

**TOWN OF SALEM**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD**  
**NOVEMBER 09, 2022**

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

**Others Present:** Travis Keys-H'Way/Water; Moe Patrick-Planning Bd.; Kim Erbe-Panning Bd./Library; Rebecca Brown-Water Clerk/Library; Rachel Clothier-Courthouse; Herb Perkins-Sewer Comm./LLP

**Public Present:** Debra Reilly

**Absent-**Eric Rogers-Water Dep't. (report provided); Judy Flagg-Historian/Historic Preservation/Records Mg'mt. (reports provided for Historian & Historic Preservation); Bob Graham-Salem Fire Dep't. (report provided); Nancy Quell-DCO (report provided)

**5:00 P.M.-**Review of **Warrants #11 & Abstract #11 of 2022** for approval & payment

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

**Minutes from 09/14/2022 Monthly Board Meeting-**Supervisor Clary noted a correction was needed on page 2 under Courthouse--records were found but plans were not stamped by the engineer regarding the septic. **Motion made by** Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, to approve the monthly meeting minutes from 09/14/2022, with the correction as noted; passed unanimously 5-0.

**Minutes from 09/28/2022-Second 2023 Budget Workshop Meeting-**still on hold; sorting out resolutions & correct numbers

**Minutes from 10/05/22-Third 2023 Budget Workshop Meeting-**Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to approve the minutes from the 10/05/2022 third meeting on the 2023 Budget; passed unanimously 5-0.

**Minutes from 10/12/2022 Regular Monthly Meeting & Fourth 2023 Budget Review-**Councilman Marcus Blanck was absent from this meeting; note in minutes. On page 5, add the info re the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2022 to Override the 2023 Tax Cap after the Public Hearing on 2023 Fire Protection Contracts & the 2023 Preliminary Budget; will be noted in minutes; passed 4-0.

**Approval of Warrants #11 & Highway Abstract #11 of 2022-**Motion made by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve Warrants #11 & Highway Abstract #11 as presented for payment with the exception of Aramak; passed unanimously 5-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Debra Reilly** was present to report her concerns re the constant discoloration of her water & the fact that she recently had no water for most of the week. Water has not returned to normal color & the pressure is very low on both the hot & cold water. There is also a sediment problem in the pipes. Could the flushing that was recently done caused any of these issues? Travis reported that sediment can occur in washer, dish washer, hot water heaters, etc. & that there is no filter on the community water system. There is no NYS law that says the system must be filtered. Iron & manganese is in system that can cause hard water. 50% of basements that Travis has been in have no filter system in the basement; he did say he had not been in Deb's basement but would be glad to go in & see if he can find anything. The big tank was cleaned this past Spring but there was no sediment sitting on the bottom of the tank, which had been cleaned prior in 2016.

Deb reported that there was citric acid in her system & where could that be coming from? Rust is from the iron & the black is from the manganese. She has been told that she needs a whole house filtration system installed. One of her neighbors had to replace her water heater. Kim Erbe responded that they had a filter on their system that needs replacing quite frequently. Who does she turn to for help & what is the cause of all of

her issues? Should others on the system be notified? Travis said to take out the anti-corrosion rod in the new water heater & he would schedule a time w/her to check out her system.

**DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Salem Fire Dep't.**-Chief Graham emailed his report to the Board; total of 14 calls for Oct., 2022 (no breakdown as to Town or Mutual Aid)

**Training:** station maintenance; driver training; vehicle extrication; air-pack training

**OSHA Mandates:** Hydraulic tools & air bags yearly inspection; couplings on hydraulic lines need replacing.

**Total Hours for Year-7,539;** report will be filed

**Courthouse**-Rachel reported that the Trunk or Treat held before the Rotary Dinner was very well attended; the dinner raised approximately \$13,000 for the Salem-Shushan Fuel Fund.

**Annual Meeting** will be held on 11/15/2022 @ the Courthouse, preceded by a dinner.

**Craft Fair** will be held on Saturday, 11/26/2022, before & after the Chamber Christmas parade.

**Workshops**-Dayton Maxwell will do budgeting, saving/lending/credit workshop soon.

**Memorial Tree Lighting for Xmas** will be held on Sunday, Dec. 04, 2022

Courthouse Chronicle was emailed to everyone; it will be filed.

**Highway Dep't.**-Travis emailed reports to all Board members. He reported that the payloader was here; the bucket was shipped & should be arriving any day.

**2018 Pick-up Truck**-Picked up a week ago; should be receiving payment for that soon. New pick-up has had the plow installed.

**Leaf Pick-up** in the former Village is done; have been blowing the leaves off the dirt roads & should be starting the 2<sup>nd</sup> round this week.

**New Waste Oil furnace** is hooked up, waiting for Willie Linendoll to hard wire it.

**Have been working** on trucks, getting them ready for winter.

**Fuel prices** have been steadily rising & are already over the amount budgeted.

**Employment**-still two full-time spots available in Highway Dep't.

**DeLurey's** can only order four new HX Trucks next year; we are on the list, pending price. As of now, no tandem trucks can be ordered for 2024. Just got price: \$316,980; an option could be to try & sell the 2013.

Daily report for month of Oct. 2022 & short report for highway will be filed.

**Exit Paperwork for Highway Dep't.**-Councilwoman Levey working on drawing up exit paperwork for highway employees when someone leaves Town employment; she will have Councilwoman Dunham work w/her on this.

**Resolution #99**-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to do a letter of intent w/DeLurey's by tomorrow, to get a spot to order another truck before we can't. They will also need a copy of the Resolution approving purchase; passed 5-0.

**Bids on 2016 624K John Deere Wheel Loader**-Two bids received: 1-Black Creek Valley Farms, Salem, NY-Seth McEachron, Vice President for \$116,501.93

2-Fullerton Dairy LLC; 382 County Route 44; Argyle, NY 12809-\$101,111.00 from Matthew Fullerton

**Resolution #100**-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, to accept the bid submitted by Black Creek Valley Farms in the amount of \$116,501.93, pending delivery of the new Wheel Loader; passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #101**-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, giving Travis Keys, Highway Sup't., permission to sign a Purchase Agreement w/Capital Tractor for the new Wheel Loader; passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #102-Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, to take out a BAN in the amount of \$170,000 for the new Wheel Loader through Glens Falls National Bank & Trust Company; passed unanimously 5-0.

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**(Note:** The interest rate quoted was 3.99% at first inquiry but the rate has gone up to 4. %)

**Water**-Eric emailed his report to all Board members. Travis reported that he hasn't heard from the contractor regarding the railing.

319 meters currently in service & have changed a couple of meter heads. Looking into a more cost-effective way to read meters & fix the "no or miss" reads.

No new water hook-ups for Oct. Regular upkeep/maintenance was performed; eye wash & fire extinguisher checks done. Will have to change chemicals that have been used to treat iron & manganese; no longer making the one we have currently been using (K5). Salem Fire Dep't. did a pumper training drill that used a hydrant. We need better communication so water dep't. is informed & can pass info on to the water users. Monthly water sample required by D/O/H 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. Working w/D/O/H on getting well #3 back into the rotation with the other two pumps; if the well is used more, it will help that well & put less strain on well #1 & #2. Did Fall fire hydrant flushing; all went well. Have started to pump out fire hydrants to get them ready for cold months to come. Got information for Water on Town's website; Councilwoman Dunham will put on Facebook. Had a resident w/no water pressure, so Eric went to her home to check things out. She had 90 or so PSI at a garden hose w/about 4.5 gpm flow. This was done to show her the problem was in her house & not in the system. Resident says Town's system is full of sediment & that is why things are happening in her system. The plumbing is old in an older house; Town's system seems to be working. Report will be filed.

**Sewer**-Herb reported that the committee is in a kind of holding pattern. Funding has been secured for the engineering study being done by Delaware Engineering. Will have a meeting on January 24, 2023, @ 7 p.m., both by Zoom & w/public attendance. Exploring possibilities w/EFC. Might be good to add a couple of people w/experience to current Sewer Committee if o.k. w/Town Board. Councilwoman Levey & Deanna Ketchum working towards a public meeting, possibly in March of 2023.

**Georgi**-Jeanne Smith emailed report to all Board members. The rental of Comm. Room on 10/29/22 was cancelled; \$50 security deposit was rec'd. but no money for rental. Playground Committee met on 10/26/2022 but nothing decided as only four people in attendance; next meeting scheduled for 11/12/2022 @ 6:00 p.m. Voting will take place @ the CR on 11/08/2022 from 6:00 a.m-9:00 p.m. Butch Gilchrest reported the big pole lights in the parking area are not working; Randy Quackenbush has been called to check out this issue. Nolan Cuevas has volunteered to fix the Lending Library where it was damaged on the side. He will transport the same to his shop for the repair.

Meeting on 11/14/2022 @ Georgi w/Councilwoman Dunham, Councilwoman Levey, & Jeanne Smith. Peter Carrolan will check out the lift area.

Water needs to be shut off after LARAC event grant session on 11/21/2022.

Possible Eagle Scout project could be a kayak entrance on the grounds.

Fill tank w/oil @ the Museum; Marcus Blanck will put on Braymer Oil schedule.

Report will be filed.

**Planning Board**-Clerk Erbe reported an application for a house on Parqui Lane; meeting w/be held on 11/17/2022 due to Thanksgiving. Washington County Planning will be coming to Planning Board meeting in February of 2023.

**Historian/Historic Preservation**-Judy Flagg emailed report to all. Judy has collected & submitted information to several grad students @ University of Pennsylvania regarding the Climate Smart Communities Project. They were interested in past & current programs which reuse/recycle materials in the Salem area.

**Revolutionary War Cemetery**-Joe Ferranini (Grave Stone Matters) was here in Oct. to repair several broken & toppled over headstones. He has been paid \$1,500 to date in 2022 from the Historian budget & \$8,500 was paid by Asa Fitch Historical Society for repairs/straightening of leaning stones.

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**Channel 10 interview** done by Cassie Hudson w/Judy & Tom McMorris regarding the "Voices from the Grave" project. Aired several times on Channel 10 & was picked up by Fox News. Very interested in use of the QR codes, which allow access to YouTube videos of now 7 "dead people" coming to life to tell their stories.

**Veteran's Day Program** will be presented on Friday, 11/11/2022 @ Veteran's Memorial Park. A new sign will be displayed; Travis Keys will do the installation

**Historic Preservation Commission** will hold its November meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Photographic inventory of the houses/buildings within the Historic District has been done by Tom McMorris, said inventory will be used in 2023 for an Architectural survey of the district to be presented to the public.

Reports will be filed

**Parks & Rec**-Councilwoman Dunham handed out flyers re Veteran's Day program on 11/11. Judy Flagg to pick up sign for installation this week; it will be placed by the parking area. Peter Dunham weeded the patio. A Christmas tree will be placed by Travis Keys, along w/the others going on Main Street; battery operated lights have been ordered for the tree. An audit was done of the pavers--purchase vs installed--all look to be there. Report will be filed.

**DCO**-Nancy Quell provided Oct. report. 10/08/22-dog came into back of post office; took to shelter as owner could not be reached by phone (he picked up dog on 10/09/22-\$58.24 paid to Town by DCO Quell). 10/22/2022-Home owner reported she was out in her yard when neighbor dog attacked her dog. Talked to both the homeowner & the neighbor; dropped off complaint form on 10/24/2022 to homeowner who had the complaint.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**-Supervisor Clary reported that there would be a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Whitehall on Thursday, 11/16/2022 for the underground power line that will be run from the Canadian border to NYC.

**Brush hogging of the landfill** needs to be done. Who will do it? Travis will contact Jason Baylor again as he has not heard from him since the last time he talked to him. Possibility that the landfill could be used for solar? Only 40% could be used.

**Meeting w/new landlord**-on Thursday, 11/10/2022 @ 4:30 p.m. in Town Office

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Washington County Tax Auction**-on-line only

**Office Cleaner**-Have new person, who cleaned last week. Waiting for payment may be an issue.

**Courthouse Meeting**-Schedule for sometime in January of 2023; separate meeting from monthly mtg.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Zoning Mixed Use**-Need to add health care facility as use in the Mixed Use category; Attorney Klingebiel is currently on vacation.

**American Relief Fund**-need to re-visit money & how it should be distributed; put on hold before.

**Health Insurance**-Discussion held on possible Town buy-out on health insurance; needs to be looked into.

**2023 Tentative Budget**-

**Resolution #103**-Motion made by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to accept Adopted 2023 Budget as presented; passed unanimously 5-0.

**Resolution #104**-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilwoman Laura Dunham, that the \$2,500 given to the Salem-Shushan Fuel Fund can only be given to Town of Salem resident(s); passed unanimously 5-0

**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 unanimously 5-0. Meeting was adjourned @ 7:55 p.m.

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**Regular Monthly Meeting**- will be held on December 14, 2022, @ Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY. Review of Warrants #12 & Highway Abstract #12 for payment will begin @ 5:00 p.m.; business meeting will be called to order @ 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk  
Town of Salem