

**TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-SALEM TOWN BOARD
AUGUST 10, 2016 MINUTES**

Present: Supervisor-Seth M. Pitts; Town Council Members: Bruce Ferguson; Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Harold Gilchrest; Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist

Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Eric Rogers-Water Dep't.; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Cait Johnston-Salem Press; Christine Eldred-The Eagle

Absent: DCO-Nancy Quell (Report provided); Janice Quartararo-Courthouse; Wendy Bordwell-Georgi; Al Cormier-Historian

Public Present: Chris Boyark-Running in 113th Assembly District in September Primary; Dorothy Beattie; Karen Tourge; Joseph Wever; Steve Dougherty; Tauno Wirkki; Linda Marlo; Tina Fleming; Laura Dunham; Sue Clary; Rebecca Brown

6:30 p.m.-Review of Warrants #8 and Abstract #8 for payment.

7:00 p.m.-The regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Seth Pitts, followed by Pledge of Allegiance. Review of minutes from July 13, 2016; **motion** made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve the minutes from July 13, 2016; passed unanimously 5-0. After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to pay **Warrants #8 and Highway Abstract #8 of 2016** as presented; passed unanimously 5-0. **Supervisor's Reports** were presented for review and approval; **motion** made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to sign and approve the Supervisor's Reports as presented; passed unanimously 5-0. Bank statements were also available for review and were reviewed by all the Councilmen.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department- Chief Graham was present & provided report. Four calls for month of June: 4-Salem (1-alarm activation; 3-trees & wires down)

Training-Monthly air pack/multi gas meter check; driver training; hydraulic tools training

OSHA Mandates-Annual hose testing was completed

Meetings-Monthly fire department meeting for July; attended Chiefs & Officers meeting

Parades-July 4th parade in Salem; Cambridge 150th Anniversary parade

Total hours-4,834; report will be filed.

Courthouse-No report

Highway- Sup't. Boisclair reported that the screener is completed. He has used \$211,000.00 of CHIPS money with approximately \$40,000.00 left; should be receiving about \$250,000.00 for 2017. NYS visited the pit and commented on what a good job the crew did on the screener; air & noise levels were tested. Crew has been mowing & trimming in the Town; cleaned downed trees from thunderstorm; graded Stanton Hill, Steele & Binninger Roads & the Pines; brought in two loads of gravel & graded a washout on Blindbuck Rd; graded Pitts & Appling Roads; cut downed tree on Chambers Rd.; put down calcium on Binninger Rd.; hauled stones & graded Woodcock Lane to fix washout; graded Center & Bowers Lane; cleaned ditches on Steele Rd.; cut tree on Dillon Hill Rd.; graveled & graded Butcher Lane; put in 15" x 40' culvert on Scott Lake Rd.; worked on broken belt for screener; marked for culverts on Scott Lake Rd.; worked on rusted '07 box; made gravel; installed new gas tank on '02; put in two 18" x 40' culverts on Scott Lake Rd.; made gravel; installed 1-18" x 60' & 2-18" x 40' culverts on Scott Lake Rd.; picked up load of culverts; installed 15" x 40' culvert on Scott Lake Rd.; worked on '04 & took to Northern Trucking; report will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Wendy Bordwell absent. Councilman Gilchrest reported that there was a great turn-out for the Washington County Band concert & the Mettawee players. Lunch, Learn n Play kids had a great week at the Georgi and plan on doing it again in 2017.

Cost of an Engineer's survey prior to architectural drawings on the handicap ramp would be approximately \$2,100.00; hold off on this for now.

Planning Board-Chairman Patrick reported they have one site plan review application as of now for a two-story garage. The August meeting will be re-scheduled to September 1st, 2016, @ 7:00 p.m. due to the August meeting falling the Thursday of the Washington County Fair. September meeting will be September 22nd, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Salem Town Office.

Historian-Al Cormier absent.

DCO Report-Nancy Quell absent; July report provided indicating no calls; report will be filed.

Water-Eric Rogers reported that 309 meters are currently in service. Eric attended a free water school put on by Mueller Company and received 6 hours of credit for the class. Two extra required water samples were taken this month; one is for nitrates with 1 sample at each well before treatment; passed all three. The other test was for haloacetic acids & trihalomethanes; both passed. This sample was taken at the Salem Rescue Squad at 152 East Broadway. Also did monthly water sample at the Salem Rescue Squad as required by NYS

Department of Health. This sample met the bacteriological requirements for a public water supply as set forth in subpart 5-1.5 of the State Sanitary Code under Public Health Law 225; sample passed. Regular upkeep and maintenance was performed; starting to clean out valves. This takes about 15-25 minutes/valve to clean, clean the cap, and then open & close the valves to make sure they still work. Well #3 manganese test did not pass; that well will be pulled and cleaned to try and get it back on line; hope to pull well on September 12th. Has been flushing dead end fire hydrants to keep water moving. Working on getting list of improvements done that was provided to Board last month. Next year two expensive tests will need to be done—primary inorganic chemicals & synthetic organic chemicals. Working on computer issues; report will be filed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karen Tourge commented that she was unhappy with the Town Board voting to remove the Archibald Street bridge and that flooding would occur whether the bridge was there or not. Her mother lives on Park Place and the easiest way out is over the Archibald Street bridge. Snow removal will also be an issue as the trucks would have to back out of the street and there is no place to plow the snow to; it cannot be dumped into the creek. Former board member Joe Wever responded that there had been two surveys taken in the past regarding the removal of the bridge and both times the result was 50/50 for removal. Supervisor Pitts responded that there had been multiple studies done regarding the flooding and that multiple choices were thrown out there as to what to do regarding the problem; such as taking out the berms, widening Archibald Street up to NYS Route 22 and removing the bridge entirely. The latest study, the Fitzgerald Study, said the Archibald Street bridge has significantly contributed to the flooding of Archibald Street.

Sidewalk District-Tauno Wirkki expressed his displeasure at the thought that there might be a sidewalk district formed in the Town for the former Village sidewalks. He is very much against the district; former Village residents have been paying town highway taxes outside of the Village for years without using many of the town's roads. This is no difference--many town residents use the sidewalks to conduct their everyday business in the former Village and use the sidewalks. They should not be taxes to do so.

COMMUNICATIONS

Steven's Chrysler-Bid on dump truck

Capital Financial-advised the Town that CDPHP health information has been breached and the problem is being worked on.

Rob Roeckle-from the State Dep't. advised Supervisor Pitts via e-mail that the amount of money to be received from the dissolution is **estimated to be in the neighborhood** of \$133,000.00, which should be received in September or October of this year.

Minutes

Comptroller's Office-Sent letter regarding the audit that a five-year capital plan still needs to be worked on and submitted when completed. We will know more after budget time with a full year of dissolution in 2017 budget.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Main Street Development Grant-Committee meeting on August 9th; 8 people were present to talk about the first public meeting results. Councilman Bruce Ferguson stressed that this was just a plan of possible things that could be done, not a plan to change or pay for anything being suggested. The next public meeting will be held on August 16th @ 7:00 p.m. at Proudfit Hall. The trail is currently listed on the tax roll under NYS Parks & Recreation—land was taken by the state from former trail when it was abandoned by the D & H. New lighting in the former Village was discussed. Laura Dunham of Laura's Garden commented that visibility into store fronts was an issue due to the large size of the trees on Main Street. Trimming of branches needs to be done all along Main Street. The parking lot behind the gazebo is not being utilized; people just don't use the lot. A more visible sign is needed perhaps at the four corners so people will know that the lot is available. Trees need to be trimmed there, too. Resident Cynthia Weinrich advised the Board that she had taken classes on pruning trees and it would be best to do it late summer, early fall. She would be glad to meet with the business owners and the highway crew to get this done. Supervisor Pitts advised that due to the Town's liability insurance, she could not do this herself. He felt the best way to accomplish this was to hire an arborist.

CFA Sewer Study Update-has been filed and we probably won't hear until November or December.

Web Page Update-80% of the cost of \$650-\$700 would be paid for by the grant for website updates. Sara Kelly met with Supervisor Pitts to see what needs to be done with the website and the merging of the Village info into the Town. We would also be able to add things or change things on the website without Sara's help. She will review and get back to Supervisor Pitts.

White Creek & Archibald Street Bridge Issue-The request for removal has been presented to Washington County DPW. There are processes that DPW has to go through in order for this to even happen, with DEC and the Army Corps of Engineers getting involved. Those attending the meeting that want the bridge gone have expressed concern about the length of time it will take to remove the bridge. An extension of grant monies will also have to be applied for. Have permits been applied for yet? What happens with the water lines going through the abutments? What about plowing and snow removal? Backing up with the plow truck will be a problem; a turn-around area is needed on a dead end street. Resident Rebecca Brown felt that more work upstream still needs to be done but removal of the deck will help alleviate the flooding.

Shushan Post Office-There will be a public meeting on August 18th @ 6:00 p.m. at the Shushan firehouse called by Postal Officials with an update as to where they are on this. review and have something to review at next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Travel Expense Policy-Supervisor Pitts provided the board with a copy of the Town of Salem's Travel Expense Policy; the Board wants to review the same and re-visit at the September board meeting.

Carnival Grounds-The Salem Fire Department would like the Town Board to authorize Supervisor Pitts to execute the Lease Agreement that was presented for the sum of \$1.00/year while the issues of deeding the property are being worked out. The Fire Department will have the property surveyed; the Fire Department currently pays NYSEG for power to the Carnival Grounds and the Village paid the water bill. **Resolution #71**-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, authorizing Supervisor Pitts to enter into the Lease Agreement with the

Salem Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Clerk Gilchrist will send the same to Town Attorney Wrigley for review and approval; passed unanimously 5-0.

Budget Workshop date-The first budget workshop for the 2017 budget will be held on Wednesday, September 7th, @ 6:00 p.m. in the Salem Town Office.

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Minutes

Cemetery needs-The lawn mower and weed eater need replacing so the Revolutionary Cemetery can continue to be mowed. **Motion made by** Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to purchase necessary equipment needed for mowing; passed unanimously 5-0.

Nuisance Law-table until Attorney Wrigley comes back from vacation.

Solar Moratorium-needs to be executed by Attorney Wrigley and filed with the State of New York. Clerk Gilchrist will get the required paperwork to Alan Wrigley so he can execute when he gets back from vacation.

Chris Boyark-introduced himself at the end of the meeting and advised that he would be running in the September Republican primary as a candidate for the 113th Assembly District, hoping to get on the ballot for November, 2016. He will be glad to visit with anyone after the meeting.

Resolution #72-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, as follows: Appropriated Fund Balance exceeds what is in checking account:

GM960 Appropriations	\$ 5,000.00	
GM599 Appropriated Fund Balance		\$ 5,000.00

Passed unanimously 5-0

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed unanimously 5-0; meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting-The next regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board will take place on September 14, 2016; review of Warrants #9 and Abstract #9 to begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem, NY

