

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

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

Absent: Al Cormier-Historian; Jessica Barrett-DCO

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Cheryl Baldwin-Georgi; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Herb Perkins-Youth Assn.; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Chief

Public Present: Tom Clark

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #1 and Highway Abstract #1 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 December 14, 2011, regular board meeting. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to accept minutes as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0.

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, motion made by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to pay Warrants #1 and Highway Abstract #1 of 2012 as presented. Passed 5-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department-Report provided by Chief Graham. There were ten calls for the month of December. 4-Village of Salem (1-dryer fire; 1-water emergency; 2-CO alarms); 3-Town of Salem (2-CO alarms; 1-trees & power lines); 3-Mutual Aid Calls: 1-Hebron (MVA); 1-Shushan (standby); 1-Greenwich (structure fire) 28-members did annual fit test; 14 members did Santa detail; in-house extrication drill

Annual ladder testing done; all passed

Hydraulic tools tested and passed

Report will be filed.

Salem Rescue Squad-Report provided by Vicki Campbell. Total calls-441; total miles-21,730. Calls were broken down to include Town of Salem; Village of Salem; Hebron; Vermont; Jackson; Greenwich; Cambridge; Granville; Glens Falls Hospital; Saratoga Hospital and Argyle. The cost for medical direction (advice and answering questions of squad) costs approximately \$6,000.00/year to Glens Falls Hospital. Reimbursement rates could be raised, but still wouldn't take care of all non-covered expenses. Salem Rescue Squad covers the towns of Salem, Hebron and Rupert. Report will be filed.

Courthouse- Councilwoman Dottie Schneider is no longer president of the HSCPA but is on the Board. Can she vote on Courthouse issues? The board voted unanimously 5-0 that Councilwoman Schneider can now vote on Courthouse issues. Donna Farringer asked the board for a motion/resolution to approve a project to secure grant monies for the #1 project of roof repair and the cupola. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to introduce **Resolution #10** to support the Courthouse endeavors to secure grant money for the #1 project of roof repair and the cupola. Passed unanimously 5-0.

The 10th Anniversary of the courthouse will be celebrated in 2012, with lots of events to be held. On January 10th, 2012, there was a birthday party, which all the school children attended. There will also be 'The Old Washington County Courthouse' exhibit with CD/DVD done in conjunction with Historian, Al Cormier. This will begin on January 27th from 5-7 pm thru April 09, 2012.

January 19th - Lakes to Locks meeting will be held at the Courthouse @ 7:00 pm for anyone who would like to attend. The meeting will be to ask questions, collect stories and share your passions for the area. The Courthouse has been designated a Heritage Center by Lakes to Locks Passage, Inc.

The Battenkill Kitchen is holding a cooking class on Saturday, January 28th, from 11 am-3pm with Maria Speck, who will be placing an emphasis on whole-grain cooking. Sign up early as space is limited.

Highway-Joe Boisclair reported that the grade-al is leaking and it would be foolish to spend money in repairs. The crew has done what they can do for repairs. Mark Woodell was appointed Deputy Superintendent at the

Organizational Meeting on January 4th and was sworn into office at that time. Have done a lot of cleaning around the barn and cutting and chipping on various Town roads. Report provided and will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Cheryl Baldwin reported that all buildings are now closed down. Three weddings and parties have already been booked for 2012. 100% of LARAC grant monies have been received. "Writing for Young Teens" workshop will be in July, with another workshop for younger children in August. Will be using the Washington County Youth Bureau kinds for clean-up in the spring, in early May if possible. Supervisor Pitts has applied for a NYS Work Force grant and is awaiting a response from that.

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported that there were two applications, one for a sub-division. Kim heard from Attorney Alan Wrigley re the appointment of a substitute member when they can't get a quorum and a substitute cannot be appointed.

DCO-Jessica Barrett provided a report. Thank-you to Julie Brown and Chris Michaels for walking dogs and helping out at the shelter. She has received some donations of bedding and treats. Chocolate Lab was found on Smith Road and has since been adopted. Awaiting a home for a rottie mix picked up on Camden Valley Road in Shushan. Picked up four beagles in Shushan on December 8th that were all under weight. One taken to vet with kidney problems; two still awaiting a home. Picked up a golden retriever on December 24th on the north end of Quarry Road; owner was found and fees paid. Igloo type plastic dog houses are needed if anyone is interested in donating the same. They won't rot and are much easier to clean. Contact Jessica if anyone has anything she could use or you wish to drop off. Report will be filed.

Comprehensive Plan-Hope to have the names of those serving on the Ag Committee for the next meeting.

Courthouse Generator-Herb Perkins reported that the gas to the generator at the Courthouse was hooked up by Bove. The highway crew did a lot of work on the building and was much appreciated. The exhaust pipe still needs doing and Scott Perkins and Mark Woodell will work on this. All-State Power will also be available to help.

Youth Association-Herb Perkins reported Keith Kelly and Debbie Earthrowl have talked to the kinds at school in grades 7-12; they will probably meet every other week. Liz Donaldson, Bev Dumas, Kim Gariepy and Steve Alexander have tossed around ideas of helping the elderly. Walking dogs, going to eat lunch at the NEWCO meal site, etc. were ideas they had. Skiing will begin on Thursday, 01/12/2012, weather permitting.

Historian-Year-end report provided prior to meeting in absence of Al Cormier. E-mail received advising that fund-raising for the cemetery wall continues. Cash on hand will cover only 1/3 of the cost of the current project. Since this project is ongoing, donations will continue to be accepted. Approximately 400 linier feet of the old wall will need repair in future years. Report will be filed.

PUBLIC COMMENT-Nothing

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter received from Larry McCauley regarding the flooding problems—they need to be corrected as best as possible.

OLD BUSINESS

FEMA Update-Mahaffy Road has not been signed off on. Galvanized pipe should have been used and not plastic.

White Creek Committee-County filled in train trestle on Beattie Hollow Road and rebuilt the bank. Supervisor Pitts working on setting up a meeting with Tony Jordan and Betty Little's offices.

Tom Clark reported that he had found a letter from April of 2001 to the Village from DEC regarding work in

the stream--no permit was required by DEC law if the work being done was for the protection of persons and property in the area of the stream. Is it the same for 2011-2012 as it was then?

County Update-Treasurer Al Nolette has assumed his official duties as County Treasurer. Still reviewing issues re sale of PVI and Public Health.

NEW BUSINESS

Lakes to Locks-Meeting will be held on January 19, 2012 @ 7 pm at the Courthouse.

C.T. Male Landfill Report-Received closure report

Office Cleaning-Supervisor Pitts will speak to person who currently cleans the office so that the room is cleaned every month before a board meeting--at least for the winter months when roads, sidewalks, etc. are much dirtier and there is more tracking in of dirt.

Board Concerns

Reverse 911-Update the plan; the county has this in place already.

Rebuilding of wall @ Georgi-FEMA wants a picture of the wall by the walk-way to the museum showing what it looked like before the flood before they will approve rebuilding of the same. Do we really need a wall there and can the cost be justified if FEMA does not cover the same?

Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting was adjourned @ 8:15 pm.

Next Meeting-February 08, 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