

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Salem was held on Wednesday, January 2, 2008 in the Village office. Present were Mayor Anne Dunigan, Trustees Joe Childs, Carol Rives, Joe Wever, and Tauno Wirkki. Also present were Village Historian Al Cormier, Julian Adams with SHPO, and members of the press and public.

The meeting was called to order, and vouchers from the General Fund Nos. 17489 through 17513 in the amount of \$15844.11, from the Library Fund Nos. 5734 to 5744 in the amount of \$4572.85, and from the Water Fund Nos. 5511 through 5520 in the amount of \$5493.81 were audited and ordered paid--motion by Joe Wever, second by Joe Childs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Tauno Wirkki made a motion, Joe Wever seconded, to approve the minutes of the December 5 regular meeting. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

PUBLIC HEARING on the Historic Preservation Law: Al Cormier gave a brief recap of the intent and process leading up to the hearing. Then Julian Adams spoke briefly and the floor was opened. The following people spoke or were present: George and Linda Lewis, Margery Robertiello, Mary Kilpatrick, Nancy Higby, Jackie Keren, Jim Garland, Richard Parks, Todd Baldwin, Steve Trombley, and Herb Perkins. Generally, people didn't like giving a committee power to tell them what they can or cannot do with their property. One person felt it was an unnecessary law, that property owners in Salem already take pride in the appearance of their property. Some people felt that even if the likely current committee members would not impose their opinions on property owners, future committees conceivably could. Mr. Adams pointed out that the negative issues expressed would only occur if the committee did not work within the law that created it. The law keeps committee members on task and provides checks and balances. Al Cormier stated he believes in the law and if he felt it were the punitive and restrictive measure people seem to think it is he wouldn't support it. Adams explained that creating a certified local government opens up grant possibilities for non-profits and tax credits for the Village. While individuals cannot access the grants, businesses can. In addition, currently being explored elsewhere is the idea of the Village being awarded grant money which it would then administer to fund consultants and possibly labor and materials for non-business properties. A final issue that arose was adding solar panels to a home in the historic district and how it would be handled.

PUBLIC WORKS DECEMBER REPORT: DPW: There was an incident with the F450, backing down Riley Hill Road, with damage to the sander--\$680 to repair. Had to tow one car during a snowstorm that was abandoned by the RR depot and blocking traffic. WATER: One chemical pump stopped working properly and Koester had to be called. Will have pump rebuilt. Also a plugged injection line had to be cleaned out. At budget time the Board will need to consider purchasing a spare pump and also discuss preventive maintenance.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER: Firefighter I training will begin in Salem on January 3 and run through May. Turnout gear will be arriving on January 3. There will be an information meeting about forming a joint (Town and Village) Fire District on January 16 at 7 PM in the community room.

POLICE REPORT FOR DECEMBER: There were 9 complaints received, 2 criminal, 7 non-criminal. There were 11 traffic tickets issued. There was 1 penal law arrest, a misdemeanor. There was one domestic dispute complaint investigated. No doors were found unsecured out of 394 property checks made. Total mileage was 1185 with 121.1 gallons of gas being used.

LIBRARY REPORT: Circulation for December totaled 1627 items. The computers were used by 250 patrons. Four people attended the monthly book club, and 28 adults and 9 juveniles attended 5 meetings of the chess club. Scrabble club met 3 times with 20 in attendance. There were 5 sessions of

story hour with 20 adults and 24 juveniles attending. Peg thanked Joe Wever for his help in coordinating the installation of new power outlets and cable drops for computer stations. The changes have been very beneficial.

1/2/08 minutes cont'd

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HISTORIAN'S REPORT: Al Cormier submitted his annual report, a copy of which has been filed with and may be viewed in the clerk's office. Categories in the report are Researcher Use of Archives, Computer Access, Writing and Other Publicity, Educational Outreach, Preservation Projects, Committee and Conference Participation, Cemetery Work, Record Management and Archives, and Historian Goals for 2008. Also included was a list of donations to the Town of Salem archives.

OLD BUSINESS: Saratoga Surveillance submitted a reduced bud of \$3230.00. Issue tabled for further consideration.

NEW BUSINESS: A grant to produce an Agricultural Farmland Protection Plan, jointly with the Town, as lead agency, and Village, providing in-kind services, was approved. Tauno Wirkki moved to approve, Carol Rives seconded, and the motion was carried.

Work is continuing to update the General Development Plan for the Village.

Joe Wever made a motion, Carol Rives seconded, to transfer \$4000.00 from clerk expense to street labor. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

There will be a special meeting on January 14 at 6 PM in the Village office concerning the Safe Routes to School program. There will also be a special meeting on January 22 at 6 PM in the Village office to discuss water department finances relative to the budget.

Tauno Wirkki made a motion, Joe Childs seconded, to adopt the Historic Preservation Law for the Village of Salem, New York. The vote was 4/0 with one abstension--Joe Wever as a Fire Council member with property in the historic district.

PUBLIC REMARKS:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Rebecca Brown, Clerk