

TOWN OF SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 11, 2012 MEETING

Present: Supervisor Seth Pitts; Town Council Members: Harold Gilchrest, Bruce Ferguson; Joe Wever; Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist

Absent: Town Councilwoman, Dottie Schneider; Al Cormier-Historian; Herb Perkins-SYA; Jessica Barrett-DCO
Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Cheryl Baldwin-Georgi; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.

Public Present: Jay Bellanca; Ashleigh Morris-The Eagle Newspaper

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #4 and Highway Abstract #4 of 2012 for approval and payment

7:00 pm-Meeting called to order by Supervisor Pitts, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

Review of minutes from March 14, 2012 regular board meeting and March 29th, 2012 special meeting. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to accept minutes of March 14, 2012 as presented and to correct minutes of March 29, 2012 meeting to indicate that Councilwoman Dottie Schneider was absent at that meeting. Minutes will reflect the same. Passed 4-0

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to pay Warrants #4 and Highway Abstract #4 of 2012 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department-Report provided by Chief Graham. There were 12 calls for the month of March--3-Village of Salem (MVA's); 4-Town of Salem (1-MVA; 2-grass & brush fires; 1-chimney fire); Mutual Aid Calls: 3-Cambridge (2-standbys; 1-structure fire); 1-Shushan (vehicle fire); 1-Rupert (MVA)

Two nights devoted to rope and knot training; one night switching equipment from trucks

Total hours for year = 3,414

Report will be filed.

Courthouse-Donna Farringer reported that 100% of FEMA funding had been received. She thanked the town for netting for the damaged corner. History lectures were very well attended and as usual, Al Cormier did an excellent job with his presentation. Chamber music series starts Sunday, April 15th, with Daniel Shulman. New exhibit will begin on April 20th, featuring the works of Tom Kerr, from 5-7 pm. There will be a Kentucky Derby party at the home of Cindy Spence in Saratoga Springs on May 5th from 4-6:30 pm. Tickets are \$25/person. Open house at CCC on Friday, June 1, from 10 am-3 pm as part of the 10th Anniversary Celebration

The annual Courthouse Talent Show will be held on Saturday, June 2nd, @ 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults; \$5.00 for kids to age 18. Al Fresco dates this year will be July 28th @ 5:00 pm for the dinner and brunch will be held July 29th at noon. Tickets go on sale June 4th: \$50.00 for dinner and \$25.00 for brunch. The community garden will start being turned over on Thursday, April 12th, for the new growing season.

On motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, Supervisor Pitts closed the regular meeting @ 7:15 pm and opened the Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2012. Supervisor Pitts asked for any public comment on the Local Law and there being none, a motion was made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to adopt Local Law #1 of 2012 and instruct Town Clerk, Patricia Gilchrist, to contact Attorney Wrigley to get the necessary paperwork to file the Local Law. Roll call vote taken: Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Joe Wever-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Supervisor Seth Pitts-Yes; Councilwoman Dottie Schneider-Absent

Passed 4-0

Regular monthly meeting resumed @ 7:25 pm.

Highway-Sup't. Boisclair reported that the new, used Grad-all was here and the crew had been working with that. Paving should begin around May 1st. Report will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Cheryl reported that the first event of the season would be a birthday party to be held on the grounds on April 15th. Small water heater has been installed and LARAC funding has been received. First LARAC program will begin the third week in June and will be a writing program w/Marge Ridler and Irene Baldwin. Cheryl announced her resignation as director, effective May 1st. She would like to stay on the Georgi Advisory Board and continue on a volunteer basis with certain projects and would be glad to sit in on the new hiring process, if needed. Supervisor Pitts stated that Cheryl would be greatly missed and Councilman Harold Gilchrest thanked Cheryl for her tireless efforts on the museum collection and for working towards a future that would best serve all parties. Councilman Bruce Ferguson, along with Councilman Joe Wever and Councilman Harold Gilchrest, accepted Cheryl's resignation with many thanks and regrets.

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported there is one application for an addition to a house in Shushan; constructing a fence around property in Shushan and installing solar panels on a home on Parqui Lane. Mo had to speak to a landowner regarding junk on his property and removal of the same.

DCO-Jessica Barrett provided report. NYS Ag & Markets performed their inspection and found some paperwork to be missing. The issue has been corrected and will be available when the inspector comes back. Donna Farringer reported that a rabid raccoon had to be shot and killed by state police on Beattie Hollow Road after the raccoon bit a dog, chased some children and tried to attack Donna's husband. He sought safety in a nearby barn and the raccoon continued to scratch on the door trying to get in the barn. The police removed the carcass after shooting the animal.

Youth Ass'n.-No report.

Comprehensive Plan-No report.

Historian-No report in absence of Al Cormier.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Still going round and round with Verizon re their assessment. Al Wrigley is working with Assessor Jean McLenithan on this problem.

OLD BUSINESS

FEMA Update-Twelve and one-half percent of FEMA money **will be** paid by NYS; letter has been received that Gov. Cuomo has just released the money. Supervisor Pitts reported that he had just signed off on Mahaffy Road so the money should be forthcoming.

Letter from Sheriff Murphy-Informing the town that a deputy will be appointed as a contact person for the Town of Salem.

Economic Development Brochures-Received word from Salem Central School that they will split the cost of printing the brochures designed by Tom McMorris.

White Creek Committee-The work plan for the approximate \$313,000.00 DEC grant for flood mitigation for the Town and Village of Salem has been completed and includes work from Royce Atwater's to the trussel on Route 22. The study includes the removal of the Archibald Street bridge in the Village as part of its report.

NEW BUSINESS:

County Updates-Jay Bellanca spoke about the recent problems plaguing PVI—fraudulent reporting and morale. State says PVI could be in immediate jeopardy with in-patient, care, etc. Supervisor Pitts reported that the ban was supposed to be lifted today, April 11, 2012. The Director of Nursing is now gone, someone new is in her place and things are now getting taken care of. Jay also asked about Chaplain, Dana Hanf, from Hartford and what all the fuss is about over prayers. It is up to the Board Chairman if there is a Chaplain or not.

911 Hyper Reach Survey-has been e-mailed out.

Georgi Work Project-Supervisor Pitts, Councilman & Georgi Board representative Harold Gilchrest, and Cheryl Baldwin walked grounds of Georgi, starting at fences and worked way around; it was decided to take the fence out. No mowing bids have been received on Georgi for the coming year. It was decided to have Councilman Harold Gilchrest and Cheryl contact Peter Baldwin to see if he would be interested in taking care of the grounds for at least a month (April/May) and to finish work that was charged last year that he could not finish due to the flooding.

Notice will be put in the paper for Cheryl's position; the committee will meet to draft something for a 'Help Wanted' ad.

AUD-Legal notice was put in the paper for two weeks regarding the AUD Report--March 28th and April 4th, 2012. Copies of the report are available for review at the Town Office.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next Meeting-Wednesday, May 09, 2012, with review and signing of warrants and abstract @ 6:30; followed by opening of meeting @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk