

## **TOWN OF SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 12, 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.; Jessica Barrett-DCO; Chief Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Al Cormier-Historian

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Cheryl Baldwin-Georgi Museum; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Al Cormier-Historian

Public Present: Jay Bellanca; Jeffrey Harrison; Erik Wilkins-Eagle Newspaper

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #10 and Highway Abstract #10 for approval and payment

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

Review of minutes from September 14, 2011, regular board meeting, and September 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011, insurance presentation meetings for liability and health insurance. Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to accept September 14, 2011, minutes as amended from first e-mailing and to approve the minutes of the September 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011, meetings as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0.

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, motion made by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to pay Warrants #10 and Highway Abstract #10 of 2011 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Salem Fire Department**-Report provided in the absence of Chief Graham. There were 15 calls for the month of September, 2011. 7-Village of Salem (2 smoke conditions; 2 alarm activations; 1-structure fire; 1 garbage fire; 1 propane leak); 3-Town of Salem (3 alarm activations; 1 priority echo call); 1-Town of Jackson (MVA); 3- mutual aid calls (Hebron 1 MVA; Rupert 1 standby; Cambridge 1 stand-by); 3 standby

Members & school mechanics fixed generator on Rescue 44

New turn-out gear is in; trucks have had yearly service

Permission to use trucks on 10/07/2011 for fire prevention @ school; permission for open house on 10/07/2011; permission for search & rescue to use one bay for food sale and pick-up; permission to use truck for EVOC class

Training hours for month: 474

Report will be filed.

**Courthouse**-Donna Farringer gives a big thank-you to the Alternative Sentencing Youths who work every day for four weeks to help clean the basement from water damage due to the flood. There were anywhere from 4-16 kids every day.

BAN was completed for 2011--\$449.98 in interest and \$10,000.00 on the principal, leaving a balance of \$10,008.28 to be paid off in 2012.

'Fear This' will be putting on haunted Halloween @ the Courthouse this year. Basement will be used as well as the grounds outside. The haunting will begin the weekend of October 14 and continue for the next three weekends from 6-9:30 pm and on the last Sunday of the month from 6-9:30 pm.

Annual meeting will be held November 15, 2011, with a pot luck supper @ 6 pm, meeting to begin @ 7 pm.

Home for Holidays tour will be held on December 10, 2011, mostly in Shushan and one more home is needed.

**Highway**-Joe Boisclair reported that the grade all has been acting up again. What should be done? Search for a used one or replace the current Cummings motor? Either way, it will be a major expense. A one-way sign was installed @ the medical center on Main Street; caution tape put around new lot by Revolutionary War Cemetery; and four applications have been received for the highway position. Report provided and will be filed.

**Georgi Museum**-Cheryl Baldwin asked if any FEMA money would be received to replace the rock wall that was destroyed in the flood. Will this need to be put out to bid? Cheryl will get two estimates on the cost of the repair. Voting will take place @ the Community Room on 11/08/2011 and after that the buildings will be shut down for the winter.

**Planning Board**-Mo Patrick reported that there was an application for a garage and breeze-way on a home in Shushan and for a small house on Black Creek Road.

**Historian**-Report provided in absence of Historian, Al Cormier. Kent Foster will begin work on the cemetery stone wall in December. The 'Iron Rail' exhibit will travel to the Slate Valley Museum on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Al will be speaking to the Rupert Historical Society on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The Glens Falls National Bank building is proceeding nicely and the school has restored their front entrance, including the brass/wrought iron rail. The new track/football field is now complete.

The Village Historic Preservation Commission voted to give the HSCPA, Inc. a certificate of recognition for the preservation work done so far. The Certificate will be presented at the November annual meeting.

Kay Tomasi is renovating the Tomasi building in the hopes of opening an ice cream/coffee/baked goods shop in the spring. A handicap ramp is in the process of being built on the south side of the building.

**DCO**-Supervisor Pitts reported that Jessica is currently working on an abuse case and she has a dog w/PARVO virus that has to be isolated. Also dealing with some issues on Route 22.

**Comprehensive Plan**-Dottie Schneider reported that the Farm Viability Plan printed booklet had been received. Paperwork needs to be filed and the plan sent to the NYS Commissioner of Ag & Markets. Town Clerk, Pat Gilchrist, working w/Councilwoman Schneider to do a letter and send out necessary attachments.

**Youth Commission**-Herb Perkins provided report. The generator building was lowered on its pad on 10/11/11, floor reinstalled with conduit coming up through. John Hickland will set the generator in the next week, and Willie Linendoll will be in touch about hooking up the electric. Report will be filed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Two-Way Radio Update:** Supervisor Pitts has heard nothing from Dr. Piemme from Salem Central about the possibility of combining with them on the radios. New two-way radio units are being tested for highway dep't.

**FEMA Update:** Most Village residents that signed up for assistance have already received their money. Sep't. 28-30 there will be a FEMA trailer, someone from the state insurance fund, and a representative from Wash. Co. Dep't. of Social Services in the parking lot behind the gazebo on Main Street for anyone who still needs to sign up to claim damage from Irene. There will be another kick-off meeting at a later date for municipalities, not-for-profits, etc., to claim damage. Deadline to file will be October 15, 2011, for individuals.

**White Creek Committee:** Joe Driscoll reported at the Sep't. meeting that banks cannot be disturbed trying to access streams or rivers. Members of the committee include: Councilman Bruce Ferguson, Supervisor Seth Pitts, Sheldon Brown, Linda Setchfield, Tom Clark, and Joe Childs. Next meeting will be on 10/24/2011 @ the Salem Town Office.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor Pitts reported that HEAP grants are down due to a decrease in federal allocations. No emergency grants will be available until 01/03/2012. Amount of assistance down to \$500.00, \$500.00, and \$300.00 compared to \$700.00, \$700.00 and \$500.00 last year, depending on heating source.

**There will be a dinner for the Salem-Shushan Fuel Fund on October 20, 2011, at the Presbyterian Church.** The cost for the dinner is \$12.00. Money raised will be used to help those in need this winter pay their fuel bill. The Georgi Trust Account is down about \$1,200.00 in income.

Letter received from Donna Farringer, Executive Director of the HSCPA, thanking Supervisor Pitts for the Town’s check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Lunch, Learn N Play program, held during the summer. Letter received from County Treasurer, Phyllis Cooper, indicating that the Town of Salem’s 2011 sales tax allocation is \$35,077.87. Check received in the amount of \$8,769.47 representing the third quarter 2011 distribution. The Town of Salem opted to have their monies paid directly rather than be applied to their County tax levy on a quarterly basis.

**County Up-date:** The County is currently interviewing lawyers to handle the sale of PVI/Public Health. Councilman Bruce Ferguson wanted to remind everyone that the county trash plant goes private on November 14, 2011.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Health Insurance:** Craig Fawcett & Debbie Bell have both made presentations as brokers. Review of Blue Shield of Northeastern NY and CDPHP. There would be no co-pay for x-rays or lab tests through CDPHP’s program if testing was done at a preferred site (any of the G.F. Hospital’s Family Health Centers apply). There will be no figures available on plan costs for 2012 until October 19, 2011. Motion was made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to stay with Capital Financial/Debbie Bell, broker. Passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #42-**Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a budget increase to reflect monies received from LARAC programs as follows:

A510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 710.00
A2770 Georgi	
A960 Appropriations	\$ 710.00
A7450.4a Georgi LARAC	

Passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #43-**Motion made by Councilman Joe Weve3r, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, for a budget increase to reflect monies received from County for plowing and mowing per MOU’s as follows:

DA510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 10,000.00
DA2290 Svcs. Other Governments	
DA960 Appropriations	\$ 10,000.00
DA5130.4 Machinery	

Passed Unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #44-**Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joe Wever, for a budget transfer for culverts and Periard unemployment as follows:

DB5110.4 General Repairs	\$ 2,639.34
DB5112.2 Improvements	\$ 2,495.73
DB9050.8 Unemployment	\$ 143.61

Passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #45-**Motion made by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, for a budget increase to reflect monies received for Comprehensive Plan that was borrowed from Town Office until monies came in as follows:

A510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 6,320.00	
A2770c Comprehensive Plan		
A960 Appropriations		\$ 6,320.00
A1620.4 Town Office		

Passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #46**-Motion made by Councilman Joe Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, for a budget transfer of monies to cover garage expenses as follows:

A1220.4 Supervisor	\$ 2,000.00	
A5132.4 Garage		\$ 2,000.00

Passed unanimously 5-0.

**Tentative Budget-Resolution #47**-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilwoman Dottie Schneider, to amend the tentative budget with changes and accept as Preliminary Budget. Town Clerk, Patricia Gilchrist, will publish notice for two weeks in 'The Eagle' for the public hearing on the Preliminary Budget, which will be held on November 3, 2011, at 7:00 pm in the Town Office. Roll call vote:

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes | Councilwoman Dottie Schneider-Yes |
| Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes   | Supervisor Seth Pitts-Yes         |
| Councilman Joe Wever-Yes        |                                   |

Passed unanimously 5-0.

**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 @ 8:15 pm

**Next Meeting**-Next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on November 09, 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