Officer, Mr. Brian Lockard,

1 which the Board had received in their packets and which included the water test results
2 from area beaches. He explained that the latest sampling tests show the bacteria levels
3 have gone down and the beaches are now open and available.
4

5 Dr. LaBranche stated he has received correspondence from Attorney Gorrow informing him
6 of a petition for declaratory judgment, permanent injunction by Salem Corporation Park
7 Associates on articles 2 and 3.
8

9 **11. Selectmen Reports/Correspondence**

10 Selectman Roth stated she wished to extend her personal thanks to the DPW Director and his
11 department for the assistance they gave in sprucing up the School House #5. She also invited
12 residents to attend the upcoming visit of the Country School House of America.
13

14 Selectman Barnes made a request through Dr. LaBranche that the DPW include a request
15 during the budget process for repair of the cannons which used to be located on the Town
16 Common.
17

18 Selectman Barnes also stated he had received feedback regarding concern that construction
19 of the Park and Ride will introduce some sort of crime into the area. He requested through
20 Dr. LaBranche that Chief Donovan consult with Pelham and Windham to investigate whether
21 those communities have encountered any problems with the Park and Rides in their area and
22 also who handles enforcement issues if those exist.
23

24 Selectman Hargreaves stated he had been contacted by residents concerned about a fence
25 being put up in the area of the Park and Ride, one of whom has two daughters and he would
26 like a fence put up. Dr. LaBranche stated he would check on this. Further discussion took
27 place regarding installation of cameras.
28

29 Chairman McBride provided an update of the perambulation of town borders, stating there is
30 only Atkinson to do and this has not yet been scheduled. He stated there would be still
31 photos and hopefully a slide show available for viewing.
32

33 **12. Old Business Tabled/Pending**

34 There was nothing to discuss under this agenda item.
35

36 • **ADDITIONS AND/OR REQUESTS BY PUBLIC OR BOARD BY VOTE**

37 There were no items for discussion under this agenda item
38

39 • **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- 40 ○ June 25, 2007-Right-to-Know Law Workshop

42 • **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 43 ○ June 20, 2007-Hose House #5 - Country School Association of America Visit

44
45 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

46 ***Motion to adjourn the meeting***

1 **SECOND: Selectman Roth**

2 **VOTE: 5-0-0**

3

4 Without further business, Chairman McBride adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

5

6 Notes/Minutes Taken by: Sandra Maxwell

7

8 Approved: Board of Selectmen

9

10 Date: July 16, 2007