

## **Town of Salisbury – Board of Selectmen Flag Raising Policy**

Whereas, the Town of Salisbury flies flags owned by the Town on Town property which is within the custody and control of the Town of Salisbury; and

Whereas, the Board of Selectmen is designated by the Town's Charter as the policy-making arm of Town government; and

Whereas the Board of Selectmen declares that the flying of flags on flagpoles or property owned and maintained by the Town is not intended to and does not serve as a forum for free expression by the public, but rather as a nonpublic forum for the display of governmental or non-governmental flags or banners authorized by the Board of Selectmen, either as required by State or Federal law or policies, or as an expression of the Town's official sentiment;

Now, therefore, the Salisbury Board of Selectmen hereby adopts the following policy regarding the flying of flags:

**SECTION 1.** The flying of flags on Town-owned flagpoles or property shall be limited to the following: the United States flag; the Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag; the Town flag; the POW/MIA flag; and flags approved by the Board of Selectmen to be flown in conjunction with official Town events or ceremonies.

**SECTION 2.** Flags shall be displayed in accordance with Federal and State statutes and regulations, including, but not limited to: United States Code, Title 4, Chapter 1 and 35 U.S. Code §902; the Federal "Our Flag" publication of the Congress, House Document No. 96-144; Chapter 2, Section 6 and 6A of the Massachusetts General Laws; Chapter 264, Section 5 of the Massachusetts General Laws; 950 CMR 34.00 et. seq; and this policy.

**SECTION 3.** Outdoor flags shall be flown on Town-owned flagpoles or property in the following order of precedence: First, the United States flag; second, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag; third, the Town flag; fourth, the POW/MIA flag.

**SECTION 4.** The Town of Salisbury flag and/or POW/MIA flag shall fly at half-staff if either the United States or Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag is ordered to be flown at half-staff. The Town Manager may order the Town flag to fly at half-staff at the death of a current or former member of the Board of Selectmen or other prominent elected or appointed official or member of the community.

This Policy was voted upon by the Board of Selectmen on January 8, 2024 and is effective immediately.