

**TOWN OF SALEM  
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2014 MINUTES**

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

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway Sup't.; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Al Cormier-Historian; Wendy Bordwell-Georgi

Absent: Herb Perkins-SYO; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.

Public Present: Mike Miller; Jim Allen-Allen Forestry; Ashleigh Morris-The Eagle Newspaper

6:30 pm-Review & signing of Warrants #6 and Highway Abstract #6 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 May 14, 2014 board meeting; **motion** made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to approve the minutes of May 14, 2014 monthly board meeting. Passed unanimously 5-0

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to pay Warrants #6 and Highway Abstract #6 of 2014 as presented. Passed unanimously 5-0

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Salem Fire Department-** Chief Graham absent; no report provided.

**Courthouse-**Donna Farringer reported that the attic and roof had both been checked for work that needs to be done. Thanks to Tauno Wirkki for fixing the flag pole at the Courthouse. The Talent Show was a huge success as well as the Chamber Music Series.

**"Do Tell"**-A free story-telling workshop series will still be on-going for a few more Wednesdays, June 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at the CCC. The workshop will be given by Margaret French and Betty Cassidy.

**On Saturday, June 14,** @ 7:00 pm enjoy an amazing concert with the Salem Festival Chorus, followed by a dessert auction at the Salem Central School. This will be a 'donations only' concert to benefit both the Salem Festival Chorus and their up-coming trip to Germany and the Lunch, Learn n Play program.

**June 21<sup>st</sup>-Salem Elementary School Talent Show** followed by a Dessert Auction will be held at the Courthouse Courtroom at 7:00 pm. Grades 3-6 will be performing at this 'donations only' benefit, which will benefit the LLP summer program.

**June 27<sup>th</sup>-From 5-7 pm** in the Great Hall join the CCC for an exciting new exhibit, opening with a reception, featuring the woodcarvings of Gerry Holzman. He will also be the featured artist during the up-coming Al Fresco Dinner on July 26<sup>th</sup>. His work will remain on display until August 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Al Fresco tickets** are still on sale for \$60.00 each; the date is Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, @ 5:00 pm. No brunch on Sunday morning this year.

**Lunch, Learn n Play** begins on July 7<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 am at the CCC, with many programs available in the afternoon. For those who want to participate in the swim program, the cost of the bus is \$20.00 for one student and \$40.00 for a family. Applications are available on line.

**Highway Dept.**-Joe Boisclair reported that all blacktopping is finished and culverts are done. Riley Hill Road has also been completed. The Tackle Box Bridge should be completed by the end of the month. Report will be filed.

**Planning Board**-Maurice Patrick absent.

**DCO Report**-Nancy Quell provided a report, which will be filed. Handled complaints about dogs running loose, a dog attack and a missing dog what was eventually found and returned to its owner. Appeared in Court on 05/30/14 regarding an on-going case.

**Georgi Museum**-Wendy Bordwell reported that several events have already been scheduled for the summer months: The Mettawee Players will be performing in July; Shakespeare in the Park from Hubbard Hall has been scheduled; several weddings have been booked and three more events have been booked. She reported that there might be a 'doggie day' event taking place on the grounds in the early fall. Wi-Fi has been established. Councilman Harold Gilchrest reported that some trees need to come down in the park, probably 3-4 big ones. He has talked to a tree expert and the cost would be approximately \$2,000.00 to remove the ones that need to be removed. Councilman Gilchrest also requested that the weekly hours needed to be increased for Wendy from five (5) hours/week to a minimum of ten (10) hours/week or forty (40) hours/month. There is a lot going on and more time is needed to maintain the calendar and for scheduling and planning future events. **Resolution #34**-On a motion from Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, it was decided to increase the hours for the Georgi Clerk, Wendy Bordwell, to a maximum of forty (40) hours/month. Passed unanimously 5-0

**Historian**-Al Cormier reported that the photo book '**Along the Battenkill**' has gone to the printer.

**Civil War Events for 2015** in commemoration of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Regiment are being planned already. Three lectures will be given in March at the CCC; there will be two concerts with flutists and musical re-enactors; a souvenir mug will be created and will be sold using the 123<sup>rd</sup> Regiment emblem (along with other souvenir items), and the Courthouse Quilters will be busy creating a large quilt with the 123<sup>rd</sup> Regiment emblem. There is also talk about creating a 123<sup>rd</sup> Regiment souvenir book. Al hopes that Salem Central School will participate in at least one special event. He has also been talking to the business people in the hopes that they will put up buntings and that several large banners may be hung across Main Street. Mr. Cormier said he that he hopes the many events will draw a lot of history buffs to the area. He would also like to erect a permanent plaque on the Railroad Depot building to commemorate the 123<sup>rd</sup>.

Al also attended Col. Baum's trail event in Fort Miller, travelling from there to Waloomsac. A new '**Battle of Bennington**' book is also available for sale now.

**250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Turner's Patent/Founding of White Church**-Councilman Bruce Ferguson showed the new mug that Judy Flagg has had reproduced and that will be available for sale at various locations throughout the Village for a cost of \$20.00. The mugs are dark brown and the emblem came out very nice on the mugs. The Board was pleased with the outcome.

**Comprehensive Plan**-Chairman Bruce Ferguson reported that he had distributed copies of the Ag Plan to the members of the Ag Committee and hopes to be able to schedule a meeting in the near future.

**SYO**-Herb was absent but provided a report and hopes to attend the July board meeting to report on the results of the survey that was conducted in grades 7-12. Programs and activities that the students said they would like to see happen will begin to be available soon. The Shoppe Off Broadway is funding four Friday night Rec Nights at the Youth Barn and on the Courthouse lawn this summer. They will be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. If the program is popular, it may be extended further into August.

**Veteran's Park**-Jim Allen from Allen Forestry was present at the meeting and had suggested to Supervisor Pitts prior to the meeting that Bill Dornan, who removes trees for Washington County, would be a good person to do the tree removal required at the park. Jim Allen, Supervisor Pitts and Mr. Doran met at the park and decided that the clump of silver maples, plus one cedar and box alder near Tonia Eaton's needed to be taken down. Highway Sup't. Joe Boisclair and his crew could do the chipping required. Mr. Dornan submitted a bid for \$1,000.00 and the job would be done by July 4<sup>th</sup>. **Resolution #35**-On a motion from Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, that \$1,000.00 be taken from the Veteran's Park account to pay Bill Dornan for removal of the trees that needed to come down. Passed unanimously 5-0. Both Mr. Allen and Mr. Dornan also inspected the planted trees and reported that they were all in good shape.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mike Miller**-addressed Supervisor Pitts and the board regarding the new paving on Beattie Hollow Road and reported that the outfit that bought Cowee Lumber Company’s property would be hauling timber up and down the newly paved road and wondered if the Town could request that the company provide a bond in case they tear up the new pavement. A timber loaded truck would weigh approximately 110-135,000 pounds according to Mr. Allen. Supervisor Pitts said that the County could post the bridge and road for a weight limit.

**Donna Farringer**-Addressed the board regarding a speed limit reduction on Beattie Hollow Road, especially since the new paving has been done. What is involved in the process? A petition would normally be presented to the board signed by a majority of the residents on the road, then the Petition goes to the County, paperwork is provided by them and then goes to NYS and a study is done to see if the reduction is warranted. Donna thanked the board for answering her questions.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter received from NYS Real Property advising that the new equalization rate would be 57%. \$6,583.78 received in mortgage tax collected from 10/01/13-03/31/14 and \$2.29 stumpage fee received from the County.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Timber Contract**-One bid received for both sides of the road from KB Logging. **Resolution #36**-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to accept the bid from KB Logging for timber removal.

**2004 Pick-up Truck**-No bids received in the two weeks the truck was advertised in the Eagle. Put another ad in the Eagle for two-three more weeks and possibly on Craig’s List for the July meeting. Clerk Pat Gilchrist will take care of sending to the newspaper with the new dates.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**County Auction**-The two parcels that the Shushan Covered Bridge Museum would have been able to get from the County for \$1.00--one on the Jackson side of the Battenkill and one on the Salem side--have been removed from the tax sale along with several other parcels owned by the same person due to bankruptcy filing.

**NYMIR**-Supervisor Pitts met with attorney from NYMIR re the claim regarding the fall at the Courthouse.

**Village Dissolution Process**-Village held a meeting on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, @ Proudfit. A power point presentation was given by the Laberge Group and several questions were asked. The Laberge Group have requested a meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:30 am at the Town Office with Supervisor Pitts, Highway Sup’t. Joe Boisclair, Town Clerk Pat Gilchrist, and board member Bruce Ferguson just to review different duties, etc.

**Eagleville Bridge**-Letter was sent from the Board of Supervisors to DEC recommending that DEC not put in a parking lot on the Jackson side of the bridge due to so much river traffic in the summertime.

**FYI**-from Supervisor Pitts stating that the County was looking at removal of the Archibald Street bridge. Meeting there with Supervisor Jim Lindsay, Tom Clark, Bever Watkins and Scott Tracey from Washington County Public Works Dep’t.

**Resolution #36**-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, for a transfer as follows:

A1410.4 Town Clerk	\$ 500.00
A1620.4 Office	\$ 1,000.00
A1110.4 Justice	\$ 1,500.00

Transfer funds due to Justice Program Maintenance (\$950.00) and additional costs.

Passed unanimously 5-0

**Resolution #37**-Motion made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, for a transfer as follows:

A1670.4 Central Printing & Mailing	\$ 500.00
A1990.4 Contingent	\$ 1,000.00
A1220.4 Supervisor	\$ 1,500.00

Transfer funds due to Williamson support-bill not received in 2013 (\$850.00)

Passed unanimously 5-0

**Motion to Adjourn**-Motion made by Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board. Passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Clerk Patricia Gilchrist remembered that a resolution had to be passed regarding the mowing contract on Route 153 with Washington County. She so advised Supervisor Pitts, who made a motion to open the meeting back up to accomplish this one resolution, with a second from Councilman Joseph Wever.

**Resolution #38**-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Joseph Wever, to enter into a contract with the County of Washington for the period June 1-November 1, 2014 @ \$245.00 per centerline mile for 5.49 centerline miles along County Route 153 for a lump sum payment of \$1,345.05. Payment in full will be made following the completion of the second cutting and approved by the County Superintendent of Public Works. First cutting will be no earlier than June 15k 2014, and completion will be no later than July 14, 2014. Passed 4-0 (Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider had already left the premises.)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to Adjourn**-Motion made by Councilman Joseph Wever, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, for a second adjournment of the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board. Passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. (Councilwoman Dorothy Schneider had already left the premises.)

**Next Regular Meeting**-The next regular meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on July 09, 2014, with review of Warrants #7 and Abstract #7 at 6:30 p.m., meeting to begin @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk  
Town of Salem