

TOWN OF SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 20, 2011 MEETING

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

Absent: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Jessica Barrett-DCO; Herb Perkins-SYA

Others Present: Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Cheryl Baldwin-Georgi; Al Cormier-Historian; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board

Public Present: Jay Bellanca; Jim Travers; Anthony Cafritz-SAW; Eric Wilkins-Eagle Newspaper

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #7 of 2011 and Highway Abstract #7 of 2011 for approval and payment

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

Review of minutes from June 08, 2011, regular board meeting. Motion made by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to accept minutes as presented. Passed unanimously.

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to pay Warrants #7 and Highway Abstract #7 of 2011 as presented. Passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Salem Fire Department-Report provided by Chief, Bob Graham. There were nine calls for the month of June, 2011. 4-Town of Salem (1 Four-wheeler accident; 1-wires down; 1-car fire; 1-EMS lift assist); 1-Village of Salem (EMS lift assist); 3-Mutual Aid (1-water rescue call in Greenwich; 1-MVA in Hebron; 1-MVA Shushan) Stand-by Coverage: 1-Shushan (08/05/11); 1-Washington Co. Fair (08/26/11; possibility of second date) Fireworks training and carnival detail on-going for the month.

2-new members for membership: Sam Ruggles & Dan Ruggles

Parade requests: Rupert-08/13/11; Bennington-08/14/11; Wells-08/20/11

Total Hours for the year: 6,565

Report will be filed.

Courthouse- Thank-you to Supervisor Pitts for patching holes in the driveway before Al Fresco weekend. Courthouse participated in the July 4th parade.

The community garden is going great thanks to the hard work of Councilwoman and President of the Courthouse, Dottie Schneider and her crew. Produce will be used for Lunch, Learn N Play, Al Fresco, the Salem Farmer's Markets and the Salem food pantry. On July 5th, there were 120 kids enrolled in the Lunch, Learn N Play program, organized by Herb Perkins. Al Fresco weekend will be July 23 for the dinner and July 24 for the brunch. Tickets still available so get them now!

Highway- Report provided in the absence of Superintendent Boisclair. Doing a lot of grading and mowing; put in culvert on Scott Lake Road and Beattie Hollow Road and cleaned out culverts on Beattie Hollow Road. Report will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Cheryl Baldwin reported that the Georgi has been rented out for reunions, birthday parties, and weddings. The Washington County Band concert was held on July 10th @ 7 p.m. and was very well attended. "As You Like It" will be performed on Friday, July 22nd. 'Arts in the Park' program for children will be held August 15-19, 9-11 a.m. for ages 5-9. There will be photography, painting and music. Sunday concert series will begin on August 7th on the lawn of the Georgi with Dirty Old Strings performing. All concerts will begin @ 4 p.m. and the cost is \$5.00 for an individual and \$10.00 per family.

Cheryl requests a meeting with Harold Gilchrest, Bruce Ferguson and Judy Flagg soon.

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported that one site plan application has been received to take down a barn and re-build a new one on Blind Buck Road. Mo has been informed that buildings have been constructed without site plan approval. He will check into any that were reported. Supervisor Pitts reported that the by-laws look good with the exception of term of office for members. This needs to be added.

Historian-Al reported that the Iron Rail exhibit will be extended for an extra week, then go to Skene Manor and the Slate Valley Museum. Al and Supervisor Pitts met w/Congressman Chris Gibson on the 4th of July, seeking any grants that might be available for the veteran's memorial lot next to the Revolutionary War cemetery. The wall will be rebuilt in the fall of 2011 by Kent Foster. Congressman Gibson called Supervisor Pitts and reported that the application time for grants had expired but that the Town would be able to apply during the next cycle. Plans are underway for a Civil War Encampment/Reenactment in the fall of 2012 @ the Courthouse to celebrate 150-year anniversary of the Civil War. Al is working w/Commander Jim Hunt of the Champlain Rifles, depicting the Washington County 123rd Regiment. More coming in the future.

Dog Control Officer-Jessica Barrett absent but report provided. Dog adopted out that the owner could not be found for and impoundment fees received on a dog that was picked up and returned to its owner. Report will be filed

Ag portion of Comprehensive Plan-No report.

Youth Commission-No report.

Correspondence

Youth Funding-Supervisor Pitts reported that \$642.00 will be received from Mike Gray at the County level but nothing will be forthcoming for the Shushan youth program.

Binninger Road Traffic-A request has been received from a resident on Binninger Road asking that the road be closed on three-day holiday weekends to all but local traffic. Increased traffic on the road over the 4th of July holiday and incidents occurring @ the Eagleville Bridge prompted the request. At the very least, traffic control signed are needed on the road. Supervisor Pitts will check into the request.

Fronhofer Tool Road Race-Request received from Bridget Crossman that the Town acknowledge the 5th Annual Fronhofer Tool Triathlon to be held on August 6th @ Lake Lauderdale. The biking portion of the race will be using Eagleville Road, parts of County Route 64 and County Route 61. Resolution acknowledging that the Town is aware that certain roads in the town will be used for this race. There will be no road closures and the bikers use the shoulder of the road. Marshals will also be out on the roads to police traffic. Resolution #29 introduced by Councilman Harold Gilcrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, acknowledging and supporting the 5th Annual Fronhofer Tool Triathlon on August 6, 2011, and that the Town is aware of the use of some of its roads. Passed 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Travers presented a petition signed by twenty residents to have the remainder of Blind Buck Road black topped—approximately ¾ of a mile. CHIPS monies already used for this year, but a possibility of doing the same sometime next year, depending on what state money might be available. Supervisor Pitts thanked Mr. Travers for his efforts.

Anthony Cafritz, SAW Director-Anthony reported that on September 1st, SAW will submit a grant to NY Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation-- a state grant that would convert 80 acres of land atop Cary Hill into parkland. The grant is for approximately \$150,000.00 and would cover the cost of the park's preliminary archaeology, design and construction. The park, called Plume Park, will be used for recreation, exercise, education, and the appreciation of nature. Picnic tables and benches will be located throughout the Park. Anthony feels the impact on Salem businesses will increase significantly, especially during warmer months. SAW will only receive the grant if there is strong community support and a need for such a park. Anthony is asking that the Town draft a letter in support of the project and provide the same no later than 08/25/11.

Questions posed to Anthony by the Board: Would this be a State Park? NO Would this interfere with the current snowmobile trails? No-trails would stay where they are. Could probably also incorporate cross country skiing trails, too. An archeological dig must be completed before anything could happen and the planning process would take at least a year. Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to have Supervisor Pitts draft a letter of support to SAW for the Plume Park project. Passed 4-0.

Salem School Consolidation-Jay Bellanca asked if anyone know what was going on re the consolidation between Salem Central School and Cambridge School. Since the meeting to discuss the same is being held at the same time as this board meeting, no one knew.

OLD BUSINESS

Landfill Update-CT Male had individual wells tested and everything came back clear. Letter was sent to DEC by CT Male with test results, requesting that testing be done every other year. All reports, letters, etc. were e-mailed to board members. We will wait to hear the verdict from DEC.

Veteran’s Park Update-Top soil purchased from Ron Jameson and spread while the Town had the equipment to do the same. Legion will re-imburse or make donation to the project. Wall will be reset in October or November by Kent Foster.

Salem Signage-Route 153 and County Route 30 on hold for now. Village will split the cost of getting the beds up and running, probably not until next year.

Two-way radio update-Councilman Joe Wever reported that re-testing had to be done by vendor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Salem Seniors-NEWCO meal site held their annual county picnic @ American Legion in Cambridge. Supervisor Pitts attended and won a blue ribbon in one of the competitions. See what a new hip can do?!

Resolution #30-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to establish an account @ Glens Falls National Bank & Trust Company for donations to the Veteran’s Memorial Park. Passed 4-0.

Resolution #31-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a budget increase for funds needed to repair the grader:

DA510 Estimated Revenues	\$12,000.00	
D2290 Local Sources		
DA960 Appropriations		\$12,000.00
DA5130.4 Machinery		

Passed 4-0.

Resolution #32-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a transfer of funds for the purchase of the shed to house the generator:

A1990.4 Contingency	\$ 1,840.00
A1620.4b Courthouse	\$ 1,840.00

Passed 4-0.

Resolution #33-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to reclassify deferred revenue for cemetery work and budget increase to reflect money from deferred revenue:

A691 Deferred Revenue	\$ 1,930.00	
A980 Revenues		\$ 1,930.00
A510 Estimated Revenues	\$1,930.00	
A2705 Cemetery		
A960 Appropriations		\$ 1,930.00
A8160.4 Cemetery		

Resolution #34-Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a budget increase to reflect monies from LARAC:

AG510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 2,550.00	
A2770 Georgi		
AG960 Appropriations		\$ 2,550.00
A7450.4 Georgi		

Passed 4-0.

Resolution #35-Introduced by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to transfer money for the water testing at residences re: landfill:

A88104 Cemetery	\$ 1,754.50	
A8160.4 Landfill	\$ 1,754.50	

Passed 4-0

Resolution #36-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, for a budget increase to reflect recycle stickers:

A510 Estimated Revenues	\$20,000.00	
A2130 Recycle		
A960 Appropriations		\$20,000.00

Passed 4-0.

Resolution #37-Introduced by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a transfer of money to pay the Phoenix bill:

A1410.1a Town Clerk-Deputy	\$ 1,300.00	
A8160.4 Landfill	\$ 1,300.00	

Passed 4-0

County Updates-PVI RFP-Several different bids received for different parts of the puzzle--some for PVI only--some for PVI, Hospice and Public Health--some only for Hospice and Public Health. Supervisor Pitts did not make the meeting on July 13th due to the several events happening in Cambridge (White Creek) and Salem. 2% Property Tax Cap-Would affect the county immensely and will go into effect in 2013.

Salem Fire Protection District-Attorney Brad Pinski has been sending e-mail updated to Supervisor Pitts re the same. A law would have to be passed by the legislature of the State of New York and nothing is even in the talking stages yet. This is **not** the same as the Fire District that was talked about in the past. Just done in Malone, NY. Would essentially allow things to go back to the way they were before becoming a Village owned fire department.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to adjourn the regular monthly Town Board meeting. Passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned @ 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting-Next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on August 10, 2011, @ the Salem Town Office, with review of warrants and abstract for payment @ 6:30 p.m.; meeting will follow @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Gilchrist
Town Clerk

