

**TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
JULY 09, 2014 MINUTES**

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

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Al Cormier-Historian; Wendy Bordwell-Georgi; Herb Perkins-SYO; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.

Absent: Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider

Public Present: Vinnie Smith; Michael J. W

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #7 and Highway Abstract #7 of 2014 for approval and payment

7:00 pm- Monthly Meeting of Salem Town Board called to order by Supervisor Seth Pitts, followed by Pledge of Allegiance. Review of minutes from June 11, 2014 board meeting; **motion** made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to approve the minutes of June 11, 2014 monthly board meeting. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to pay Warrants #7 and Highway Abstract #7 of 2014 as presented. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department- Chief Graham provided reports for May and June since he was not present at the June meeting. **May Report-4 Calls for month** (1-propane smell; 1-priority one echo; 1-wires down); **Mutual Aid-1-Cossayuna (MVA)**

Training-Monthly air pack & gas meter check; members taking rope rescue school

Meetings-Fire Dep't. monthly meeting; town board meeting

Total hours-2,243

June Report-5 calls for month; 2-Salem (1-priority one echo call; 1-MVA); 1-Jackson (alarm activation)

Mutual Aid-2-Hebron (2-MVA's)

Training-Monthly air pack & multi gas meter check; driver training

Total hours-2,952

Reports will be filed

Chief Graham reported that the Salem Fire Dep't. would like to do a coin drop in the Village on August 31st (Labor Day weekend) and the Town Board had to grant approval for any fund raising the Department does. On a motion from Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, the Board grants the latitude to do fundraising activities to the Salem Fire Department as they see fit from today, July 09, 2014-December 31, 2014. Beginning in January of 2015, this will become part of the yearly contract with the Department. Roll call vote: Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Abstained; Supervisor Seth Pitts-Yes; Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Absent; Passed 3-0 (with 1 abstain and 1 absent)

Courthouse-Donna Farringer reported that the sign has been received and was erected by the Town Highway crew and that the post was painted.

Lunch, Learn n Play began on July 7th @ 11:30 am at the CCC, with many programs available in the afternoons, with approximately 65-75 children in attendance each day. Donna thanked Highway Sup't. Joe Boisclair for bringing in the town's equipment for the kids to sit on and check out as part of the day's activities. They were a big hit! Invoice provided for \$1,000.00 for Town's contribution to the summer program; on voucher tonight.

Sunday, July 20th-11 am live at the Courthouse the Salem Festival Concert will be broadcast live from Ludinghuasen, Germany, free of charge. All are welcome to attend.

Al Fresco-Tickets still available for July 26th @ 5:00 pm. Great dinner, auction and entertainment!

Highway Dept.-Joe Boisclair reported the Tackle Box Bridge opened for traffic on June 27th @ 3:00 pm. Highway crew has been putting in culverts, grading and hauling gravel. Mowing was done on Riley Hill and Route 153, Perry Hill, Camden Valley and Juniper Swamp Roads; put down calcium on Schoolhouse Road in Shushan; worked on chipping and cutting at Veteran's Park for two days; patched Camden Valley and Perry Hill Roads; patched Rexleigh Road and worked on Camden Valley culvert; did sign at Courthouse; mowed Pine Lane and some of Dillon Hill; worked around barn.

Report will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Wendy Bordwell reported that the Washington County Band had already had their concert on the grounds and that the Mettawee Players would be performing on July 15th and July 29th. Hubbard Hall's production of 'Romeo & Juliet' will take place on July 21st and 24th.

A 'Sunday Picnic in the Park' is being planned for September 14th @ 4:00 pm, hopefully with entertainment.

Another Conservation Assessment Plan needs to be done; the last one was in 1993. Storage & preservation of the paintings needs to be considered and grants are available for that. Sandy Adams doing a great job with the gardens and mowing is being done regularly; the grounds look great.

Rental on the Community Room-for a meeting-\$30.00; shower, party, etc.-\$60.00

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported that the board had one application for a 25 x 25 garage. The public hearing on the mining permit was currently on hold because the adjoining landowner wants his attorney present at the hearing. July meeting will be held on Thursday, 07/24/2014 @ 7:00 pm here in Town Office.

Historian-Al Cormier reports that the 250th Anniversary of Turner's Patent/Founding of White Church celebration will be held on Sunday, July 27th, with service at White Church beginning at 10:00 am, carry-in luncheon to follow. Irish step dancers will perform at 3:00 pm and a concert at the gazebo on Main Street will take place from 5-7 pm. David & Debbie Moore just returned from Ireland where they attended festivities regarding Dr. Clarke and his followers and his trip from Ireland to the U.S.

Firemen are on board for Civil War theme for next years' July 4th parade. There will be a program at the Georgi in August and the book **Along the Battenkill**, will be out on August 2nd. There are many local pictures in the book and Herb Eriksson and Butch Gilchrest provided some of the pictures. The Dr. Asa Fitch Historical Society will be selling books at the Bancroft Library and the Georgi. A book for children is also being investigated for printing. Al presented a program at the LLP on Monday re the railroad.

There are currently a group of re-enactors in Georgia who do the 123rd Regiment and Al is hoping that they might come here to do a re-enactment.

Comprehensive Plan-On hold until after the Village Dissolution vote on August 5th.

SYO-Herb reported that LLP had begun on July 7th and was very well attended; Supervisor Pitts will be doing the lunches every day for the children. Echo Creek (Michael Palulis) is providing vegetables for the lunches and Dottie will be back soon working on the garden. Thanks to everyone for their support of the program. Herb is looking into the possibility of an activity day at the Georgi in the fall. The survey that was done indicated that the kids wanted some kind of activity days/nights over the summer. Free Friday Rec nights on the Courthouse lawn have been scheduled for July 11, 18; August 1 and 8th for grades 7-12 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Volleyball, whiffle ball, Frisbee, kickball, badminton, board games, cards and table tennis are among the activities.

DCO Report-Report provided for 06/08-06/21/2014, with 14 instances: site visits; court; picking up dogs, etc. Total collected for month was \$291.80 (June's monthly report already completed when money was turned in the second week of July; thus, this will go on July's monthly report.)

Veteran's Park-The dead tree was removed by Bill Dornan, with cutting and chipping done by Salem Highway Dep't. There are cut up pieces at the carnival grounds for the taking.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vinnie Smith-addressed the Board about the possibility of the Town taking over their own Code Enforcement regulations rather than using Washington County Code Enforcement, which is the procedure currently. He said that other towns and villages share an inspector and that at least the fees charged would stay with the Town rather than the County. Possibility that the Cambridge inspector might be interested if Salem decides to go this route. He said he has been doing building/repairs for over 25 years and that he had never been cited before and was recently given a fine on repair work he was doing after being told by the Village that no permits were needed. He did not need to appear before the Town's site plan review as the work was being done on a Village property. Vinnie just wanted the Board to consider the idea and think about putting in their own set of regulations.

Leonard Keys-Mobil Home application received from Lenny Keys with the \$10.00 fee to place a 1982 year single-wide mobile home on a 14 x 72 lot where the house burned down in 1978; owns 78.7 acres total. Water supply, septic/sewer lines and electric are already existing on the property. The mobile home is the one Scott Perkins was living in on Route 22 by Borador's. On a motion from Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, a variance was granted to the current mobile home law as to the up-grade year as long as code enforcement is ok with the same and everything passes inspection. Lenny will check with Mo Patrick after the meeting and do the application for site plan, if necessary.

Salem Volunteer Fire Department-Steven Saunders reported to the Board that the NYS Attorney General's Office lost the Certificate of Amendment to the Fire Department's Certificate of Incorporation that was sent to them. A new resolution must be passed by the Town Board stating that the Fire Department is no longer under the control of the Village and that the Town extended its fire protection boundaries to include the Village of Salem. A letter was present from Attorney Bradley Pinsky on behalf of the fire department with the required resolution that needs to be passed and that the Town Board members present need to sign, certification to be completed by Town Clerk, Patricia Gilchrist. **Resolution #40**-On a motion from Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, the Board decided by roll call vote to sign the new resolution and to have the Town Clerk certify the same so Steven Saunders could send the same back to Attorney Pinsky with the required paperwork. Roll call vote: Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Seth Pitts-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Abstain; Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Absent; Passed 3-0, with 1 abstaining

CORRESPONDENCE

Salem Senior Citizen's Group-Supervisor Pitts received a letter from the Senior Citizen's Group asking if the town could make a small donation as members are dwindling and funds are short. On a motion from Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, it was decided to donate \$250.00 to the Senior Citizen's Group, money to come out of Economic Development. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider

Sales Tax Money-Rec'd. \$8,577.79 in third quarter 2014 sales tax money from Washington County.

Notice of Claim-Received Notice of Claim that Town is being sued by Stevens & Thompson Paper Co. and their insurance company over an incident that the Salem Fire Department responded to at the mill in Middle Falls. Everything has been sent to NYMIR for their review.

250th Anniversary of Turner's Patent-Request from Judy Flagg, through Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to place a second order for more commemorative mugs to sell as the first order received had already been sold. The Board was in agreement that Judy could order more from her supply source, probably 50-75. The order won't arrive until the second or third week in August so nothing will be available for sale at the celebration at the White Church on the 27th of July. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Truck Bids-Truck bids opened by Supervisor Pitts for 2003 Ford F250 Diesel 4 x 4 Pick-up; three (3) were received: 1-Paul Donaldson of Hartford, NY, for \$1,000.00; 1-Mark Clark, Jr. for \$1,552.99; 1-Kent Foster from Shushan, NY, for \$4,000.00. **Resolution #41**-Motion on the floor by Councilman Joseph Wever to reject any and all truck bids and to keep the pick-up in the fleet for the Town's use; seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson. Roll call vote: Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-No; Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes; Supervisor Seth Pitts-Yes; passed 3-1 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider.

Timber Contract-Contract has been signed by Supervisor Pitts and James Allen of Allen Forestry, approved by Attorney Alan Wrigley, and sent back to Allen Forestry, keeping one original for our files. KB Logging will be cutting the timber. Contract is on file with them, also.

NEW BUSINESS

County Updates-2014 Real Property Tax Levies detail sheet received from Real Property as well as full value tax rates using the 2013 Assessment Roll for all the towns/villages in Washington County.

Village Dissolution Process-The Dissolution Committee has held one meeting; second meeting will be held on July 17th. Public Meeting will be held at Proudfit Hall on 07/31/2014 at 7 pm for anyone who wishes to attend before the August 5th vote. Brochure to be mailed out to Village residents prior to the public meeting.

Resolution #42-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a transfer as follows:

DB5110.4 Repairs	\$ 4,273.00
DB5112.2 CHIPS	\$ 4,273.00

Check needs to be issued for \$85,000.00 (money budgeted) to Peckham. The \$4,273.00 was already used for culverts. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider.

September & October Meetings-Supervisor Pitts reported that he would like the September 10, 2014, meeting to be held at Proudfit Hall, with DA Tony Jordan and Washington County Sheriff Jeff Murphy doing a presentation regarding the cocaine and heroin drug problem in Washington County. They have presented at many of the other town board meetings. The board agreed that this would be an excellent idea and the motion passed 4-0 in the absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider.

The October meeting has been held in Shushan for the past few years at the Georgi Community Room so the Supervisor would like to continue the tradition; the board also approved this motion 4-0 in the absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next Regular Meeting-The next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on August 13, 2014, with review of Warrants #8 and Abstract #8 at 6:30 p.m., meeting to begin @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem

