

TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 08, 201 MINUTES

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

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Supt.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Al Cormier-Historian; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Herb Perkins-SYO

Absent: Gail Bearup-Georgi Museum; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Lois Jasek-DCO; Herb Perkins-SYO

Public Present: Eric Wilkins-Eagle Newspaper

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #1 and Highway Abstract #1 of 2014 for approval and payment

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

7:45 pm-Regular Monthly Meeting of Salem Town Board called to order. Review of minutes from December 11, 2013 regular board meeting. **Motion** made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to approve the minutes of December 11, 2013 regular board meeting. Passed unanimously 5-0

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to pay Warrants #1 and Highway Abstract #1 of 2014 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department- Chief Bob Graham provided year-end report for 2013 indicating 36 active members at present. Trainings for year listed as well as OSHA mandates. Funeral details, meetings, fund raisers, parades, stand-by's, and breakdown of hours were included. Total of 131 fire calls for the year 2013—Salem had 82; Jackson 5. Mutual aid calls: Cambridge-9; Cossayuna-3; Ft. Edward-1; Greenwich-2; Hebron-13; Rupert-11; and Shushan-5

Total Hours for Year 2013-9,266

Report for year 2013 will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Director, Gail Bearup, absent. Councilman Harold Gilchrest reported that the heat was now off and water was drained. Donations and memberships have been coming in this past month and were turned over to the Town. Councilman Gilchrest attributed this to the December Festival of Trees and Gail Bearup's hard work. One wedding has been confirmed and two more are pending. The Committee needs to meet soon to discuss future plans and the Georgi's mission and purpose.

Courthouse-Donna Farringer reported that the Courthouse has received a grant in the amount of \$200,000.00 from NYS through the Environmental Protection Fund Grant Program, with a full match from an anonymous donor. Kay Tomasi, Susan Fox and Jackie Karin helped with the grant. The Annual Report is done and has been sent out as well as the new winter workshop brochure. Board of Director's Meeting was held on December 17, 2013. HSCPA monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month beginning @ 7 pm. 'Busy Hands' exhibit will open with a reception on January 17th from 5-7 pm and run through February. 'Healthy Living', a free 5-week information session, will begin on Thursday, January 30 from 6:30-7:30 pm through February 27. Instructors will be Andrea and Webster Carroll and Fannie Glover. They will talk about leading a healthier life, proper diet, and how the body can heal itself when fueled properly. 2014 Beat the Winter Blues will feature dining opportunities at six lovely area homes, with approximately 6-8 guests in each home. Tickets are \$50.00 each and the first dining opportunity will begin on Saturday, February 22 @ Dave & Judy Klingebiel's home. Call the CCC to reserve your place! Check out all the winter opportunities at the CCC, in addition to the pottery classes being offered. Winter Break Fun will be held from February 17-20 from 10 am-Noon, including yoga, dance, cooking and nature hikes. Free tax return help will be available on February

15 @ 9:00 am (some restrictions apply). Call the Courthouse with any questions. Also, the Battenkill Kitchen is now officially part of the Courthouse. Check out the website for classes and updates or call 854-3032 and leave a message for Tom Kerr.

Highway Dept.-Joe Boisclair, Superintendent, reported that he had a bad month with sickness and bad weather! Boisclair thanked Supervisor Pitts for stepping in to plow when an employee was out sick. Everything is finally fixed and ready to go. Did a lot of plowing, salting, sanding and cleaning of trucks for the month. Report provided for work done from 12/12/13-01/08/2014 and will be filed.

Historian-Al Cormier provided yearly report at the December 30th, 2013 year-end meeting. Al was very proud of the fact that Salem Central presented an honorary degree to Herb Eriksson of Shushan and felt this was a highlight of the year. Herb was very pleased. Al presented the board with a letter asking them to think about a Deputy Historian to learn his job so that there could be a smooth transition of duties when the position becomes vacant. Al presented some solutions and suggested qualifications for the appointee. The board thanked Al for his concern and all thought this would be a good idea.

DCO Report-No report as Lois Jasek was absent.

Planning Board-Maurice Patrick, Chairperson, absent. January meeting back on track to fourth Thursday of the month.

Comprehensive Plan-Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider reported that she has the following people to serve as the Agriculture Committee for the Comprehensive Plan: Meg Southerland, Paul Tomlinson, Neil Adams and Zack Waite. A motion was made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to appoint these people to the Comprehensive Plan. Passed unanimously 5-0. Current Chariman, Bruce Ferguson, thinks the Village should be included in the Comprehensive Plan, especially in the agriculture portion and economic development. He hopes to have a meeting soon.

Veteran's Park-Dorothy Schneider reported that there would be a meeting on Saturday with the American Legion and that the press release should be done to put in the paper.

SYO-Herb Perkins absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT-None

CORRESPONDENCE: Nothing

NEW BUSINESS:

Washington County – No keys turned over on PVI. Separate licenses for Nursing Home and Adult Home. There was a glitch that should be worked out soon.

Economic Development-John Boice, Fred Russo and Jim Bain will serve on the committee from the Village and Supervisor Pitts reported that he has asked Bob Akland, Tom McMorris and Tom Kerr to serve on the committee for the Town. Barton & Loguidice will apply to Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant for Salem Main Street Renaissance Project. Councilman Harold Gilchrest said he felt after attending the last Economic Development meeting that anything done would benefit the Village more than the Town. Supervisor Pitts responded that he understood how Gilchrest felt but that developing Main Street would be good for the entire community. **Resolution #14**, introduced by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, would allow the Town of Salem to expend the sum of \$250.00, one-half the amount required to apply for a grant through the Hudson River Valley Greenway under the Greenway Communities Grant Program, and that the governing board of the Town of Salem does approve and endorse the application for said grant as specified for the project known as the Salem Main Street Renaissance Project. Passed unanimously 5-0

Highway Employees' Vacation Policy-Councilman Joe Wever brought up the proposed change to the highway employees' vacation policy that was not acted upon last month. The change would allow employees who worked from 16-25 years of continuous employment to have eight hours added to 120 hours for each

year worked beyond 15 years, for a maximum of five weeks of vacation. Councilman Wever had already met with the highway employees and reviewed the changes with them to everyone's satisfaction. Highway Superintendent Boisclair said the two longest working employees were himself and Bill Zinn, who each have ten years in. **Resolution #15** was introduced by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilcrest, to add the eight (8) hours to 120 hours for each year worked beyond 15 years of employment from 16-25 years for a total of five weeks of vacation. Passed unanimously 5-0

County Committees-Supervisor Pitts reported that he had been assigned to the following Washington County Committees at the Board of Supervisors: Public Safety; Public Works; Health and Human Services; Chairman of the Audit Committee; and Chairman of the LDC (Local Development Committee).

Supervisor Pitts also reported his 'Wish List for 2014' to the Board:

- Get Economic Development Committee going with Village and Town to see results
- Broadband to areas outside the Village
- To become stewards of town resources
- Veteran's Park done and utilized
- Eventual development of Train Station into a Town Hall

Next Regular Monthly Meeting-The next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on February 12, 2013, with review of Warrants #2 and Highway Abstract #2 at 6:30 p.m., meeting to begin @ 7:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Passed unanimously 5-0

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem