



# Town Manager's Report

**March 24, 2025**



**Thank you  
Salem Voters!**



**Litter Week !!  
Help Keep Salem  
Clean!!!**



**Poice Station  
Move Coming  
April 2025**

**Learn more at [www.salemnh.gov](http://www.salemnh.gov)**

**To:** Salem Town Council  
**From:** Joseph Devine, Town Manager  
**Date:** March 24, 2025  
**Re:** Town Manager's Report



## MEMORANDUM



### **News and Noteworthy:**

#### **March 11th Local Elections – Thank You, Salem Voters!**

On March 11th, Salem held its local elections, with 3,293 residents casting their votes, representing a 15.2% voter turnout. We are pleased to share that all warrant articles for the town passed. We want to extend our sincere gratitude to all residents who participated and showed their support for the town. Your engagement is essential in shaping the future of our community.

As a result of the approved warrant articles, the preliminary tax rate increase is 4.22%. This estimate is subject to further review, as the final tax rate will not be set until September or October. Based on the preliminary figures, the new town tax rate is projected to be \$5.94, reflecting a \$0.28 increase from 2024.

Thank you again to everyone who took the time to vote and be part of the process!

#### **Litter Week – Help Keep Salem Clean!**

The Town of Salem, through its Municipal Services Department – Public Works Division, will begin its annual roadside litter pickup starting the week of March 31st. We are asking for the community's help in supporting this important initiative as part of our ongoing commitment to a Litter-Free Salem, NH.

##### **How You Can Help:**

We welcome individuals, groups, local organizations, and businesses to join the effort. Volunteers will be provided with blue bags and assistance in identifying areas in need of cleanup. If you're interested in participating, please contact Kim Babaian at Municipal Services at (603) 890-2150. Blue bags will be available for pickup at 21 Cross St.

Salem is a proud member of the Litter-Free New Hampshire Program and has collected over 19 tons of litter in the past six years—that's 38,000 pounds of roadside debris, with an annual average of 3.16 tons. Your help in keeping our town clean is greatly appreciated!

#### **DPW/Police Department Transition Update**

The transition of the Police Department to its temporary facility at DPW is set to begin the week of April 7. The move will take place in phases, with the full transition expected to be completed by the end of the week or early the following week.

In preparation for the project, tree removal at the current police station is scheduled to begin around April 1. This work is expected to take 2-3 days, with some activity in the area leading up to it.

## **Emergency Management Meeting – March 21st**

On Thursday, March 21st, we held an Emergency Management meeting organized by our Emergency Management Director and Fire Chief, Craig Lemire. Representatives from Town Administration, Police, Fire, School, Municipal Services, IT, Human Services, GIS, and New Hampshire Homeland Security participated in the discussion.

This was a productive meeting focused on strengthening coordination efforts, particularly with the school system. One key initiative moving forward is the use of GIS for live mapping of road closures, downed trees, and power lines during emergency activations.

Additionally, we are in the early stages of planning a tabletop exercise for later in 2025 to further enhance our preparedness and response efforts.

## **Tax Preparation**

AARP Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free volunteer-run tax preparation service, will be available at two Salem locations this year to assist low- and middle-income taxpayers, with a focus on those 60 and older. Appointments are required. Services will be offered at the Ingram Senior Center (NH residents only) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from February 4 through April 9, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Seniors can schedule an appointment starting January 13 by calling 603-890-2190, provided they have all necessary paperwork. Centerpoint Community Church (101 School Street) will offer appointments on Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Anyone can schedule an appointment at this location by dialing 211 for assistance. Be sure to bring a completed intake/interview sheet to your appointment.

## **Salem Recreation Spring Update**

The Salem Community Services Department is excited to announce the release of our Spring 2025 Recreation Brochure, featuring a variety of programs and events for all ages. Registration opens on February 1st at [salemnh.myrec.com](http://salemnh.myrec.com).

### **Youth Programs:**

- **Rock N Fun Summer Camp:** A seven-week program for children aged 6-10, running from June 23 to August 8 at Barron Elementary School. Sessions are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM.
- **Adventure Camp:** Designed for ages 11-15, this camp offers field trip-based experiences. Registration covers the camp, with individual trip sign-ups opening in March.
- **Flag Football:** For youth aged 8-15, sessions run from April 6 to June 1 at Walmart Multipurpose Field.
- **Youth Tennis and Track:** Programs available for various age groups, focusing on skill development and physical fitness.

### **Adult Programs:**

- **Men's Basketball:** Open to ages 18 and above, with sessions throughout 2025 at various locations.
- **Dance Aerobics and Tap Classes:** Sessions for different skill levels are available from April through June at the Ingram Senior Center.
- **Adult Tennis:** Intermediate classes are scheduled from April 19 to June 7.

#### Adaptive Programs:

- Adaptive Track & Field: A program for all abilities, running from May 1 to May 29 at Salem High School Track, culminating in a meet at Dick's House of Sport.

#### Special Events:

- Annual Fishing Derby: Set for May 3rd.
- Salembraction!: Celebrating Salem's 275th anniversary on August 9th.
- Trunk or Treat: Scheduled for October 23rd at the Ingram Senior Center.
- Winter Fest: Taking place on December 11th, featuring local crafts and holiday activities.

For detailed information and to register, please visit [salemnh.myrec.com](http://salemnh.myrec.com). We look forward to your participation in our Spring 2025 programs!

#### **Items Signed on Behalf of the Town Council Since Last Update:**

- Payroll Register No. 9 (02-24-25) - \$374,188.66
- Payment Check Register (02-25-25) - \$306,299.52
- Payroll Register No. 10 (03-03-25) - \$359,713.35
- Payment Check Register (03-04-25) - \$4,027,634.61
- Payment Check Register (03-04-25) - \$4,119,413.53
- Payroll Register No. 11 (03-10-25) - \$332,406.71
- Payment Check Register (03-11-25) - \$2,216,675.74
- Payroll Register No. 12 (03-17-25) - \$438,166.23
- Payment Check Register (03-18-25) - \$3,595,952.56