

TOWN OF SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 09, 2012 MEETING

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

Absent: Herb Perkins-SYA; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Jessica Barrett-DCO; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Al Cormier-Historian

Public Present: Jay Bellanca; Steve Saunders-Salem Fire Department

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #5 and Highway Abstract #5 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 April 11, 2012 regular board meeting. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to accept minutes of April 11, 2012 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department-Report provided by Chief Graham. There were 13 calls for the month of April--2-Village of Salem (both propane smell); 6-Town of Salem (1-MVA; 1-grass & brush fires; 2-priority one echo calls 1-structure fire; 1-good intent calls); Mutual Aid Calls: 1-Hebron (MVA); 1-Greenwich (structure fire); 2-Rupert (1-MVA; 1-standby) 1-Wells, VT (-water rescue call-boat overturned on Lake St. Catherine)

New Engine Rescue fire truck (ER 443) is in full service and the 1990 fire truck has been placed out of service permanently.

Had training on ER 443 and held vehicle extrication drill

Annual gear inspection-13 sets failed and have been sent out for repairs

Two members attended 50-years of service party for Greenwich firefighter; permission granted to attend all parades the members wish to attend.

After June 1st, we will be looking for quotes (to be opened @ July meeting) for new turn-out gear.

Total hours for year = 3,987

Report will be filed.

Courthouse-Music in the Courthouse on Mother's Day, May 13th, @ 3 pm with Daniel Shulman. Tickets are \$20.00; music teachers may bring students for \$5.00. Open house at CCC on Friday, June 1, from 10 am-3 pm as part of the 10th Anniversary Celebration. 'Country Colors', by Tom Kerr, will be on display in the great hall and the children from Salem Central will join in the planting of the Community Garden. Tours will be given, including the jail. Demonstrations will be on-going in the pottery studio and the youth barn will be open and alive with activity. Maple cream pies will be on sale in the Battenkill Kitchen for \$12.00 each.

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. Upcoming classes to be held at the CCC include Spring Painting w/Tara Hughes (ages 7-10), May 16-30 on Wednesdays from 2:45-4:15 pm; \$25.00 members; \$30.00 nonmembers and Basic Computer Skills w/Terri Kelly, Mondays from 6-8 pm, from June 4-July 9; \$65.00 for members; \$75.00 for nonmembers. Report will be filed in absence of Donna Farringer.

Highway-Sup't. Boisclair reported that \$7,200.00 has been received for the old grad-all for scrap; nothing had been received above \$3,000.00 from the Want-Ad Digest ad. New grad-all working good. Report will be filed of work done from April 12-May 9, 2012.

Georgi Museum-Cheryl's last day was May 1st. Councilman Harold Gilchrest reported that events are still being booked and that the advisory committee met and reviewed the four applications received. The NYS Labor Force grant work began on Monday, May 7th, with the removal of brush, taking down of trees and filling in holes. Peter Baldwin was asked if he could mow for a month from April-May. Having received no bids, Mr. Baldwin was contacted to mow for the season and said he could do the mowing for \$103.00/mowing. Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to approve Peter Baldwin to do mowing at the Georgi Park at the rate of \$103.00/mowing. Approved unanimously 5-0.

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported the board received an application for a garage and will be reviewing that at their next meeting.

DCO-Jessica Barrett provided report. She handled two dog bites and two complaints from neighbors about the same dog. She wrote two tickets for dogs running at large. The dogs on the Shushan road are running loose again but she has not seen them. If she does or can pick them up, she will write tickets. Jessica is attending classes and feels that she is learning a lot. Not meeting all requirements for equipment; this is something that will need to be addressed. Report will be filed.

Youth Ass'n.-No report.

Comprehensive Plan-No report.

Historian-Historian, Al Cormier, reported that he talked about the Civil War at the CCC on April 29th, speaking about the 123rd Regiment. The event was well attended. The photo gallery is in Cambridge at the Railroad Depot. There was a fund raiser to the cemetery wall at Salem Central School and the kids had a great time. There was a dinner and a dance. The plans for the Tomasi building will be reviewed at the next historic meeting. Al toured the Village with the Mayor and representatives from the Health Department and two engineers regarding septic issues that will involve businesses on Main Street that might be affected. A feasibility study would cost approximately \$25,000.00-\$30,000.00. Will continue to work with the Department and check to see what could be done and what grants might be available as Salem certainly doesn't want any small businesses to be shut down. The Central House is currently open five days a week for breakfast and lunch and this seems to be working well.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter received from Bridget Fronhofer Crossman re the 6th Annual Fronhofer Tool Triathlon fundraiser that will be taking place on August 4th, 2012, hosted by BOOKS and Books in Kids Hands, two not-for-profit children's literacy organizations. During the biking portion of the fundraiser, some of Salem's town roads will be used (Eagleville Road), as well as County Rte. 61 and 64. The NYS Department of Transportation needs to get a written acknowledgement from the Town of Salem acknowledging that we are aware that the Fronhofer Tool Triathlon will be using our road (s) on August 4, 2012. There will be no road closures, the bikers will be using the shoulder of the road, and they will have their own marshals out on the road(s) to police traffic. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, acknowledging that the 6th Annual Fronhofer Tool Triathlon will be using Salem Town road(s) for the biking portion of their event on August 4th, 2012. Passed unanimously 5-0.

Assessor Jean McLenithan and Attorney Alan Wrigley met with Verizon re their assessment. Verizon is looking for a total assessment decrease of 85%--\$81,700.00 on building on East Broadway and \$402,600.00 on poles and wires currently.

Keep receiving notices from Comptroller's Office re the dissolution of the Consolidated Health District. Both the Village and Town have sent letters and so has attorney, Alan Wrigley.

OLD BUSINESS

FEMA Update-Supervisor Pitts reported that he had signed off on the last project. SEMA-12-1/2% should be forthcoming from the state.

Economic Development Brochures-Town Clerk, Pat Gilchrist, will see if she can pick up from the printer in Cambridge if they are ready.

NEW BUSINESS:

County Updates-Information received on Washington County Housing and Rehab program.

PVI out of jeopardy as they have now turned in a corrective action plan. Patients are currently being admitted for free as there can be no charges yet. National Health Care backed out of the purchase of PVI. Back to the drawing board for the Health Committee.

Transfer Stations-A test is being conducted in Greenwich for swiping cards for garbage stickers.

Resolution #24-Town Clerk, Pat Gilchrist, explained that another resolution had to be passed regarding a Home Rule Request for the Salem Fire Department. Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to adopt said Home Rule request by the adoption of Resolution #24 for Senate Bill #S6871, introduced by Senator Elizabeth Little, and House Bill #A9865, introduced by Assemblyman Tony Jordan, for the purpose of authorizing the Town of Salem to extend the Salem Fire Protection District into the Village of Salem. Roll call vote: Town Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Yes; Town Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Town Councilman Joe Wever-Yes, Town Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes Passed unanimously 5-0.

Resolution #25-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to declare the current radios as surplus, and then put out to bid to sell. Passed unanimously 5-0.

Georgi Work Project-Should the wall at the Georgi be replaced? The wall has already been replaced twice; this would be the third time. Councilman Harold Gilchrest asked the board to give the Georgi Advisory Committee authority to interview and hire the new Events Coordinator at the Georgi Park. This position would be to fill the position vacated by Cheryl Baldwin. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to allow the Georgi Advisory Committee to meet, interview and hire the new Events Coordinator. Passed unanimously 5-0.

Resolution #26-Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a budget increase as follows:

DA510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 12,500.00
DA3960 FEMA	
DA960 Appropriations	\$ 12,500.00
DA5130.2 Machinery (Purchase of Grad-all)	

Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #27-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider for a budget increase as follows:

GM510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 1,500.00
GM2770 Georgi	
GM960 Appropriations	\$ 1,500.00
GM7450.4 Georgi (NYS Funds/Expenses)	

Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #28-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, for a transfer as follows:

DA5130.4 Machinery	\$ 1,579.71	
DA9050.8 Unemployment (Periard Unemployment)		\$ 1,579.71

Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #29-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a budget increase as follows:

A691 Deferred Revenue	\$ 950.00	
A1110.4 Justice		
A980 Revenues		\$ 950.00
A2610 Justice (Justice Blanck's program-money from grant)		

Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #30-Introduced by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a budget transfer as follows:

A1990.4 Contingency	\$ 946.00	
A8810.4 Cemetery		\$ 946.00

Resolution #31-Introduced by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, approving Highway Superintendent Joe Boisclair as Supervisor for the NYS Labor Force Grant at the Georgi Museum to run from April to October, 2012, for approximately 16 hours per week. After much discussion and questioning, it was decided to take a vote pending a call to the Association of Towns for clarification due to the fact that Joe is the Highway Superintendent and if, as an elected official, he can undertake such an endeavor. The board members also wanted the opinion in writing. Passed unanimously 5-0 pending the outcome from the Association of Towns.

Resolution #32-Introduced by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to approve prepaying Joe Boisclair from Georgi , every two weeks, with a Voucher to be issued to Washington County, said funds to be reimbursed by Washington County EOC. Passed unanimously 5-0, pending the outcome from the Association of Towns as to the appointment of Mr. Boisclair as Supervisor of the project.

Discussion followed re expenditures for the Veteran's Park. Expenditures need to be discussed and passed at a board meeting before the expenditure is vouchered. What about public input? There was a motion passed at a prior Board meeting to establish the committee that would work on the design, layout, etc. for the park. It was felt that perhaps an information meeting should be held with the committee and the site plan proposed for the park. Jay Bellanca thanked Supervisor Pitts for trying to do something positive for the Town of Salem and felt that knit-picking the project would serve no purpose.

Steve Saunders of the Salem Fire Department reported that the 4th of July committee was in place and a Grand Marshall was needed for the parade. This year will be the 250th celebration.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next Meeting-Wednesday, June 13, 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