

TOWN OF SALEM
TOWN BOARD MINUTES-DECEMBER 11, 2013
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

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

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Supt.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Bob Akland-Courthouse; Al Cormier-Historian; Lois Jasek-DCO; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Herb Perkins-SYO

Absent: Gail Bearup-Georgi Museum; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board

Public Present: Alton Knapp-Knapp Associates; Tina Fleming-Village Board Member; Janet Dupuis; Deiter Drake-Anthem Sports; Al Klein; Charlie Reiss; Ashley Morris-Eagle Newspaper

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #13 and Highway Abstract #12 of 2013 for approval and payment

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

Review of minutes from November 13, 2013 regular board meeting. **Motion** made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to approve the minutes of November 13, 2013 regular board meeting. Passed unanimously 5-0

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to pay Warrants #13 and Highway Abstract #12 of 2013 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department- Chief Bob Graham provided report for October for filing as he was absent at November 13, 2013 meeting. 14 calls for month of November, 2013. Salem-8 calls (2-priority one echo calls; 1-good intent call; 1-car vs. deer; 1-structure fire; 1-alarm activation; 2-EMS lift assist); Mutual Aid Calls: 2-Cambridge (1-stand-by; 1-fire alarm activation) 3-Hebron (2-MVA's; 1-structure fire) 1-Shushan (MVA).

Training: Driver training; truck & adapter training

Truck Repairs: Anti-freeze leak on ER 443; battery charging on Rescue 444

Meetings: Fire Department held November meeting

Total Hours for Year-8,655

Reports for October and November will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Director, Gail Bearup, absent. Councilman Harold Gilchrest reported that the Festival of Trees was doing well and the signs that Highway Sup't. Joe Boisclair donated to the Georgi and became part of the auction were making a big hit and had quite a few bids.

Courthouse-Bob Akland presented the Town with an old lithograph of the Courthouse from 1869 that will be hung in the Town Office. Bob has offered to come in and hang the same and re-arrange the covered bridge pictures so all are even. Supervisor Pitts and the Board thanked Bob for the beautiful framed lithograph.

Donna Farringer thanked the Town for the signs that are now up for the crosswalk. The annual meeting was held in November and the annual fund appeal is now going on. The annual report is almost ready and will be mailed out soon. The Christmas Bazaar was held on December 7th and both the vendors and the Courthouse did well.

Highway Dept.-Joe Boisclair, Superintendent, reported that he had found a 2014 Ford 3/4-ton diesel pick-up truck for \$28,900.00 that could be piggybacked off another Town's contract through Carbonne. The current pick-up will be put out to bid and should bring between \$4,500-\$8,000.00. Supervisor Pitts asked for a resolution to purchase the new 2014 Ford 3/4-ton diesel pick-up truck for \$28,900.00. **Resolution #57-**Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to purchase said 2014 vehicle as stated above for \$28,900.00 and to put the current pick-up truck out for bid. Roll call vote:

Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes

Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Yes

Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes

Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes

Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes

Passed 5-0

Report provided for work done from 11/14-12/11/2013 will be filed.

Historian-Al Cormier had nothing to report; he will be at year-end meeting with his yearly report.

DCO Report-Lois Jasek reported that she has two dogs that were picked up on Perry Hill Road in Shushan that should be adopted out by Friday, December 13th, or Saturday, December 14th. She will have housed them for the required five days. Lois was sworn in by Town Clerk, Patricia Gilchrist, as the new Dog Control Officer for the Town of Salem and she has also been approved by NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Planning Board-Maurice Patrick, Chairperson, absent. December meeting will be held on the 12th due to Christmas Holidays.

Comprehensive Plan-Councilwoman Dottie Schneider asked the Board to please review the current plan so review could begin in January of 2014.

Veteran's Park-Dorothy Schneider reported that the current members that have been attending meetings are Jack Barber, Richard Hickland, Nancy Higby, Al Cormier, Heather Bellanca and herself. Ron Jameson could move the trees and deposit the required amount of fill for approximately \$6,000.00. Jack Barber is checking with the Legion to see if more money is available through them and will know after the first of next year. Trees probably won't be moved at this time but will in all likelihood have to be moved before Spring of 2014. The scale model should be done by the January 8, 2014 meeting and Dorothy will check on this. **Resolution**

#58-Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to move forward with whatever meetings are necessary on Veteran's Park and to go with the press release that was provided by Supervisor Pitts to the Board with whatever tweaking the committee felt was necessary before publishing as long as Supervisor Pitts reviewed the changes to the press release. Passed 5-0

SYO-Herb Perkins reported that the Fuel Fund Dinner was very successful, with over \$3,900.00 being raised. This was the most people that had ever been served at one of their dinners. Skiing should be ready to go on January 9, 2014 and Brenda Levy will once again do the bus runs. Insurance is in place for the ski program. There will be a meeting on January 7, 2014, with Sup't. McGowan to review the results of the substance prevention survey that was taken by the 7th, 10th and 12th graders.

PUBLIC COMMENT-Janet Dupuis, a Village resident who lives on Riley Hill Road, spoke about a neighbor who continues to burn garbage in an outdoor wood furnace. She explained that the smoke is thick and very hard on the breathing and that several Village residents have talked to the homeowner several times about this problem. She knows that this is a Village problem but was seeking advice and maybe a solution from the Town because she didn't feel the Village was doing enough to address the problem. Supervisor Pitts asked her if she had called DEC as this was an air quality problem and to reach out to Officer Bob Sullivan, who is the Town's liaison with the Sheriff's Office, the next time she notices the smoke. She thanked the Town and said she would try.

Closure of Tackle Box Bridge-Mr. Al Klein was present on behalf of Mick Fiato who could not be present at the meeting. Also present was Shushan resident, Charlie Reiss. Mr. Klein wondered if both Binninger Road and Hickory Hill Road could be restricted for no trucks except local delivery. Since closure of the Tackle Box bridge, trucks are using Binninger only to find that they can't get over the little bridge by Mr. Fiato's house only to have to find a place to turn around and drive out. The trucks are tearing up the road but it is becoming hazardous on both roads with so many trucks trying to find a short-cut with the bridge out. Supervisor Pitts instructed Highway Sup't. Joe Boisclair to post both roads "No trucks except local delivery" and see if that would help the problem. Both Mr. Klein and Mr. Reiss thanked Supervisor Pitts and Mr. Boisclair for their efforts.

Herb Perkins asked if anything else had been done about a warning system for flood waters and Supervisor Pitts reported that it had not.

Tina Fleming reported that she was disappointed that a two-year extension had not been granted on the grant project.

Dieter Drake/Anthem Sports-Was present to ask the Board for a Letter of Acknowledgement/No Objection for the 10th Annual Tour of the Battenkill on April 5th and 6th, 2014, utilizing Village, Town and/or State Roads. Registration will take place on Friday, with races all day on Saturday and Sunday. There will still be a Pro Race but not as large as in the past. Anthem Sports is working with the Wounded Warriors Project and they hope to bring in someone to speak that will draw people to the race. Dieter will once again donate to our youth program. Supervisor Pitts asked for a resolution in support of the Tour of the Battenkill. Al Cormier advised that the April Fool’s Race would take place the same weekend and also utilizes Village, Town and State roads. **Resolution #59**-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, in support of the 10th Annual Tour of the Battenkill on April 5th and 6th, 2014, providing that there will be no conflict with the April Fool’s Race. Dieter will check this out with the committee for the April Fool’s Race. Passed 5-0

CORRESPONDENCE: HEAP guidelines are available through the County. \$14,577.92 has been received in mortgage tax money; this is up 3%

NEW BUSINESS:

Washington County – PVI should be turned over to Specialty Care of the Bronx by 12/31/2013.

2014 County Budget passed with a 2.65% increase. Supervisor Pitts voted no on the budget

Economic Development-John Boice, Fred Russo and Jim Bain will serve on the committee from the Village and Supervisor Pitts reported that he has asked Bob Akland, Tom McMorris and Tom Kerr to serve on the committee for the Town. Hope to get Barton and Loguidice on board with money they will secure through a grant.

Alton Knapp-Flood Plain Management-was present at the meeting and brought current map copies—one for our file and copies to give out. Alton will bring in copies of the Village Flood Plain maps to us. He has already spoken to the Planning Board and will be working with them when someone submits an application for site plan. They will pay a fee of \$10.00 (or more, depending on the circumstances) with the site plan application to determine if the property is in or out of the flood plain. This will begin in January of 2014.

Resolution #60-Introduced by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to accept A. E. Knapp and Associates, LLC, as the Town of Salem’s flood plain managers and to enter into the agreement provided for their services. Passed 5-0

Vacation Leave-Councilman Joseph Wever handed out a revised vacation leave policy for the Town Board to review after meeting with the Highway Department. This will be discussed at the January meeting.

Resolution #61-Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to authorize Supervisor Seth Pitts to enter into an Agreement with Washington County to plow 5.49 miles of County Route 153 at a cost of \$4,500.00/mile for a total of \$12,351.50. Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #62-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a transfer as follows:

A1620.4b Courthouse	\$ 474.38	
A1620.4 Office		\$ 474.38

Billings for Courthouse-shortage; Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #63-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a transfer as follows:

A7510.4 Historian	\$ 634.85
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A7520.4 Records Management \$ 200.00
A8810.4 Cemetery \$ 434.85

Phone, lightning strike-Insurance shortfall; Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #64-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a transfer as follows:

A8810.1 Cemetery \$ 431.45
A8810.4 Cemetery \$ 431.45

Lee Walrath's wages-Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #65-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a transfer as follows:

DB9060.8 Insurance \$ 791.65
DB9030.8 FICE \$ 791.65

Shortage-HAS

Resolution #66-Introduced by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, for a transfer from the Georgi Fund Balance as follows:

GM7450.1 Personnel \$468.58
GM9030.8 FICA \$ 31.42
GM7450.4 Contractual \$ 500.00

Passed unanimously 5-0

Executive Session-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters. Passed unanimously 5-0. Entered into executive session at 8:22 p.m. Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to come out of executive session. Nothing decided on or voted on in executive session; discussion only. Passed unanimously 5-0. Came out of executive session at 8:50 p.m.

Year-End Meeting-Will be held on Monday, December 30th, @ 6:00 p.m., at the Town of Salem Town Office The Village Board would like everyone to meet at Proudfit Hall @ 7:00 p.m. to present retiring Justice Frank Blanck with a plaque and to thank him for his years of service.

Organizational Meeting-It was decided to hold the Organizational Meeting before the regular monthly board meeting on January 8th, 2014, @ 7:00 p.m.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting-The next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on January 08, 2013, with review of Warrants #1 and Highway Abstract #1 at 6:30 p.m., meeting to begin after the Organizational Meeting, which will begin at 7 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Passed unanimously 5-0

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem

