

TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN OF SALEM TOWN BOARD
JUNE 10, 2015 MINUTES

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

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

Absent: DCO-Nancy Quell

Public Present: Mike Miller; Ashleigh Morris -The Eagle

6:30 pm-Review & signing of **Warrants #6** and **Highway Abstract #6 of 2015** 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 minutes from May 13, 2015, regular monthly board meeting; **motion** made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to approve the minutes of May 13th, 2015, regular monthly board meeting. Passed unanimously 5-0. After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to pay **Warrants #6** and **Highway Abstract #6 of 2015** as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0. After review and signing of **Supervisor's Reports**, **motion** made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever to approve the monthly **Supervisor's Reports** as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department- Chief Graham reported a total of 12 calls for the month of May, 2015. 6-Salem (4-structure fires; 1-electrical fire; 1-grass & brush fire); 1-Jackson (pole fire); Mutual Aid: 1-Cambridge (stand-by); 1-Shushan (stand-by); 1-Cossayuna (grass & brush); 2-Rupert (stand-by's)

Training: Monthly multi gas meter check & monthly air pack; portable pump training; OSHA mandate-gear inspection done

Meetings: Building committee met; held meeting re fireworks for July 4th, Fire Dep't. mtg.; Town Board mtg.; attended Chiefs & Officers mtg. in Fort Ann

Total training hrs. – 3,140; Report will be filed.

Courthouse-Donna Farringer reported that scaffolding is currently being set in place for the restoration work that will soon be commencing on the cornices, gutters and the roof.

Chamber Music series continues at the Courthouse with the last performance on Sunday, June 14th with Daniel Shulman. Cost is \$20.00

The talent show held on June 6th at the Fort Salem Theatre and hosted by Jerry Gretzinger was very well attended; people from ages 5-60 performed. There was also a dessert auction after the show.

June 10th is the final lecture on the Battenkill series through Crandall Library's Folklife Center, entitled 'Teaching Trout to Talk' with Stuart Bartow

Art display of Joan Duff Bohrer will be on display through June 19th.

Civil War Exhibits-Will run from Friday, June 26th at 5:00 p.m.-July 31st in the Great Hall at the Courthouse.

Band Concert-Friday, 07/03 @ 7:30 p.m., featuring the Providence Brigade Brass Band

Saturday, July 4th @ 1:00 p.m.-77th Regiment Balladeers will be in attendance in the Courthouse Community Center Courtroom.

Al Fresco Dinner-Will be held Saturday, 07/25, @ 5:00 p.m. on the side lawn of the Courthouse. Tickets are currently on sale. Cheeses; grilled local vegetables; grilled Yushak's summer sausages; salad; marinated chicken; corn salad; Al Fresco sirloin; Italian potato salad or you may choose a vegetarian delight of mushroom and goat cheese lasagna. Decadent desserts will be served with Lucy Jo's coffee and tea. Get you tickets early!

Donna provided minutes to the Board from the March 17, 2015 & the April 21, 2015 Board of Director's meetings and the agenda for the May 19, 2015 Board of Director's meeting. Reports will be filed.

Highway Dept.-Joe Boisclair reported that blacktop was finished at the Courthouse. Cleaned ditches on Camden Valley; put in culvert (12' x 20") and did ditching on Blind Buck Rd.; men did an all-day OSHA training; ditched on Upper Bogtown and cut & chipped on Blind Buck Rd.; hauling gravel for the County; worked with bulldozer; swept around holes on Chambers; welded gradall bucket; hot patched; hauled stone and gravel to grade on Blind Buck; worked on mower and worked around barn; mowed Rexleigh Rd. Report will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Wendy Bordwell reported that the new picnic tables were delivered to the grounds and were a much-needed addition. Had to call Bove Fuels; there was a leak in the kitchen that has been fixed.

Photo Exhibit-Joanne Steele will be exhibiting her photographs at the Georgi Community room on Saturday, June 13th, from 6-8 p.m. Joanne has taken many pictures of students for proms and yearbook pictures have been taken on the grounds.

Gem & Mineral Club-will be coming on Tuesday, 06/16, to review and catalog the collection.

Letter that was received from concerned Shushan residents-Councilman Harold Gilchrest responded to the questions posed in the prior letter sent to Supervisor Pitts:

1-Concerns re storage of the art off premises: It was on recommendation of the Georgi Board to the Salem Town Board that the art that was more valuable should be stored in a climate controlled environment off premises as there are very few storage facilities that do this kind of thing. The facility that wrapped and loaded the paintings was the closest to our area with an excellent rating for this kind of thing.

2-Why wasn't an open meeting held re the cost of the storage? Nothing like this has ever been done before and the Georgi Board was instructed to research this option and come back to the Board with their findings, which they did.

3-Why the three-year storage plan? This is just an estimate as no one knew how long it would take for the roof to be completed or the mold remediation to get done. Better to be over-estimated on time than under estimated.

4-Remainder of collection has been moved to one part of the museum and covered.

5-Number of members on the Georgi Committee-The Committee is appointed by the Supervisor in January at the Organizational Meeting and there is currently representation from Shushan on the committee.

6-Vision of the Town Board for the Georgi-Is to maintain the grounds, repair the roof and address the mold issue while the paintings are in storage in a climate controlled environment. Repairs have been made to the Community Room and that will continue to be rented out. The Museum will be re-opened when the work is complete and it is safe to bring back the artwork. More artwork was found so it is hoped that the paintings will be able to be switched around so the same artwork is not always being displayed. Rental of the grounds will continue as more people use the grounds and the Community Room than visit the Museum.

Planning Board-Mo Patrick reported that a Mylar map needed to be stamped and there was one site plan application for review.

Historian-Al Cormier provided a new card of events for the 150th Anniversary events taking place throughout the year but especially from July 3-5, 2015. Host families are all set for the band; re-enactors will be fed at the campsite. There is a dinner on Friday night at Holy Cross for the band. The book is out for sale, **The 123rd Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, "The Washington County Regiment"—1861-1865 Their Story**, written by Edie Baldwin Meikle, for a cost of \$12.95. Mr. Cormier left copies with Town Clerk, Pat Gilchrist.

Replacement flags have been ordered for the Revolutionary Cemetery. A proposal has been received from Grave Stone Matters, located in Hoosick Falls, for re-setting and/or repairing of gravestones and monuments in the Revolutionary War Cemetery (approximately 17 stones total) for a total of \$3,425.00.

DCO Report-Nancy Quell absent; Report provided indicating issues handled on Quarry Road and Route 22. Report will be filed by Town Clerk.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Miller-Questioned why worker's setting up staging at the Courthouse were not wearing harnesses suggesting that if something happened it could be a big liability issue for the Town. Donna Farringer did not know the answer and Supervisor Pitts said he would look into the matter.

CORRESPONDENCE-Thank-you card from Vivian Ackerman to Joe Boisclair for checking out where her driveway comes out onto the town road.

Thank-you from Tracey Lea re the April road race and use of the Town's roads.

OLD BUSINESS

Village Dissolution-Passed the June 1st deadline for accepting any petitions to put the plan up for a vote. Will continue to follow the time-line for the next steps for formal dissolution with the Laberge Group and their attorneys.

Shushan Post Office-Councilman Gilchrest reported that Town of Jackson resident, Louis Steele, is waiting for a response from the USPS as to a public meeting date in Shushan. Councilman Harold Gilchrest reported that a representative from the postal service visited Shushan and has inspected a few possible locations, one being the building the Shushan Fire Department just purchased adjacent to the fire house. No indication as to how long the process will take to make a determination.

Logging Work-Jim Allen from Allen Forestry is done; Voucher was signed tonight for \$1,000.00 to pay him. Received check for \$10,027.00 for stumpage from Allen Forestry, which will go into the "A" account. Councilman Bruce Ferguson wanted the minutes to reflect that he has since hired Allen Forestry as his personal forester.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #41-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to enter into a contract with Washington County for mowing 5.49 centerline miles of Route 153 at a price of \$245.00/centerline mile for a total of \$1,345.05 to run from June 1-November 1, 2015. Check to be issued at the end of the mowing season. Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #42-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to pay \$1,000.00 to the Lunch, Learn n Play program as allotted in the 2015 budget. Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #43-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to pay \$500.00 to Salem Area Senior Citizens as allotted in the 2015 budget. Passed unanimously 5-0

Georgi Roof and/or Chimney Bids-The following bid sheet was presented by Supervisor Pitts to the Board for comparison:

- Jack Alexander-Roof Only-\$10,500.00
- Todd Riche-Roof Only-\$9,450.00
- Pinacle Roofing-Roof Only-\$7,700.00
- Chris Orihuela-Chimney Repairs Only-\$4,500.00 (To rebuild both chimneys)
- Dupuis Masonry-Roof-\$9,700.00; Chimney Repairs-\$2,800.00 Total-\$12,500.00
- Arthur Hemple-Roof-\$7,200.00; Chimney Repairs-\$1,000.00 Total-\$ 8,200.00

Resolution #44-Motion made by Bruce Ferguson not to accept any bids for the new roof work and/or chimney repairs as presented. The chimney work needs further written explanation as to exactly what needs to be done with both chimneys. The bid from Chris Orihuela of \$4,500.00 was to rebuild both chimneys; not to take one down to the roof level and to re-point the other. Motion failed to get a second.

Resolution #45- After much discussion, motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to accept the Arthur Hempel bid of \$7,200.00 for the roof and \$1,000.00 for the chimney repairs for a total of \$8,200.00. The fireplace chimney will be coming down to roof level and the furnace chim-

ney will be re-pointed. The new shingle color should match as closely as possible what is already on the back side of the roof. Roll call vote: Councilman Harold Gilchrest-No; Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; Passed 4-1

Resolution #46-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to transfer money from the fund balance of the Georgi to cover expenses through the summer months as follows:

GM599 Fund Balance	\$10,000.00	
GM960 Appropriations		\$10,000.00
GM7450.4		

Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #47-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to accept the union contract as presented—80/20 for Health Insurance; \$400.00/year allotted for uniforms for each employee (if not enough the employee will have to cover the difference); addition of comp time; and 2% raise increase for the next three (3) years. There are currently only two employees, as well as Superintendent Joe Boisclair. Roll call vote: Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #48-After much discussion, motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to hire Laberge Group for engineering services to create the Water and Lighting Districts for \$6,500.00, which will be covered under the CRG grant funding. Roll Call Vote: Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilwoman Dorothy Wever-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0

Much discussion about who to hire as attorneys for creation of the districts and for any other matters pertaining to the dissolution process. Supervisor Pitts explained that he thought the Board should go with a larger firm with more experience and resources than current Town Attorney, Alan Wrigley. Supervisor Pitts stated that Mr. Wrigley has been a great attorney for the town and would continue in that capacity regardless of hiring a larger firm for dissolution needs. Councilman Bruce Ferguson disagreed with the Supervisor and felt that Alan Wrigley could handle the needs of the town in this process. Councilman Harold Gilchrest agreed with Ferguson at first but then said he was aware of a number of farms that used larger firms for specialized work. **Resolution #49**-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, to hire Fitzgerald, Morris, Baker & Firth as legal representation for establishing the water and lighting districts and any other dissolution services that might be needed, cost to come from the CRG grant funding. Roll call vote: Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; Passed unanimously 5-0

Resolution #50-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to hire Barton & Loguidice through the 2015 Consolidated Funding Application Grant Program for a sewer feasibility study within the current boundaries of the Village of Salem. Both Councilman Harold Gilchrest and Councilman Bruce Ferguson felt that Laberge Group had enough on their plate with the dissolution process and that we would be better off hiring Barton & Loguidice for the sewer study. Roll call vote: Councilman Joseph Wever-No; Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-No; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-No; motion failed 3-2

Resolution #51-Motion made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to hire the Leberge Group to do the sewer feasibility study through the 2015 Consolidated Funding Application Grant Program within the boundaries of the current Village of Salem. Roll call vote: Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider-Yes; Councilman Joseph Wever-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-No; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; Passed 4-1

September Art Walk-Peter Carrolan reported that there would be an art walk in September and the committee wishes to place a piece of art in the Town’s lot at the Revolutionary War Cemetery. SAW will be

doing the artwork; drawings were requested for the July meeting. As long as the artwork is in good taste the Board didn't have a problem with placement of the piece of art. Passed unanimously 5-0

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilcrest, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board. Passed 5-0; regular monthly meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting-The next regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board will take place on July 08, 2015; review of Warrants and Abstract to begin at 6:30 p.m., meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk