

TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD
JUNE 09, 2021

Present: Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council: Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Brenda Levey; Laura Dunham; Town Clerk-Pat Gilchrist; Clerk to Supervisor-Kathy Chambers

Others Present: Travis Keys-Highway/Water; Kim Erbe-Planning/Library; Rebecca Brown-Water Clerk/Library; Jeanne Smith-Georgi; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Joe Wever-Salem Fire Dep't.; Vicky Campbell-Salem Rescue Squad

Public Present: Tom Cassidy-Shushan Fire Dep't. Chief; Peter Shaw-Shushan Fire Dep't.; Kathy Fleming-Salem Fire Dep't.; Vinnie Smith-Salem Fire Dep't./Rescue Squad

Absent: Eric Rogers-Water Dep't.; Moe Patrick-Planning Bd.; Janice Quartararo-Courthouse

5:00 P.M.-Review of **Warrants #6 & Abstract 6 of 2021** for approval & payment

Financials Review-Clerk to Supervisor Kathy Chambers provided Supervisor's Reports, ending 05/31/2021, for Georgi; Salem Memorial & Veteran's Park; Benjamin Bancroft Trust for review, approval & signature.

Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to approve & sign said Supervisor's Reports presented; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Brenda Levey; Howard Law; Laura Dunham; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

6:00 P.M.-Meeting called to order by Supervisor Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes-Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2021-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes of May 12, 2021; passed 4-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Laura Dunham; Brenda Levey; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary (Councilman Law absent)

Approval of Warrants #6 & Highway Abstract #6 of 2021-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve Warrants #6 & Highway Abstract #6 of 2021 for payment; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Laura Dunham; Brenda Levey; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Representatives from Salem Fire Dep't., Shushan Fire Dep't. & Salem Rescue Squad-Joe Wever spoke about lost revenue from 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic—approximately \$10,000 in lost revenue from no building rentals, no breakfasts, no in-person for bar-b-ques, etc. Yes, the Dep't. still had their bar-b-ques & one dinner (pick-up only) but they by no means made up for all the other revenue lost during the pandemic. Joe had a hand-out for the Board explaining that yes, municipalities can use recovery funds to assist non-profits, in line w/the eligible uses for said funds. Currently stated that "assistance to nonprofit organizations, including loans, grants, in-kind assistance, technical assistance or other services that responds to the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency" can be made. This would also apply to all not-for-profits in the Town of Salem--not just Fire Dep'ts./Rescue Squads. (Courthouse, SAW, possibly Georgi although not a 501 © (3)). Tom Cassidy, Shushan Fire Chief, responded that they lost approximately \$8-9,000 in lost revenue because of population decrease from the recent Census. Salem is an unentitled community & census numbers were low for the Town. Supposedly TOS is receiving a total of \$290,000 (the am't. was larger to begin with) in funding, with one-half the amount coming end of July or early August (\$145,000). Federal Gov't. gave the states the option of applying for another 30-day extension, which NYS did. The amount we are to receive **is not** cast in stone, either, & that could change by the time funding is announced. In addition to the not-for profits, the money can be used for sewer, water & public health. Vicky Campbell, from the Salem Rescue Squad, reported that there was an additional 20 minutes or more/call spent just to clean/sanitize everything after each call. She estimated that their expenses for COVID in 2020

were probably in at least the \$7,000 range; call volume was down about 30%, w/masks & thermometers in short supply for a while. Supervisor Clary thanked all for their input & discussion.

Resolution #43-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, for a Budget Increase as follow:

A510 Estimated Revenues	\$10,000.00
A2650 Sales of Scrap Materials	
A960 Appropriations	\$10,000.00
A1620.4 Office	

Reflects monies paid to Salem Volunteer Fire Dep't. (sale of building)

Salem Fire Dep't.-Chief Graham provided report-17 calls for May, 2021: 11-Salem (2-EMS assist; 1-service call; 1-good intent call; 2-hazardous condition; 1-control burn; 1-trees down; 1-alarm activation; 2-MVA's) 6-Mutual Aid Calls: 1-Cambridge (stand-by); 2-Cossayuna (1-water rescue; 1-grass/brush); 3-Shushan (1-grass/brush; 2-MVA's)

Training: Quarterly air pack; pump training; driver training

Meetings-Chiefs & Officers mtg. held in Salem; Salem Fire Dep't. monthly mtg.

Fund-raising-May 30-Chicken/ribs bar-b-que (pick-up only-sold out); held raffle for that day, also Total Hours for Year-3,619

Private Use of Carnival Grounds-Councilman Blanck presented a letter to be read before the Board from Stefanie McKeighan & Jeremy Russell, requesting the use of the carnival grounds for a wedding ceremony & reception on 09/03/2022. Proposal presented to Salem Fire Dep't. on 06/01/2021 via Steve Saunders, event & date approved. List of proposals in letter, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Joe Wever asked why anyone wanting to use the carnival grounds needs to come before the Town Board for approval when the Salem Fire Dep't. currently holds the lease on said property. Board instructed Supervisor Clary to get clarification from Attorney Wrigley regarding this issue.

Highway-Travis reported that DEC will be coming on Thursday-06/10/21-to do tank inspection. Surplus equipment was listed w/Auctions International; the highway lights came off the list as Auctions Int'l. said they wouldn't bring anything. Will report @ July mtg. if any bids have come in & what they were. An interested contractor has offered \$2,000 to remove the slates on Vale Street (doesn't want the ones on the surplus equipment list); the contractor will remove all slates himself. Discussion was held; on hold for now. 3-road name signs, 1-yield sign, 1-stop ahead sign, 2-stop signs, 1-dead-end sign, & about 22 road cones have been stolen from Old County Lane & Smith Road entrances over the last month or so. Please keep your eyes open & let Travis know if you see any of these. Still working on '07 truck, fixing oil leaks/figuring out coolant. Grading dirt's, doing most of them once & some twice. Hauling gravel to the grader trying to fix spots. It has been very dry the last month so we have used about 2,500 gal. of calcium (1/4 of what is budgeted for). County ground some stumps for us & started to do the drains in the former Village but the sucker broke. Paving is done & paperwork is in (hopefully!). Kingsbury also came over w/their shoulder machine to help w/shouldering; Ed has begun mowing roadsides. MSAH training done for 3 of the men; have first aid & CPR training on 06/09/21. Have been installing culvers & ditching almost every day. Need to re-work drug/alcohol Use Policy; NYMIR is sending Travis what they use. Short report & monthly report from 05/01-05/31/21 will be filed.

Water-Eric emailed his report to all Board members. 316 meters in service (looking over the meters in service & checking over information to make sure it is the correct number). Regular upkeep/maintenance performed; eye wash & fire extinguisher checks done; did a hand full for Dig Safe mark-outs; performed 2nd round of Iron & Manganese testing; got back report for PFOA, PFOS & 1,4-Dioxane results (tested good on all). Worked priming/painting approx. 25 fire hydrants, w/about 10 more to do, & installing new bolts. Yellow & orange are hydrant colors that should be used--only 2 reds are required. Public commenting on how great the

hydrants look w/red paint! Hoping hydrant near school will be painted by the school in Salem General colors (purple & gold); other schools in the area do this. Passed boiler inspection (2-year)-yeah! Highway helped clean out back of water office area. Removed some old metal pipes & trimmed some trees. Also removed some stale off of the hill to the barn & it's behind the barn to be sold. Had a contractor hit a curb stop; repairs were \$81.15 & bill given to them (waiting to hear if it was paid). Monthly water sample required by the DOH 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. OFFICE DOOR AT THE WATER BARN STILL NEEDS REPLACING!! Report will be filed.

Georgi-Jeanne Smith reported that Alternative Sentencing will be coming to scrape & paint the shed; someone else will be scraping the railing. Salem Central school prom kids will be @ Georgi on Saturday for pictures (0612/21). There was a tree on the phone line that needed removing--Travis & crew were johnny on the spot to get it done! Thank you, Travis & crew!! Phone should be restored by Thursday of this week. Corinna Aldrich, from Wash. Co. Soil & Water Conservation, will be @ the Georgi Monday morning @ 8 re the bank erosion, etc. Supervisor Clary reported that John Canning from the Hyde Museum & Will Doolittle will be coming on Monday to check out the paintings & what can be done re preservation. Estimate rec'd from Waite Associates to update the Georgi plan from 1996 to present for \$3,100; estimate from Centerline was \$9,100.

Resolution #44-Motion made by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, instructing Supervisor Clary to contact Waite Associates to update the Georgi plan to current year @ a price of \$3,100; passed unanimously by the following Board members: Brenda Levey; Laura Dunham; Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Resolution #45-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, giving Supervisor Clary permission to apply for a grant through Carter & Conboy; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Laura Dunham; Brenda Levey; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Councilman Law will check w/Tom Cassidy about the Texture 111 rotting @ bottom of Community Room bldg. for a cost estimate or what he thinks should be done there.

Courthouse-Commitment rec'd. on the \$125,000 grant.

Resolution #46-Motion made by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, giving Board approval for Supervisor Clary to secure a Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN) through Glens Falls National Bank until the Courthouse receives the grant money; passed 5-0 by the following Board members: Laura Dunham; Brenda Levey; Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

Hudson Headwaters Health Van-is at the Courthouse on Mondays & Tuesdays. Appointments can be made on line or by phoning in for said appointment.

Salem Sewer Study-Need 30 more household income surveys to qualify! Herb, Sue & Kay Tomasi have been sitting in various spots on Saturdays trying to answer questions to get more surveys back. Getting very close!

Memorial/Veteran's Park-Councilwoman Dunham reported that mulching would begin soon & an add'l. \$700 in donations had been rec'd.

July 4th Chamber of Commerce Event-Laura also reported that from 1-3 pm there will be bluegrass music in the Gazebo at the Park, w/RS Taylor Brewing & food trucks available to sell food.

Planning Board-Clerk Erbe reported that Attorney Wrigley is currently reviewing the Solar Law; Public Hearing should be able to be held in August. Planning Board wants the authority to bond if Solar Company leaves & they also will require natural screening. One application for Site Plan for a porch; meeting will be held on 06/24/2021, beginning @ 7:00 pm in Proudfit Hall.

Bancroft Library-Rebecca has nothing to report, except monthly Town meetings for Sep't., Oct., & Nov. will have to be moved due to construction. Should be o.k. for August, 2021.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-Supervisor Clary would like Compliance Officer, Scott MacNeil, to email a report on what he has been checking on to her & Board members by Monday of the week of the monthly meeting.
Old Village Safe-Bill Becraft has the old Village safe in his garage & would like to donate the same to the TOS. Closing on his house sale is June 24, 2021, so it would need to be out by then. Travis will check out how it can be moved.

Town Office Bldg.-Supervisor Clary advised the Board that the Town Office bldg. was going up for sale for \$279,000. For Sale sign going up shortly. If bldg. sells quickly, we need a back-up plan! Prior design(s) available for fire bays when that space was looked at before; hand-out given to Board members for fire bays that Laberge designed for that space. If they need to be updated, Waite's Associates could look at those plans, also.

NEW BUSINESS

AMERICAN RELIEF FUNDS-As mentioned before, these funds can go to not for profits. Expecting total of \$290,000 but that could also change by the time the first half is rec'd.

Town's Website-Think about what changes need to be done, if any, & if Town wants to stay w/same site manager.

OLD BUSINESS

Broadband Coverage-Please complete the survey through Wash. Co. on internet coverage in your area. The more that reply so that the County is aware of no coverage & what areas, the better.

Electric Speed Signs-Currently \$1,200 in 2021 Budget. Travis asked Supervisor Clary if she knew how many more of these signs had been stolen from Wash. Co.--at least two more were gone. Most are battery & solar powered. Councilwoman Dunham feels they do work & are very necessary because they slow driver's down! Cost is \$2,499 minus \$1,200 = \$1,299 needed to purchase. Councilwoman Dunham pressed for a vote; roll call vote taken: Councilman Howard Law-No; Councilman Marcus Blanck-No; Councilwoman Laura Dunham-Yes; Councilwoman Brenda Levey-Abstained (she feels she doesn't know enough about the signs @ this time); Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; vote is 2-no; 2-yes; 1-abstain. Motion did not pass.

Wedding @ Carnival Grounds-After further discussion, Town Board has no objection for use of the Carnival Grounds as a wedding/reception venue for Stefanie McKeighan & Jeremy Russell on 09/03/2022, but feel that Alan Wrigley still needs to give his opinion on whether the Board needs to approve every request that goes to the Salem Fire Dep't.

Park Place issue-Rebecca Brown suggested that the septic might be pumped out w/money from the 'Poor Fund'? Still need a copy of the letter that Don McPhee wrote regarding use of these funds; Kim will try to find the same @ the office.

Route 29 Issue-Nothing is moving & more is coming in. Board says enough is enough-contact Code Enforcement to report issue & let Code Enforcement take care of it.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed unanimously 54-0 by the following Board members: Howard Law; Marcus Blanck; Laura Dunham; Brenda Levey; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; meeting adjourned @ 8:35pm.

Next Meeting- The next regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board will be held July 14, 2021, @ Proudfit Hall, beginning @ 5 pm for review of Warrants #7 & Highway Abstract #7 for payment; regular meeting will begin @ 6 pm. No masks will be required but if you are more comfortable wearing one, feel free to do so.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem