

**TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-SALEM TOWN BOARD
NOVEMBER 09, 2016 MINUTES**

Present: Supervisor-Seth M. Pitts; Town Council Members: Harold Gilchrest; Bruce Ferguson; Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist
Others Present: Joe Boisclair-Highway; Maurice Patrick-Planning Board; Al Cormier-Historian; Wendy Bordwell-Georgi; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't. Cait Johnston-Salem Press; Ashleigh Morris-The Eagle

Absent: Janice Quartararo-Courthouse; Eric Rogers-Water Dep't. (Report Provided); DCO-Nancy Quell

Public Present: Cathy McKeighan; Rebecca Brown; Stephen Dougherty; Felicia Dougherty; Dorothy Beattie; Tina Fleming; Greg Burch; Crystal Burch

6:30 p.m.-Review of Warrants #11 and Abstract #11 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. The following meeting minutes were approved:

09/07/16-1st Budget Work-

shop meeting-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve the 09/07/16 budget workshop meeting minutes; passed unanimously 5-0.

09/14/16-Regular Monthly Board Mtg.-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to approve the 09/14/16 regular monthly board meeting minutes; passed unanimously 5-0.

09/22/16-2nd Budget Workshop Mtg.-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve the 09/22/16 2nd budget workshop meeting minutes; passed unanimously 5-0.

10/05/16-Tentative Budget Workshop Mtg.-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to approve the 10/05/16 tentative budget workshop meeting minutes; passed unanimously 5-0.

10/12/16-Regular Monthly Board Mtg.-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve the 10/12/16 regular monthly board meeting minutes; passed unanimously 5-0.

10/26/16-Public Hearing on 2017 Preliminary Budget-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to approve the 10/26/16 public hearing on 2017 preliminary budget minutes; passed unanimously 5-0.

After review of Warrants and Highway Abstract, **motion** made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to pay **Warrants #11** and **Highway Abstract #11 of 2016** as presented; passed unanimously 5-0. **Supervisor's Reports** were presented for review and approval; **motion** made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to sign and approve the Supervisor's Reports as presented; passed unanimously 5-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Salem Fire Department- Chief Graham reported a total of 7calls for month of October: 6-Salem (1-alarm activation; 1-EMS lift assist; 1-MVA; 1-smell of electrical burning; 2-power lines down); Mutual Aid-1-Shushan (structure fire)

Training-Monthly air pack/multi gas meter check; driver training; vehicle extrication; air pack training; fire prevention @ Salem Central School; Halloween at fire house

Meetings-Monthly fire department meeting for Oct.; Fire Dep't. Board of Directors mtg.; Fire Advisory Board mtg.

Trucks-ETA 442 had yearly maintenance & pump test completed; NYSI done
Rescue 444 had yearly maintenance & NYSI done

Total Hours for year-7,192; report will be filed

Courthouse-Janice Quartararo absent; no report.

Highway- Sup't. Boisclair reported that DEC paid a visit re the 1,000 gall. fuel tank, which will probably have to be removed sometime next year; DEC no longer wants any fuel tanks below ground. Joe asked the Board to consider purchasing a new/used four-way plow for the '91 single-axle truck, which he would use to plow the former Village streets. Had quotes for both a new & used plow. Both boxes on trucks fixed; making sand; mowing in former Village and the Town; serviced the '07 & '98 and they went out for inspection.

Pumped out hydrants; working on '98- king pin on plow; Dep't. of Health inspection at water barn; last of trucks inspected; put plow fronts and some plows on; cleaned ditches; graded; worked on sanders to make sure everything was working; pulled leaves; ditching on Kilburn & Lower Bogtown Roads; cleaned drains; hauled stone; serviced the one-ton; pulled more leaves and cleaned ditches; cleaned up pit to close up for winter; put sander on both ton trucks; report will be filed.

Georgi Museum-Wendy Bordwell reported that there were two more meetings scheduled in the community room before being shut down for winter. **Resolution #98**-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to allow Coordinator Wendy Bordwell to apply for a grant through Museums of America; passed unanimously 5-0.

Georgi Collections Management Policy-Resolution #99-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to accept the Collections Management Policy for the Georgi Museum as presented to all board members; the same was reviewed and corrected by Attorney Wrigley; passed unanimously 5-0.

Planning Board-Chairman Patrick reported there was one subdivision application for a parcel over ten acres that would be exempt; October's meeting cancelled because there was nothing to review. If nothing comes in for November, that meeting will also be cancelled. Meeting date will be changed to an earlier date due to the Thanksgiving holiday if a meeting is held and meeting will also be changed in December due to the Christmas holidays; notice will be posted at town office.

Historian-Al Cormier reported that he presented a talk, 'Along the Battenkill' in Glens Falls. Has talked to Chris Debolt re framing of Civil War flag & Chris is to send a check. Maria McCashion from NYS Records Management says that all records should be centralized (former Village, Town & School); approximately 1200 sq. ft. of records. She recommends the whole 2nd floor of the Courthouse will be needed. Will need three quotes from contractors for the refurbishment of the entire 2nd floor. Dr. Glover at Salem School thought that the school could help paint on the 2nd floor. Approximate cost to hire a grant writer is around \$1,500; can apply for up to \$150,000 in grant money; deadline for the grant is in January of 2017. Al provided a report explaining all the issues re records management, which will be filed. Supervisor Pitts thought there would be money left in the budget from the dissolution funds to cover some of the costs.

DCO Report-Nancy Quell absent; no report provided.

Water-Eric Rogers absent; no report provided

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tina Fleming-Was the extension on the grant money received? Supervisor Pitts reported that the paperwork had been filled out and given to the proper authority by the County. Was advised that no money would be available until spring of 2017.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Main Street Development Grant-Committee had their final meeting last week and the final draft plan will be developed. The report needs to be reviewed and corrected and should be presented soon to the Town Board.

Carnival Grounds Transfer-No definitive answer yet from either NYS or attorney Wrigley about how to handle the transfer without putting property out to bid or even if this could be done legally. Since no answer has been forthcoming, this will be probably be tabled until spring of 2017.

Adopt Preliminary Budget for 2017-One employee on Medi-Care currently will be done working in January of 2017; using up sick time and personal time and another employee has resigned. Need to add \$7,000 to health insurance costs as the probability of any new employee(s) being hired being

Medi-Care employee(s) is slim tonone, so costs will go up for new hire/hires. So line 369-Machinery-Contractual will go back to \$105,000 from \$112,000, as voted on at the 10/26/16 Public Hearing. Councilman Harold Gilchrest said he felt the town highway dep't. could keep going without one employee as they have been. He had checked with other towns to see how many miles of roads they were plowing with how many employees and feels that the Town could continue with four designated employees rather than five. Mr. Boisclair said they were out straight working to keep up now and there hadn't been any storms of any significance as of yet. There are five plowing routes and four employees. Gilchrist said the dissolution was supposed to save money and instead there will be an increase in spending. He feels that while the Town had no say in accepting the plan, the plan created was misleading and the engineering firm should be sued. With little or no tax increase over the past six years, at some point something will be going up. Chief Bob Graham said he knows the highway guys do a lot of their own repair work, saving the Town money and that they work hard. Small increases over time are better than a big increase all at once. **Resolution #100-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to adopt the Preliminary Budget for 2017 with a 2% tax increase to \$5.30 with the following changes as shown in Preliminary Budget: Line 19-Supervisor's Contractual-\$5,000 to \$6,000; Line 98-Economic Development from \$5,000 to \$8,000; Line 369-Machinery-Contractual-\$112,000 down to \$105,000; Line 392-Hospital/Medical Insurance from \$53,000 to \$60,000. Passed 4-1, with Councilman Bruce Ferguson voting yes, reluctantly, and Councilman Harold Gilchrest voting no.**

Leaf Pick-up-Leaves will be picked up until next Thursday, 11/17, and no longer after that date.

Tree issue-Rebecca Brown advised that a tree was marked for removal in R/O/W; Sup't. Boisclair and Eric Rogers will check on this.

NEW BUSINESS

County Budget Update-Currently looks like County budget will be going from 1.65% to 2% , with an override of the tax cap. More meetings scheduled and final vote will be taken.

Resolution #101-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to approve the Salem and Shushan Fire Contracts as stated in the 2017 Preliminary Budget, with Salem Fire Protection amount at \$158,973 and Shushan Fire Protection amount at \$49,939; passed unanimously 5-0.

2017 Adopted Budget-Resolution 102-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to move the Preliminary Budget for 2017 to the Adopted Budget for 2017.

Roll call vote: Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Marcus Blanck-Yes; Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-No; Supervisor Seth Pitts-Yes; passed 4-1, with Councilman Gilchrest voting no.

Resolution #103-Motion made by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, to authorize execution of a BAN Renewal for \$14,400 (for the highway garage roof) by Supervisor Pitts and Clerk Patricia Gilchrist, as drawn up by attorney Alan Wrigley and approved by the attorney for Glens Falls National Bank. Glens Falls National Bank will execute and return a signed copy to the Clerk. Roll call vote: Supervisor Seth M. Pitts-Yes; Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilman Marcus Blanck-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0.

Fire Dep't./Proudfit Hall-Chief Graham advised that the trucks would be moved to the new firehouse by the end of the month but that the dep't. would still need their office space in the former Village offices when the trucks leave. They are not quite ready yet to move the office to the new building. The Board agreed that the fire dep't. could continue to utilize the office space at no additional cost until ready to move the same.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, 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 p.m.

Bancroft Trust Meeting-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest to open the Bancroft Trust Meeting at 8:06 p.m. to approve payment of the four bills

listed on the Warrant; passed unanimously 5-0. Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to close the Bancroft Trust meeting at 8:10 p.m.; passed unanimously 5-0.

Next Regular Monthly Board Meeting-The next regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held on Wednesday, December 14th, 2016, in the Salem Town Office, review of Warrants & Abstract to begin at 6:30 p.m., regular meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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