

TOWN OF SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 09, 2011 MEETING

Present: Supervisor Seth Pitts; Town Council Members: Joe Wever, Dottie Schneider, Harold Gilchrest, Bruce Ferguson; Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist
Absent: Herb Perkins-Youth Assn.; Cheryl Baldwin-Georgi Museum; Jessica Barrett-DCO; Chief Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.
Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Al Cormier-Historian
Public Present: Jay Bellanca; Tina Fleming; Sally Smith; Tom Clark
6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #11 and Highway Abstract #11 for approval and payment
7:00 pm-Meeting called to order by Supervisor Pitts, followed by Pledge of Allegiance
Review of minutes from October 12, 2011, regular board meeting, and November 03st, 2011 public hearing on proposed 2012 budget. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to accept October 12, 2011 regular board meeting minutes and to approve the minutes of the November 03, 2011 public hearing as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0.
After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to pay Warrants #11 and Highway Abstract #11 of 2011 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Salem Fire Department-Report provided in the absence of Chief Graham. There were 6 calls for the month of October, 2011. 0-Village of Salem; 1-Town of Salem (alarm activation); 1-Town of Jackson (wires down); 4-mutual aid calls (Cambridge-1 structure fire; 1 standby in station; Shushan-1 carbon monoxide call; Rupert-1 standby)

Training for month: SCBA; bailout; chimney

Fire prevention at Salem school and for cub & boy scouts

2-members completed emergency vehicle operations class

2-members taking pump school; will still need fire apparatus

Permissions: Standby for Cambridge fire on 11/05/11; Chamber Christmas parade 12/10/11; Salem Fire Santa Clause parade 12/18/11

Training hours for month: 977

Report will be filed.

Courthouse-Donna Farringer reported that a very productive meeting with FEMA was held, filling out paperwork and gathering figures. The Courthouse will be designated as one of the Town's emergency shelters. The generator is in place. More than 500 people visited 'Fear This', the Halloween event set up at the Courthouse.

Artists on Location exhibit in the great hall from November 5-December 16, featuring works of Steve Burgess, Trish Kozal, Faith Perkins, Robert Golden and Crickett Polis.

November 12th-Shoppe off Broadway will hold their annual Christmas sale

November 15th-10th Annual Membership Meeting of the CCC, with potluck dinner @ 6 pm, followed by annual meeting at 7 pm.

December 3rd-6th Annual Arts & Crafts sale in the great hall from 10 am-3 pm; vendors will be available with their hand-crafted items! Breakfast and lunch goodies will be available for sale for the shoppers.

December 10th-4th Annual Homes for the Holidays House Tour, meeting @ the courthouse @ 1pm to purchase your ticket and receive a map. The self-guided tour runs until 5 pm. Eight homes are on the tour this year, mostly in and around Shushan.

Highway-Joe Boisclair reported that the plows are on all the trucks ready for the snow. All trucks have passed inspection. Graded pot holes on Juniper Swamp, Hickory, Hart Hill and Roberson Roads; grading done on Beattie, Blind Buck and Quarry Roads. Graded and patched potholes on Butcher, Kaufman, Railroad Ave., Foster Lane and Beattie Hollow. Added onto culvert on Mahaffey Road, made sand and cold patched Camden Valley Road. Plowed snow and sanded blacktop after snow on October 30th. Also picked up downed tree (s), cleaned ditches, cut big tree on Eagleville Road. Called Cummings re the '90 gradall--could probably purchase a re-conditioned motor. Travis Keys began working recently. Report provided and will be filed.

Meeting on the new health insurance plan was held @ Town Barn for highway employees and the town clerk.

Georgi Museum-Councilman Harold Gilchrest reported in absence of Cheryl Baldwin. Voting will take place @ the Community Room on 11/08/2011 and after that the buildings will be shut down for the winter. Ben Steele is doing an Eagle Scout project @ Georgi--five benches have already been placed and breakfast was provided last Saturday @ the Community Room. Road has all been graded and area fixed for Shushan Fire Dep't. Big thank-you to Dan Johnson for all his work @ the Georgi after the flood. Superintendent Boisclair will fill in hole on right with stone, etc.

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported that there will be a public hearing on construction of a pole barn brought before the board by Eastern Carolina Vail. Application for porch replacement of Route 30 and Verizon will be replacing equipment on the cell tower. Checking into whether the by-laws can be amended to include a substitute member to attend meetings, especially in the winter when it is hard to get a quorum.

Historian-Al Cormier reports that the rail exhibit is now in Granville until December 8th. Al gave a presentation to the Rupert Historical Society about Thaddeus Walker and he will be doing a Veteran's Day program at Salem Central School, along with Supervisor Pitts. Kent Foster will soon begin work on the cemetery stone wall and will probably need more stone. Have 170' of fencing to put up at the Revolutionary War Cemetery, with an opening from the new park to the cemetery.

Historic Preservation Report: Have granted six approvals and had many inquiries. The Glens Falls National Bank building should be opening in early December; everything seems to be on schedule. The railroad depot has been primed for painting in the spring. The handicap ramp has been completed on the south side of the Tomasi building, and there is a newly shingled mansard roof on the Proudfit building.

The Village Historic Preservation Commission voted to give McClellan-Gariepy Funeral Home and the HSCPA, Inc. a certificate of recognition for their preservation work. The Certificate will be presented to the HSCPA at their November annual meeting.

DCO-Supervisor Pitts reported that all dogs from Hebron are gone now so there is more room in the kennel.

Comprehensive Plan-Dottie Schneider reported that the Farm Viability Plan has been sent to the NYS Commissioner of Ag & Markets, with a letter and required attachments. Dottie still needs to file paperwork to satisfy the grant process. The town board will have to pass a resolution establishing an Ag Advisory Committee, copies of which were given to all members for review.

Youth Commission-No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sally Smith was present and spoke to the board concerning much debris under Pook's bridge in Shushan. She is afraid if the same is not taken out and another storm comes, whether from rain or snow, that the water could back-up and cause damage to the Eagleville and/or Tackle Box bridge. She provided pictures of the bridge and debris. Joe Boisclair will take a look to see what can be done, but probably the County will have to be the one to remove anything since it is on County Route 64.

Tom Clark reported that he had met with Joe Driscoll and Mr. Schwartz regarding the White Creek problem; Supervisor Pitts was unable to attend due to a meeting @ the County building. He did report, however, that he has checked with Scott Fisher at the County to secure input from a hydrologist and that he would like to set something up with Dick Wilson, the Village and Washington County Soil and Water. Mr. Clark reported that he was very dissatisfied with the meeting. Question arose as to who determines damage costs? FEMA does.

OLD BUSINESS:

FEMA Update: Supervisor Pitts reported that paperwork has been completed on damage done to town roads by Superintendent Joe Boisclair and that Donna Farringer is working on getting paperwork done for the Courthouse. When all paperwork is ready, everything will be sent in together.

All State Power-Contract will be renewed with All-State on the generator @ the Courthouse.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation done by Budget Officer, Brian Campbell, on November 8th @ Proudfit Hall. The budget is up 3.14%. Medicaid, Medicare and retirement costs have gone up greatly. The cost to run PVI and public health are going up constantly.

Bids were opened on trash hauling; the County still owns the transfer stations.

Resolution #49-Introduced by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, to read a resolution honoring Salem's veterans on Thursday, November 9th, at a program at Salem Central School. Supervisor Pitts read the resolution and motion passed 5-0.

Board Comments-Councilman Bruce Ferguson reported that the railroad has been working with FEMA and that FEMA wants an engineer hired.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion to adjourn the regular monthly Town Board meeting was made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson. Passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned @ 8:00 pm

Next Meeting-Next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on December 14, 2011 @ Town Office @ 7:00 pm, with review of warrants and abstract for payment beginning @ 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk