

**TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-SALEM TOWN BOARD
JULY 13, 2016 MINUTES**

Present: Supervisor-Seth M. Pitts; Town Council Members: Bruce Ferguson; Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Harold Gilchrest (arrived at meeting at 7:30 p.m.); Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist
Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway; Donna Farringer-Courthouse; Wendy Bordwell-Georgi; Al Cormier-Historian; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Eric Rogers-Water Dep't.; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Ashleigh Morris-The Eagle Newspaper

Absent: DCO-Nancy Quell

Public Present: Linda Marlo; Tina Fleming; Rebecca Brown; Tauno Wirkki; Doug LaVigne; Laura Dunham; Ode

; Cynthia Weinrich

6:30 p.m.-Review of Warrants #7 and Abstract #7 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 June 08, 2016; **motion** made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve the minutes from June 08, 2016, meeting with one change requested by Supervisor Pitts. He was absent at the June meeting; Clerk Gilchrist will change and so note on minutes; passed 4-0, as Councilman Harold Gilchrest was late and had not yet arrived. After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to pay **Warrants #7** and **Highway Abstract #7 of 2016** as presented; passed unanimously 5-0 (Councilman Gilchrest was present at this time.)

Supervisor's Reports were presented for review and approval; **motion** made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Howard Law, 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 provided report. Nine calls for month of June: 6-Salem (1-priority one echo; 2-MVA's; 3-good intent calls

Mutual Aid-3; Cambridge-2 (stand-by's); Rupert, Vt.-1 (MVA)

Training-Monthly air pack/gas meter checks

Meetings-Monthly fire department meeting for June

Other-Work continues on new fire house; working at carnival grounds

Total hours-3,725; report will be filed.

Courthouse-Donna Farringer reported that this will be her last Town Board meeting as Executive Director of the Courthouse; she will be retiring on July 31st. Her successor will be Janice Quartararo from Shushan.

Al Fresco Tickets-are selling well @ a cost of \$60.00/ticket. Al Fresco will be held on Saturday, July 30, 2016 @ 5:00 p.m.

Lunch, Lear n Play-Going very well; lots of kids have signed up for the program. There is a new program for the kindergarteners and also for the 5-6 graders.

EFP Grant-No hitches; check should be cut in July to pay the Bank on Town funds borrowed for the RAN.

Flag Pole-Painting of the flag pole was accomplished and the light is working; thank you to Supervisor Pitts.

Reports-Donna provided the Board with minutes from the May 17, 2016, Board of Directors meeting and the agenda for the June 21st meeting, with income and expense reports attached. Reports will be filed.

Thank-you to Donna from Supervisor Pitts and the Board for all of her hard work and dedication to the Courthouse over her years of service. Enjoy your retirement, Donna!

Highway- Sup't. Boisclair reported that the crew was working diligently on the screener and putting down calcium. Put in culvert on Lower Bogtown & Parqui & graded; mowed the following: Scott Lake; Smith; Coon; Upper Bogtown; Route 153; Chambers, Beattie; Blind Buck; Perry Hill; Camden Valley; part of Juniper Swamp;

Page 2

July 13, 2016

Minutes

Eagleville; Newman; & Cemetery Roads; mowed in former Village; graded Steele Rd.; Pitts Hill; Riley & Fleming Roads. Put down calcium at end of Juniper Swamp; worked on brakes on '03; weed-eated bridges in Shushan and ditches in Town. Pulled sign on Rte. 153 (to be replaced). 06/22-Men attended all day safety meeting; patched holes with hot mix end of month. Report provided will be filed.

Georgi Museum- 'Fairies in the Hamlet' was very well attended in June, reported Wendy Bordwell. Looking at doing this again in 2018.

Security system is installed w/remote monitoring and working well.

Week of July 11-Lunch, Learn n Play 5-6 graders doing programs at the Georgi

Hubbard Hall program will be performed this week on Thursday, July 14th

Mettawee Players will perform on Sunday, July 17th

Washington County Band will be performing on the grounds on August 4th

Have been hosting weddings, birthday and graduation parties

Lawn Mowing-Scott DeMarco can no longer continue to honor his mowing contract for 2016 due to health reasons. Ash Grove Landscaping (George Whalen) has volunteered to finish out the season but for \$135/mowing. This is an increase over DeMarco's \$115. Ash Grove Landscaping **must** provide an insurance certificate. **Resolution #60**-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to contract with Ash Grove Landscaping for the remainder of the mowing season at the Georgi grounds, providing he sends an insurance certificate to the Town Office asap. Passed unanimously 5-0

Planning Board-Chairman Patrick reported they have two site plan review applications and two sub-division applications.

Historian-Al Cormier reported that there would be no meeting in July of the Historic Preservation Committee; next meeting would be August 15th. Signs are up at the East/West ends of Town.

Civil War Flag-Al & Deputy Judy Flagg made a presentation to the Washington County Board of Supervisors about hanging/displaying of the 123rd Regiment Flag at the County Building. The flag is a hand-sewn replica of the 123rd battle flag from the Civil War and cost \$1,200 to be made. Al & Judy asked that each Town consider donating \$200.00 toward the cost of framing and hanging (and whatever other related costs there might be).

The flag would be encased with acid-free materials and have special glass on the front. Al contacted an archival frame/case person and got an estimate of the cost. There will be a ceremony when the flag is ready to hang.

Resolution #61-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to contribute \$200.00 from the Town of Salem towards the cost of encasing and hanging the flag at the County Building; passed unanimously 5-0.

DCO Report-Nancy Quell absent; June report provided. Dropped off paperwork to someone on Center Cambridge Road that wants to file report on dangerous dog that lives in Salem. Dog in former Village killed a cat; tickets and Court pending; report will be filed.

Water-Eric Rogers reported that 309 meters are currently in service. The monthly water sample required by DOH met the bacteriological requirements for a public water supply; the test was taken from Salem Central School. 2nd quarter iron and mineral testing was done; next test will be done in September. Performing regular upkeep and maintenance; spare parts were ordered for the operation of the chemical pumps.

Two water samples--one for nitrates and one for disinfection by-products--need to be done in July. Would like to send out letters to homeowners re leaks in their systems (for those that have leaks) and one to those that have a water meter/transmitter issue that would require a home visit. Has prices on 2 new test kits that are needed for day to day work--keep a kit in the vehicle and tools at the highway barn. He would like reflective 'out of service' rings that go in the fire hydrants; this way if one is out of service it can be visible to everyone not to use that hydrant. When a black bag is put over an out of service hydrant, anyone can remove it.

Page 3
Minutes

July 13, 2016

Spare parts need to be updated to meet the requirements of EPA; all non-compliance parts will be removed from inventory so they won't be used.

Getting price quotes for getting well #3 back up and running; this has been 'requested' by DOH. One well should be pulled and cleaned every year so that every 3rd year we will start over.

Cleaning of water tank--has come up with bid sheet for cleaning/inspection. Hopefully, bids will be forth-coming and this can be done late summer/early fall. Eric would like to inspect tank every 3 years and do an inspection & cleaning every 6th year; DOH is requesting this be done, also.

Computer-General Controls need to fix water computer; chemical pumps don't change automatic any more so it has to be done by hand. Fixing it would help regulate chemicals used and make reads more consistent. The auto dial system also needs fixing, which is a DOH requirement to have and it must be in running order.

List of improvements with prices provided given to the Board (some are DOH requirements):

1-Main water tank cleaned on bottom & inspected	\$ 4,000.00
2-Route Dialer & firewall for back-up system (NYS requires back-up system)	1,800.00
3-Clean, inspect & install monitoring systems for Well #3	6,500.00
4-Re-place fittings to meet EPA requirements	8,000.00
5-Water Testing Equipment	4,000.00
6-Update meter reading system & replace transmitter's not working	10,000.00
7-Assorted water tools & safety equipment	850.00
8-Replace both one-ton trucks (2005) w/plows & sanders with one truck	<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 65,150.00
TOTAL W/O TRUCK	\$ 35,150.00

(NOTE: Items 1-3 are strong recommendations from DOH; Item 2 is in place, patched and working for now & DOH has been notified; Items 5/6 are the original equipment when system was installed and are on their way out; Item 7 is to improve safety and have necessary tools to do normal maintenance; Item 8-both trucks will be sold on Auctions International and proceeds will be put towards purchasing new truck (estimate proceeds from sale to be around \$20,000); new truck price not to exceed \$70,000.00, borrowing \$20,000.00).

Supervisor Pitts advised the Board that at the end of dissolution, Village money left in Water Reserve Acc't. was \$80,000.00; part of that money could be used for these water improvements.

Resolution #62-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to deposit the proceeds available on June 30, 2016, from the Village General Fund for Water Reserve be deposited into the Water Department Operating Budget. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilman Marcus Blanck-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0.

Resolution #63-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, that the \$80,000.00 in the Water Department Operating Budget be invested in Water Department improvements, specifically Items 1-7 listed above, with the remainder staying in the Water Department Operating Budget.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Marcus Blanck-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Dunham said it was very noisy with the air conditioner on and people in the back of the room couldn't hear what was being said. She moved her chair closer to the table and the air conditioner was turned off and the door opened.

Cynthia Weinrich inquired what was happening with the Dollar General Store and where they were going to build in the former Village. As far as Supervisor Pitts knows nothing is happening currently; no purchase or offers on any property (properties) has been made.

COMMUNICATIONS

Page 4

July 13, 2016

Minutes

Leo Cox Beach Grant Funding-Received letter advising that there would be no grant forthcoming on the Georgi.

Tour of the Battenkill-Received a letter thanking the Tow of Salem for the great road conditions and for the Town's support of the race again this year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water School-Travis Keys attended water school at Morrisville from July 5th-8th and passed his exam. He will still have to work under Sup't. Eric Rogers for six months, as he has already been doing. Prior hours working with Eric will not count toward his six months.

Main Street Development Grant-Meeting on 07/26 at Proudfit Hall @ 7:00 p.m. to review first stage of planning that has come out of the committee's meetings; open to the public.

CFA Sewer Study Update-It was brought to Supervisor Pitt's attention that we needed more 'meat' in the application as to why the NYS Dep't. of Health seems to have a problem with Salem businesses—why things are being turned down and what the issues are, etc., especially with the Central House, the barn that has since been taken down behind the Tavern, Jacko's Corner, etc. Anita Grabalski from the Dep't. of Health wrote a detailed explanation of the problems here with no accessible sewer and other problems the Dep't. has issues with and this will be included with the grant application.

Web Page Update-80% of the cost of \$650-\$700 would be paid for by the grant for website updates. Sara Kelly is on vacation now and Supervisor Pitts will contact her to set up a meeting as soon as she returns. We would be able to do a lot more with the site than can currently be done as far as updates, changes, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution for County Highway Consolidation-To authorize application for local Government Efficiency Project Grant for Washington County shared regional highway operation centers feasibility study and authorize local match in the amount of \$12,500.00 for each local government involved.

Resolution #64-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, authorizing a Resolution from the Town of Salem supporting the County's efforts to apply for the 2016-2017 Local Government Efficiency Grant from the NYS Department of State, with a deadline of July 29th, 2016, and that Washington County hereby commits to the local government cash match should the grant be received.

Passed unanimously 5-0.

White Creek & Archibald Street Bridge Issue-Supervisor Pitts informed the Board that in light of the recent hydrological study and findings and recommendation that the Archibald Street bridge and abutments be removed, the County was waiting on the Town Board for a decision. After much discussion back and forth and comments from residents who live adjacent to White Creek and some of those who didn't, the board voted and passed the following: **Resolution #65**-Motion made by Supervisor Seth M Pitts, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, authorizing Washington County DPW to start the permitting process to remove the decking and the abutments, and to investigate if

the funds that were set aside in the prior grant can be used to remove the abutments as well as the decking; passed unanimously 5-0.

Zoning Compliance Officer-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to appoint Scott McNeil as the Zoning Compliance Officer for the Town of Salem; Scott has already agreed to do the job; passed unanimously 5-0.

Wood Hill Farm Water Request-for information only. Woody Hill Farms would like to use Village water from the base of County Route 64 to their barn on Route 22; they would get the water from County Route 64 to the barn. There would be a trial period of approximately 45 days, using about 200,000 gallons of water, which would be metered and paid for by Woody Hill.

Shushan Post Office-Supervisor Pitts has been notified that the Postal Service will be holding a public meeting on the re-opening of the Shushan Post Office at a date to be determined. As soon as Post Office has a date, Supervisor Pitts will be informed.

Establishment of Historic District-This will be reviewed again in September.

Page 5

July 13, 2016

Minutes

Rooster Issue-Supervisor Pitts will check with other Towns to see if they have any Local Laws/Ordinances re-garding the housing of roosters and if they are allowed. The former Village had no Local Law, Ordinance or zoning regulations on farm animals.

Cable Franchise Agreement-The prior agreement with Time Warner signed by the prior supervisor does not run out until 2018 so nothing can be done at this time until that agreement runs out.

CFA Sewer Study Grant-Supervisor Pitts advised the Board that a new resolution needs to be passed to proceed with the Grant application process for the sewer study. **Resolution #67**-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, authorizing Supervisor Seth M. Pitts to apply for and receive funding under the 2016 Consolidated Grant Funding application grant program; passed unanimously 5-0.

Town Travel Policy-Supervisor Pitts advised the Board that this needs to be discussed and re-done; he will review and have something to review at next month's meeting.

Carnival Grounds-Supervisor Pitts advised that the Board that upon further investigation, the Carnival Grounds could be deeded to the Salem Fire Dep't. for \$1.00 as long as this would be a benefit to the public. Both the dissolution attorney and Laberge say this can be done. If the firemen stop having the carnival or other fund-raising activities on the grounds, the property would revert back to the Town of Salem. Historian Al Cormier was concerned about the closeness of the Revolutionary War cemetery and its historical significance. What will or could the firemen build on the grounds? Height of future buildings if replaced could be an issue and how many more buildings could be erected on this property? Restrictions could always be placed in the deed if the Town felt it necessary to do so. More research needs to be done before deeding the same to the Fire Dep't.

Town of Granville & D & H Rail Trail-Town of Granville would like the support of the Town of Salem to get the D & H rail trail finished. NYS Office of Parks & Recreation seems to have a very different attitude now than they have had over the past decade and are willing to approach the landowners and doing the work that needs to be done to determine the status of the deeds. The State is funding a study that will start the ball rolling again and they would like to include Salem in the plans; they already have the full support from the Village & Town of Granville, as well as several other local organizations there. They would like a letter of support from the Town of Salem but the letter is needed by July 20th.

Resolution #68-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to do a letter of support from the Town of Salem endorsing the D & H rail trail project; passed unanimously 5-0.

Former Village Clerk, Rebecca Brown, advised the Board that she did not finish wrapping up all of the Village paperwork by June 30, 2016, and has approximately eight (8) hours of work in July she needs to be paid for.

Resolution #69-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to pay Rebecca Brown for whatever time she has into the month of July, 2016, to finish up the dissolution work; passed unanimously 5-0.

Resolution #70-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, for a budget increase as follows:

GM510 Estimated Revenues	\$ 3,620.00	
GM2770 LARAC		
GM960 Appropriations		\$ 3,620.00
GM7450.41		

Budget increase to reflect money received from the following:

LARAC	\$ 2,600.00
Stewart's	\$ 500.00
GFN	\$ 200.00
Donations	\$ 320.00

Passed unanimously 5-0

Page 6
Minutes

July 13, 2016

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed unanimously 5-0; meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting-The next regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board will take place on August 10 2016; review of Warrants #8 and Abstract #8 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

