

SPECIAL MEETING-SALEM TOWN BOARD
FOURTH 2025 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING-GEORGI C.R.
OCTOBER 09, 2024

Present: Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council Members: Brenda Levey; Tom McMorris; Howard Law; Travis Keys-Highway/Water; Kim Erbe-Planning Bd./Library; Rebecca Brown-Water/Library; Steven Saunders-Chief-Salem Fire Dep't.; Town Clerk-Patricia Gilchrist; Clerk to Supervisor-Kathleen Chambers

Absent: Councilman Wyeth Coburn (excused-away on business); Eric Rogers-Water; Maurice Patrick-Planning Bd.; Herb Perkins-Courthouse; Larry Haber-Economic Devel.; Sandi Haber-Georgi; Jeanne Smith-Georgi

Public Present: Rachel Armstrong; Scott Eastman; Winnona Hathaway

5:00 p.m.-Meeting called to order by Supervisor Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

Library-Rachael Armstrong-reported there are more children using the library from 2:30-4:30 from 3rd-9th Grades than have been in the past. Approximately 25-30 children/day using computers, reading/checking out books, etc. The Library Board would like to hire a part-time dedicated Librarian to create an 'After School Program' for these children. Not enough staff currently to help the numbers of children utilizing the library after school along with the people who are currently in there accessing the library services. Rachael, Ki & Rebecca would like the Town to consider restoring the original amount asked for of \$40,000 for the library, which is currently \$38,900.

2025 Budget-Councilman Tom McMorris reported that the 2025 tax rate, after talking to County Treasurer Al Nolette, was \$5.38/\$1,000; amount to be raised by taxes: \$1,400,139 (this would have been before any 2025 Budget changes at this meeting).

Reviewed Proposed Figures Page by Page:

GENERAL

Line 11-Justice-Personal Services (Clerk)-Up \$976 from \$6,187 to \$6,253 (Judge Thetford sent a letter requesting this figure.)

Line 23-Assessor-Personal Services-\$19,512 (4%); went up to \$22,638 (figure Jean requested)

Line 36-Bldgs.-Personal Svcs. (Cleaner)-Leave @ \$3,000

Line 44-Central Printing/Mailing-Con't. Exp.-Leave @ \$4,000

Line 64-Control of Dogs-Con't. Exp.-Leave @ \$6,565 (1% inc. requested by DCO)

Line 81-Sup't. of Highways-Con't.-Leave @ \$4,000

Line 94-Economic Devel.-Con't. Exps.-Lower figure from \$5,000 to \$2,000

Line 95-Economic Devel.-Con't. Exps (sewer)-Lower from \$5,000 to \$1,000

Line 101-Parks-Con't. Exps.-Lower from \$3,000 to \$1,500

Line 104-Youth-Salem Youth Programs-Lower from \$1,500 to \$1,281

Line 108-Library-Con't. Exp.-Leave @ \$38,900

Line 183-Use of Money & Property-Interest & Earnings-Lower from \$10,000 to \$5,000

Line 185-Use of Money & Property-Rental of Real Property-GFH Office-Increase from \$11,400 to \$14,400

Line 211-State Aid-Mortgage Tax-Lower from \$25,000 to \$20,000

Line 213-State Aid-Youth Program-Increase from \$0 to \$781

Line 311-Debt Svc. Principal-Principal (Tractor)-Increase from \$50,000 to \$52,764

Line 316-Interest-BANs-Lower from \$5,000 to \$0

WATER APPROPRIATIONS/REVENUES

Line 399-Departmental Income-Metered Sales-Up from \$119,822 (2-1/2%) to \$122,964 (5%)

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

Line 427-TOTAL SHUSHAN LIGHTING-Down from \$9,800 to \$8,800

Line 439-TOTAL SALEM LIGHTING-Down from \$24,000 to \$20,000

Line 444-Fire Protection District-Con't. Exp.-Salem-Change from \$189,295 to \$209,316 (15% inc.)

Line 445-Fire Protection District-Con't. Exp.-Shushan-Currently \$63,378-leave as is.

SUMMARY OF TENTATIVE SALEM TOWN BUDGET 2025

Line 471-TOTAL-Am't. to be raised by taxes-Kathy has \$1,373,469; Tom has \$1,398,469 (after changes made)
Will still need to be reviewed/checked again to confirm figures

RESOLUTION #43-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to move the 2025 Budget figures from Tentative to Preliminary. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilman Tom McMorris-Yes; Councilwoman Brenda Levey-No; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; passed 4-0 (Councilman Wyeth Coburn absent)

RESOLUTION #44-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to schedule the Public Hearing on the 2025 Fire Protection Contracts & the 2025 Preliminary Budget for Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 5:00 p.m. in the Salem Town Office; 214 Main Street; Salem, NY 12865

Public Hearing on Fire Protection Contracts will begin @ 5:00 p.m., followed by the Public Hearing on the 2025 Preliminary Budget at approximately 5:15 p.m. Motion passed 4-0

RESOLUTION #45-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to schedule the Public Hearing for proposed Local Law #6 of 2024 entitled, "A Local Law to Override the 2025 Tax Cap Limit established in General Municipal Law S3-C". Said hearing will be held on October 29, 2024, in the Salem Town Office; 214 Main Street; Salem, NY 12865, followed by the Public Hearings on the 2025 Fire Protection Contracts & the 2025 Preliminary Budget, at approximately 5:45 p.m. Motion passed 4-0

ARPA Funding Review-Supervisor Clary & Clerk to Supervisor Chambers will meet to review the final figures

so the Board will know for sure how much is remaining to be spent. Money needs to be spent by 12/31/2024 & report filed w/NYS.

A/GFTC-RESOLUTION #46-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, instructing Supervisor Clary to proceed with the \$200,000 Grant paperwork, deadline for filing of 10/31/2024, \$40,000 would be the Town's share. Passed 4-0

RESOLUTION #47-Anthem Sports-Letter rec'd. from Dieter Drake, Event Director, by e-mail regarding Tour of Battenkill bike race to be held on 05/10/2025, looking for permission to use several Salem Town roads. Supervisor Clary announced that the Town of Jackson, the Village of Cambridge & the Town of Cambridge have all given permission for the Race. Sup't. Keys requested that there be **NO** painting on any of Salem's Town roads to be used in the Race; insurance certificate must also be provided. **Motion made by** Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, granting permission for the race to be held on 05/10/2025, utilizing several of Salem's Town Roads, with the stipulations listed above & that the Race Committee pick up their own garbage/debris left from the race; passed 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE-Rec'd. notice from C. T. Male that monitoring/testing of the landfill will cost \$1,250. **Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Council Tom McMorris, approving the cost of \$1,250 to C. T. Male for monitoring/testing of the landfill; passed 4-0.

Councilman Howard Law-Just an FYI-Howard reported that he had checked in w/the Towns of Easton & White Creek; they spend approximately \$1,090/mile for calcium chloride once a year, w/no grading.

RESOLUTION #48-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, giving the o.k. for Highway Sup't. Travis Keys to execute the paperwork w/Salem Farm Supply on purchase of the 2024 Case Tractor in the amount of \$233,816—first payment in the amount of \$52,763.65 due up front now, with next annual payment of \$52,763.65 due on October 19, 2025; passed 4-0.

Regular Monthly Meeting-of Salem Town Board will be October 16, 2024, at Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY, beginning @ 5 p.m. for review of Warrants #10 & Highway Abstract #10 for payment; regular meeting will be called to order @ 6 p.m.

Public Hearings on the 2025 Fire Protection Contracts, 2025 Preliminary Budget, & Local Law #6 to Override the 2025 Tax Cap will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, in the Salem Tow Office, beginning @ 5 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn-**Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to adjourn the 4th 2025 Budget Workshop meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed 4-0; meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk-Town of Salem