

**TOWN OF SALEM**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD**  
**APRIL 19, 2023**

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

**Others Present:** Travis Keys-Highway/Water; Kim Erbe-Planning Bd./Library; Rebecca Brown-Water Clerk/Library

**Public Present:** Mike Miller

**Absent**-Councilman Howard Law-Excused due to illness; Eric Rogers-Water Dep't.; Judy Flagg-Historian/Records Mg'mt.; Maurice Patrick-Planning Bd.; Herb Perkins-Courthouse & L, L P; Rachel Clothier-Courthouse; Krista Sullivan-Courthouse; Jeanne Smith-Georgi; Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't.; Nancy Quell-DCO

**5:00 P.M.**-Review of **Warrants #4 & Highway Abstract #4 of 2023** for approval & payment

**6:00 P.M.**-Regular monthly meeting called to order by Supervisor Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

**Public Hearing-Local Law #1 of 2023**-This will provide a partial exemption from real property taxation for property owners who are Volunteer Firefighters or Volunteer Ambulance Service members. Supervisor Clary asked three times if there were any questions, comments, or objections on the proposed Local Law #1 of 2023; there were no questions, comments, or objections. **Resolution #32-Motion made by** Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, granting the partial exemption from real property taxation as stated above; passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law.

**Minutes-03/22/2023-Regular Monthly Meeting** (cancelled due to weather from 03/15/2023)-**Motion made by** Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, to approve the regular monthly meeting minutes of 03/22/2023; passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law.

**Approval of Warrants #4 & Highway Abstract #4 for payment**-**Motion made by** Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve **Warrants #4 & Highway Abstract #4** for payment; passed 4-0 (due to absence of Councilman Law)

**Highway**-2023-284 Agreement to Spend Highway Funds is prepared & needs to be signed by Travis & the Board. This is for the monies levied & collected for the repair & improvement of highways, & rec'd. from NYS for the repair & improvement of highways, from DA5110.4-\$155,000.00 & to include CHIPS, PAVE NY, EWR & any other roll over. The list of roads for surface & sub-surface improvements was listed. Travis & Board signed & original will be mailed to Washington County DPW.

Mowing tractor has been sent to Western NY for repairs; Kent Foster & Ron Jameson are making gravel now. Doing some chipping & will start cold patching if it works. NYS will sweep Rte. 22 & are supposed to notify Supervisor Clary when they will begin (no reimbursement). Rented a sweeper from Monroe Tractor to get roads swept. Got plows & wings painted; trucks have been salt washed & are waiting to be rust treated. Picked up '23 tandem-still need to register it. Travis handed out the Capital Replacement Plan for equipment for the Board to look at; still needs to meet w/the Highway Committee to review & upgrade the Plan. Both graders up & running. Edges of roads never froze so wings tore up edges everywhere. There are still two full-time spots open. Reports will be filed.

**Water**- Eric emailed report to everyone. Travis reported that the sample test port not up yet. Flushing went well the week of April 10<sup>th</sup> (school vacation week). Three cars are seen up at the water barn a lot! Councilwoman Levey has seen them, too. Still 319 meters in service, w/no new water hook-ups for month of March.

Regular upkeep/maintenance performed; new pumps working well. Eye wash & fire extinguisher checks done; monthly water sample met the bacteriological requirements for a public water supply as set forth in

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Subpart 5-1.5 of the State Sanitary Code under Public Health Law 225. NYS D/O/H lead line inventory report completed; we are all set w/it for now. We have no lead lines in our system, which is 20 years old this year. Did 1<sup>st</sup> quarter iron/manganese sample (no results back yet).

Report will be filed.

**Salem Volunteer Fire Dep't., Inc.**-10 calls for month of March; 8-Salem (5-EMS Assist; 1-pay loader fire; 1-MVA; 1-hazardous condition); 2-Mutual Aid calls (1-Cambridge-stand-by; 1-Hebron-MVA)

**Training**-Station maintenance; quarterly air pack; hose line advancement; swift water training

**Meetings**-Fire Dep't. held monthly mtg.; Chief & Officers meeting in Easton

**Total Hours**-1,200

Report will be filed.

**Historian's report**-Judy Flagg emailed report to all Board members. Archives recently rec'd. a collection of over 20 hand-written letters from 1802-1828 from Charles McClain of Illinois; these letters were written by members of the McMurray family. The Norman Rockwell exhibit will be held on Sunday, 05/21/23 @ the Courthouse, beginning @ 3p.m. w/ Stephen Haggerty, author of a book focusing on the models from our area used by Rockwell for his Saturday Evening Post covers, will do a presentation & have copies of his book available. Tom McMorris has been busy interviewing descendants of the Salem/Shushan, Rupert & Cambridge models, which will be available on YouTube.

Judy was contacted by a member of an organization called "Saluting Branches", whose members had come across internet references to Salem's Revolutionary War Cemetery. The group is made up of professional arborists who offer their services for free in removing dangerous trees in cemeteries where veterans are buried. They are fully insured & provide all the necessary equipment, even chipping & removing wood! Judy also spoke w/Michelle Bardwell, representative of the Evergreen Cemetery, to see if they would like to be included & that was a resounding "Yes"! The date is Wednesday, 09/20/23, if the Board agrees. We only need to provide refreshments-good deal!

**Motion made by** Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, granting permission to have "Saluting Branches" remove trees in the Revolutionary War Cemetery; passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law.

Report will be filed.

**Georgi**-Swing set has been ordered but not yet delivered. Garbage pick-up will begin on 04/24/23; Jeff Suite will turn on water in C.R. & Museum on 04/25/23. Restrooms will open on 05/01/23 for public use. Hiring Matt Parker for odd jobs; he will be a 1099 employee. Jeanne would like to have him fix the code lock on CR door, repair the picnic table benches that were taken off 2 tables, & glue down the cement table tops to the base, as well as glue the seat benches to the base (2 sets). Councilwoman Levey will take care of this. Lending library out & is now in front of the building as the cameras will be able to pick up any activity. Gayle Shaw has been contacted to ask if she will continue to stock the library.

New signs are being ordered by Councilwoman Dunham-'No Alcohol & 'No Parking Overnight. Signs will be added to the kiosk about the cameras in use. Councilwoman Levey is following up on having the tree stump ground up in the garden; in the meantime, a plant container can be added. Councilwoman Dunham will be doing an on-line spring newsletter; none will be mailed.

Councilwoman Levey reported that Lyndsay, from Soil & Water, had two boy scouts working w/her on removing invasive species @ the Georgi (bittersweet). Stephen Haggerty exhibit, w/pictures of local people who posed for Rockwell's Saturday Evening Post covers, will hopefully be held sometime in October in the CR in conjunction with 'Fall into Shushan'.

**Liability Insurance Issue**-Councilwoman Dunham would like to get the liability insurance issue squared away once & for all. **Resolution #33-Motion made by** Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Coun-

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cilman Marcus Blanck, that the amount stated in the contract for minimum liability insurance coverage regarding Georgi rental events having alcohol for any **future** rentals be increased from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000; passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law.

**Scheduled Dates:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 04/29/23-C.R. rental                                     | 07/29/23-Wedding-Park & C.R.  |
| 05/18/23-Salem Central students Community Day activities | 08/03/29-Wash. Co. Band in Park                                       |
| 05/20/23-Plant Sale @ C.R.-9 a.m.-Noon                   | 08/12/23-C.R. Rental  |
| 06/03/23-Prom pictures on grounds                        | 08/19/23-Wedding-Park & C.R.  |
| 06/15/23-Country Night w/Al & Kathy Bain                 | 09/03/23-Wedding scheduled but was cancelled. Pd. S.D. & ½ Rental fee |
| 06/24/23-Wedding-Park & C.R.                             | 09/09/23-Wedding-Park & C.R.  |
| 07/15/23-Wedding-Park & C.R.                             |   |
| 10/14/23 or 10/21/23-Art & Music in the Park             |   |

**Charles R. Wood Foundation Grant**-Supervisor Clary reported that the Hyde Museum would store art pieces of value; hope to hold an art show @ the Georgi Museum in 2024. She has also asked Waite Associates if they would be willing to draw up engineered plans for the elevator & is still waiting to hear if they would be willing to do this.

Report will be filed.

**Memorial Park**-Laura Dunham emailed report to all Board members. Donna Anderson will give the mulch a rake-over to freshen it up; does not look like any new mulch is needed this year. She will also pull the compost back from the stone wall to allow for drainage that used to happen naturally in that location; this should reduce the ponding that was seen last year. Deer have been a problem, nibbling on all the plants. Some thorny shrub roses will be added this year that the deer won't enjoy so much (hopefully). Will be adding two planters in front of the sign & fill/maintain them w/seasonal flowers. Two water keys were purchased last year & will lay out the watering hoses after the water is turned on this Spring. Highway Sup't. Keys has cleaned out the culvert & water spreads out currently. Could stone be put in or around the end of the culvert?

Travis will look for two logs.

Report will be filed.

**Courthouse**-Herb is working on setting a new meeting date to review the M/O/U. Supervisor Clary will check out certificates of insurance for any work being done there. Art show done by Randy Squires in the Great Hall was wonderful & well attended. Councilwoman Levey announced that meetings were being held for this year's Al Fresco, to be held on July 22, 2023.

**Planning Board**-Site Plan Application for new home on County Rte. 64 has been dropped off @ the Town Office. Site Plan revisions are done; Zoning & Solar Laws are being reviewed by Attorney Klingebiel.

**Economic Development**-Met on Monday, 04/17/2023, @ 9 am in the Town Office. Guest speaker was Al Nolette, Washington County Treasurer, discussing the various Linke properties. Al emailed the status of all the Linke properties Reviewed preliminary draft of municipal sewer; Charles R. Wood Grant application for Georgi Museum; discussed Community Pedestrian Loop/Main Street Revitalization & cost break-out; Chazen Engineering/Sustainability/Solar on landfill; Hudson Headwater purchase/progress; T/O/S Climate Control research done by UP students; car charging stations.

Committee meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month @ 9 am.

**Sewer Committee**-The committee meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month in the School library; reviewing the

final copy of the engineering report.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**-Considering recent events that happened in the Town of Hebron, Verizon cell service has been and is terrible! They have been working on lines so let's hope that will help. Supervisor Clary reported that new voting machines were tried out @ one of the County meetings; new machines need to be

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purchased. It was suggested that voting places have a generator on the premises, which the Georgi C.R. does not. Just something to think about.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Salem Fire Dep't. Carnival Grounds Lease**-New revised Lease Agreement was emailed by Attorney Klingebiel. He will make any additional corrections/changes if needed. This will be forwarded on to Joe Wever of the Salem Fire Dep't. for their review & that of their attorney.

**Community Service Day**-May 18, 2023, for projects w/Salem Central School students. Co-ordinated thru Carol McPhee at school.

**Municipal Steam Boiler Report**-@ Library-passed

**Justice Audit**-Was conducted by Supervisor Clary & Councilwoman Dunham; Virginia Curran, Clerk, always has the books in excellent shape!

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Fema Flood Risk Review Meeting**-will be held on-line 04/21/2023. Chairman Henke, from the Wash. Co. Board of Supervisors, would like to change the meeting due to the memorial service for shooting victim, Kailyn Gillis. Draft Flood Hazard Viewer Map was given out at the meeting by Supervisor Clary from Delaware Engineering. Copies of prior cor-respondence from 2019 regarding the flooding issue was sent to all Board members by Rebecca Brown.

**ARPA Funding**-Email rec'd. from Vicki Campbell of the Salem Rescue Squad providing the following figures/ expenditures that they have had recently:

|               |   |              |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Generator     | - | \$ 9,700.00  |
| Defibrillator | - | \$ 14,981.00 |
| Medications   | - | \$ 5,069.55  |
| Total         |   | \$ 29,750.75 |

**Resolution #34-Motion made by** Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve \$29,750.75, using ARPA funds in payment of the same; passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law. Councilwoman Levey contacted both the Towns of Hebron & Jackson re funding the Salem Rescue Squad thru a contract like the Town of Salem does; they both do a very small amount.

**Defibrillators for Town Highway Trucks**-Travis Keys reported that during a recent safety training, the leader conducting the training reported that all Towns should have portable defibrillators in all their trucks. Supervisor Clary reported that she would be glad to apply for a grant through Mary McClellan Foundation.

**Sexual Harassment Training**-Phil Spezio will get Supervisor Clary a date & time.

**Town-Wide Clean-up Day**-will be Saturday, 05/20/2023. Travis emailed Lenny Keys from the meeting for a price on a 15-yard dumpster; Lenny emailed back that the cost would be \$600. Supervisor Clary reported that she and husband Bill would grill hot dogs. Once a bill is rec'd. from Lenny Keys, a Resolution will be done for a budget increase (there is money from interest paid).

**General Liability Insurance for Contractors Doing Work for T/O/S**-Councilwoman Dunham stated that contractors performing jobs/work for the T/O/S should not need more than the current \$1,000,000 of general liability coverage & this could always be reviewed at the Organizational Meeting in January of 2024.

**Resolution #35-Motion made by** Councilman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, leaving the general liability insurance at \$1,000,000 for contractors performing jobs/work for the Town of Salem, reviewing the same at the Organizational Meeting in January of 2024, if necessary. Passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law.

**County Route 61 Bridge**-There was a small padlock that was cut when the lights came up on the bridge; a bigger padlock was put on. Only 2 of the 3 lights installed are working; 3 lights are different & the bulbs will be changed to match the others.

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**Courthouse-Proudfit-Water Barn Generators**-Travis Keys reported that all these generators were serviced; there is a radiator issue w/the generator @ the Courthouse. There are 2 holes in top tank, costing approximately \$1,500 to fix. A new battery is needed so Travis said to go ahead & replace the battery as it is still working @ this time w/o radiator repair.

**DCO Report**-2 calls (2 on report were for the Town of Hebron): Resident on South Main Street complaining about barking dogs @ the neighbors (phone contact only); Call re missing dog on Blind Buck Rd.-white husky/shepherd mix (dog did come home); report will be filed.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**LED Speed Limit Sign**-Letter rec'd. from Mrs. Cherry re the flashing speed limit sign on County Route 153 & removal of the sign or removal of the flashing light. Letter read by Supervisor Clary & will be attached to these minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**-None

**Motion to Adjourn**-**Motion made by** Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed 4-0 in absence of Councilman Law. Meeting adjourned @ 7:55 pm.

**Next Regular Monthly Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, @ Proudfit Hall; 181 Main St.; Salem, NY, beginning @ 5:00 pm for review of Warrants #5 & Highway Abstract #5 for payment. The regular business meeting will be called to order @ 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk  
Town of Salem

