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**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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**MEETING OF
March 17, 2008**

10 The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Monday March 17, 2008, at Salem Town Hall, 33
11 Geremonty Drive, Salem, NH.

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PRESENT: Chairman Everett P. McBride, Vice-Chairman, Elizabeth A. Roth, Secretary Arthur
18 E. Barnes, Selectman Michael J. Lyons, Selectman Patrick Hargreaves and Town Manager Mr. J.
19 Sistare.

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CALL TO ORDER

26 Chairman McBride began by calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He then joined the Board
27 in the Pledge of Allegiance, and introduced members of the Board and Town staff.

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1. Meeting Minutes

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MOTION: by Selectman Barnes

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*Move to accept the minutes of the Non-Public Session (public portion) on March 3, 2008
as written*

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SECOND: Selectman Lyons

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VOTE: 5-0-0

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The motion carried unanimously.

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MOTION: by Selectman Barnes

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*Move to accept the minutes of the Non-Public Session (sealed portion) on March 3, 2008
as written*

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SECOND: Selectman Lyons

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VOTE: 5-0-0

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The motion carried unanimously.

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MOTION: by Selectman Barnes

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Move to accept the minutes of the Regular meeting on March 3, 2008 as written

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SECOND: Selectman Lyons

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VOTE: 5-0-0

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The motion carried unanimously.

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2. Chairman Comments

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Chairman McBride stated it had been his pleasure to serve as Chairman of the Board of
Selectmen for the last year, thanking the residents who had voted in the election and for
electing him for another 3 year term. Selectman Lyons thanked Mr. Sistare for a successful
Town Meeting.

1 **3. Board Organizational Meeting**

2 a) *Elect Officers*

3 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

4 *Move to nominate Selectman Roth as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen*

5 **SECOND:** Selectman Barnes

6 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

7 The motion carried unanimously.

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9 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

10 *Move to nominate Selectman Barnes as Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen*

11 **SECOND:** Selectman Roth

12 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

13 The motion carried unanimously.

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15 **MOTION:** by Selectman Barnes

16 *Move to nominate Selectman Lyons as Secretary to the Board of Selectmen*

17 **SECOND:** Selectman Roth

18 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

19 The motion carried unanimously.

20
21 Selectman McBride then handed over the Chair to Selectman Roth as new Chairman.
22 Chairman Roth thanked the residents for their confidence in the Town's leadership,
23 stating the Board would go forward continuing to resolve the Town's problems.
24 Selectman Lyons congratulated Chairman Roth.

25
26 b) *Discuss Selectmen appointments to boards & committees*

27 Chairman Roth asked members of the Board to provide her with their suggestions for the
28 boards and committees they will be asked to serve on by Thursday.

29
30 c) *Review Board of Selectmen Bylaws/Code of Ethics*

31 **MOTION:** by Selectman Hargreaves

32 *Move not to amend the current Board of Selectmen Bylaws/Code of Ethics*

33 **SECOND:** Selectman Lyons

34 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

35 The motion carried unanimously.

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37 **4. Accept Grant/Gift – Police Department**

38 Captain Sean Patten, Salem Police Department introduced himself, providing information on
39 the grant for \$2,478 received from the NH Highway Safety Agency.

40 **MOTION:** by Selectman McBride

41 *Move in accordance with RSA 31:95(b) to accept a grant in the amount of \$2,478.00 from*
42 *the NH Highway Safety Agency to be used by the Police Department as part of the NH*
43 *Clique it Campaign*

44 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

45 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

46 The motion carried unanimously.

1 Captain Patten also provided information on a \$1,000 grant received from Wal-Mart which
2 will be used to purchase a laptop computer and software for the Community Services Unit.

3 **MOTION:** by Selectman McBride

4 *Move in accordance with RSA 31:95(b) to accept a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 from*
5 *Wal-Mart of Salem to be used by the Police Department, Community Services Unit*

6 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

7 At the request of Chairman Roth, Captain Patten explained that both grants had been applied
8 for by the Police Department.

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

10 The motion carried unanimously.

11 Chairman Roth thanked the Police Department for their efforts to obtain grants and save the
12 Town money.

14 5. Town Meeting Follow-Up

15 Chairman Roth thanked residents who attended the Town Meeting, stating she thought some
16 very informative decisions had been made at the meeting. She then requested input from the
17 other Board members on the meeting. Selectman Hargreaves stated he has acted on
18 comments received to ensure that there will be food provided for the next Town Meeting.
19 Selectman McBride stated the Board would address the issues raised by the voters at the
20 meeting, including the bridge at Pelham Road. Selectman Barnes agreed with Selectman
21 McBride, stating he was encouraged to see the turn out at the meeting. Referring to a
22 comment he had heard regarding the difficulty of voters in obtaining information, he
23 encouraged people to be vigilant and aware of what is going on with the various boards and
24 committees. Selectman Lyons agreed he thought it had been a good meeting and Chairman
25 Roth thanked Mr. Sistare and everyone involved for their participation.

27 6. Town Manager's Report

28 Mr. Sistare explained there had been an error made in the calculation of the savings made in
29 the salt expenditure, clarifying that the saving is actually \$18,000/year. He confirmed the
30 Magic Salt is working and saving money, and that there is less salt going into the
31 environment as a result of using it.

33 Mr. Sistare also made a public service announcement that the scheduled projects on Mary
34 Ann and Elsie Avenues would begin in the near future.

36 Selectman McBride and Mr. Sistare further discussed the possible future savings on salt
37 usage. Selectman Hargreaves raised a question on whether there is a relationship between
38 use of Magic Salt and the deteriorating condition of the roads, with Mr. Sistare agreeing to
39 look into the matter further.

41 7. Selectmen Reports/Correspondence

42 Selectman Hargreaves raised the following issues:

43 a) How the Town determines what items go on the agenda for each Deliberative session.

44 Mr. Sistare explained that the Charter determined these things and provided details.

45 b) Problems the Town Clerk had with the computer equipment she has. He suggested
46 replacing this equipment. There followed a discussion on this.

- 1 c) When the contract with Comcast expires – Mr. Sistare confirmed there was another four
2 or five years left on the contract. Discussion took place with Mr. Sistare agreeing to look
3 into whether the contract permits competition.
- 4 d) FEMA grants being handed out to other towns for culvert work as a result of flooding and
5 the cost of the work to be carried out on Pelham Road Bridge. There followed a
6 discussion in which Selectman McBride pointed out that the Board of Selectmen had
7 agreed to replacement of the bridges, as opposed to repair only of the culverts. Chairman
8 Roth requested Selectman Hargreaves provide the information he had received to Mr.
9 Sistare for further investigation.
- 10 e) Town policy relating to non Town employees being transported in Town vehicles and
11 whether the Town should permit its employees to transport family members in its
12 vehicles. Mr. Sistare confirmed there is nothing in Town policy to prevent this.
13 Chairman Roth requested that if Selectman Hargreaves was referring to a specific
14 instance, he should inform Mr. Sistare so that he could take the matter up with the
15 employee involved.

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17 Selectman Lyons requested a status report and time line on FMAC recommendations from
18 Mr. Sistare.

19
20 Selectman Lyons also requested information from Mr. Sistare relating to the decline in water
21 consumption and its relationship to/effect on the Fund balance.

22
23 Selectman McBride requested the Board be provided with quarterly reports across the board
24 on financials.

25
26 Selectman Hargreaves obtained confirmation that the shed from the Conservation land which
27 had been earmarked for the Field of Dreams should be moved to the Field of Dreams. He
28 also informed the Board that the Recreation Director, Mr. Chris Dillon, is currently looking
29 into the possibility of using a disused ball field for the skate park.

30 31 **8. Old Business Tabled/Pending**

32 There was none.

33 34 • **Additions and/or Requests by Public or Board by Vote**

35 Mr. S. Campbell, 22 Shepherds Avenue, Salem introduced himself. He spoke to the issue
36 raised by Selectman Hargreaves relating to Town vehicles being used to transport family
37 members, confirming he had seen an instance of this himself. He stated he was concerned
38 about this from a fiscal and liability perspective for the Town and suggested that this was
39 something the Board should look at further. Chairman Roth requested that Mr. Sistare look
40 into the matter further.

41 42 • **Upcoming Meetings**

- 43 ○ March 24, 2008
44 ○ April 7, 2008
45 ○ April 14, 2008
46 ○ April 28, 2008

- 1 • **Upcoming Events**
- 2 ○ April 12, 2008 (Boys & Girls Club Auction at the Atkinson Country Club - Tickets are
- 3 \$75)
- 4

5 **MOTION:** by Selectman Lyons

6 *To adjourn the meeting*

7 **SECOND:** Selectman Hargreaves

8 **VOTE:** 5-0-0

9 Without further business, the Board adjourned at 7:45 p. m.

10

11 Notes/Minutes transcribed by: Sandra Maxwell

12

13 Approved: Board of Selectmen

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15 Date: April 7, 2008