

TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD
NOVEMBER 13, 2024

Present: Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council: Brenda Levey; Howard Law; Tom McMorris; Town Clerk-Pat Gilchrist; Clerk to Supervisor-Kathy Chambers

Others Present: Rebecca Brown-Water/Library; Kim Erbe-Planning Bd./Library; Sandra Haber-Georgi; Larry Haber-Economic Dev.

Public Present: Laura Dunham-proposed Trustee-Georgi; David Owens-proposed Georgi Trustee

Absent-Councilman Wyeth Coburn-Excused (out of town for business); Travis Keys-H'Way/Water (excused); Eric Rogers-Water Dep't.(report provided); Moe Patrick-Planning Bd.; Al Cormier-Hist./Records Mg'mt.(report provided); Mary Menard-Proposed Georgi Trustee; Steve Saunders-Salem Fire Dep't.; Nancy Quell-DCO (report provided)

5:00 P.M.-Review of **Warrants #11 & Highway Abstract #11 of 2024** for approval & payment

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

Notarization of Georgi Document-Councilman Law pointed out that no new full set of By-Laws was sent w/the new revisions, only one page was emailed stating what changes were being made. Councilman Law wants to see the new By-Laws in its entirety w/changes included. **Motion made by** Councilman Tom McMorris, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, agreeing that the Petition to Amend and Extend a Provisional Charter can be signed by President-Sandra Haber; Vice-President-Brenda Levey; Secretary-Laura Dunham; Mary Menard-Treasurer; David Owen-Trustee & for Patricia Gilchrist to notarize the same & also agreeing that the full set of By-Laws w/changes should be reviewed before any MOU is undertaken; passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes from 10/09/2024-4th 2025 Budget Workshop Meeting-Georgi Comm.

Room- Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to approve the minutes from the 10/09/2024-4th 2025 Budget Workshop Meeting; passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes from 10/16/2024- Regular Monthly Meeting-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to approve the minutes from the 10/16/2024 Regular Monthly Meeting; passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes from 10/29/2024-Public Hearing on Fire Protection Contracts; 2025 Budget, & Local Law #6 to Override the 2025 Tax Cap-Hold off on approval of these minutes.

Approval of Warrants #11 & Highway Abstract #11 for payment-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to approve Warrants #11 & Highway Abstract #11 for payment; passed 4-0.

Georgi Report-Laura Dunham sent report from the Georgi meeting of 11/07/2024 to all; attending the meeting were Sandi Haber, Brenda Levey, Mary Menard, Laura Dunham, & David Owen.

Phone System-still working on w/Tom McMorris, Sandi & Spectrum

Mold Abatement-Inspector Tom Callahan reported to Sandi that his price is \$300 for first visit--\$100 if a re-visit is necessary. Need to confirm what he has for insurance coverage; if he has coverage, the committee would like to use Tom. If no insurance coverage, go w/Ryan Wilde. The mold remediation will go over the \$2,500 procurement amount so it will need to go out to bid once the report comes in from the inspector.

Sotheby's Appraisal-has been rec'd. Supervisor Clary will check w/NYMIR re a price to increase coverage on the art.

Hyde Exhibit-continue to work w/Hyde on what painting they want to take; they will wrap & transport at a date TBD. Supervisor Clary & Sandi will meet w/Hyde re marketing the Georgi exhibit. Would like to send

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postcards to former donors of the Georgi, dignitaries, any interested parties, including Jessie Georgi's niece, Ellen Nickleberg.

ADA Pathway-will be starting sometime this month by Grasshopper Landscaping, who was awarded the bid for the Pathway in the amount of \$21,870 (includes add'l. \$2850 for silt fencing approved by Town Board. Councilwoman Levey will confirm that the price includes removal of the same after two years). No planting of trees will be done near the ADA Pathway to interfere w/Shushan Fire Dep't. training in that area. Funds available for project: \$16,900 deaccessioning funds; \$5,000 Salem Community Foundation Grant = \$21,900. Doors into the Museum need to be handicap accessible; Laura will forward what info she has from 2022 research.

Roofing Project-Skylights arrived broken & had to be sent back; Pinnacle is waiting for replacements. Hope to begin middle to end of November, finishing before year's end. Cost is \$8,565 (have ARPA funds of \$8,000; \$565 from Georgi Fund Balance).

Climate Smart Community Grant-was awarded for \$10,000, which can now be used for an HVAC system for the Museum. Discussing doing HVAC for just art room; art room plus main room, or whole bldg. Phased quotes will be asked for when the time comes. Sandi has spoken to the Hyde re: securing a climate-controlled facility for storage of silk screens/remaining artwork. Committee approved to expend up to \$600 for six months rental for this storage. Pete Dunham will build art racks to keep the art upright & the gems/minerals will remain in the bldg.

Security Camera-has been installed in main room of the Museum. Councilwoman Levey will ask Matt Parker to change the security code at the C.R. & replace the old locks on the Museum w/secure code boxes. Sandi will also check w/Waite's Assoc. on types of security systems.

Jeanne Smith Resignation-was submitted via email to all Board members, Clerk Gilchrist, & Clerk to Supervisor Chambers on Wednesday, 10/30/2024, effective 11/01/2024. The Committee wishes her well & hopes to see her at future events in the Park; they will cover the position, determining what type of help will be needed in 2025. Brenda will handle Facebook; assist w/facilities & contact for Alternative Sentencing; Leap; Elections
Laura: Office-rentals/phone/email/web/mail, etc. Will rent PO Box @ Shushan P.O. again. Will hire cleaning in 2025; hope to use volunteers for spring placement of tables, etc.

Need to determine if best pricing for phone/internet has been secured. Report will be filed.

Water Dep't.-Eric provided report; 319 meters still in service currently. Still looking into cell units to fix the "nor or miss" reads. Regular upkeep/maintenance was performed; had a hand full of dig safe mark outs. Eye wash & fire extinguisher checks were done, as well as yearly inspections. All hydrants have been winterized & are ready for cold months; fall hydrant flushing went very well. All hydrants were flushed & dead-ends were done a second time. Working on fixing curb stop boxes. Monthly water sample was done as required by D/O/H, which met the bacteriological requirements for a public water supply as set forth in subpart 5-1.5 of the NYS Sanitary Code under Public Health Law 225. If a fire hydrant is used, please contact the Water Dep't. hydrant can be re-winterized. If we get snow, it is greatly appreciated when town residents clean around the hydrant near their property. This makes it much easier to access in case of any emergency. Report will be filed.

Salem Fire Dep't.-No report rec'd. Steve was not informed re the change in meeting date from third Wed. of the month to second Wed. for November & December of 2024.

Salem Rescue Squad-Vicky emailed October report, also after meeting as she was not aware of change in meeting date. Calls-40; YTD-438; 4451-9; 4452-2; 4453-30

Home visits-0; YTD-0

Call Origin-Salem Town-27; Hebron-12; VT-1

Call Disposition-GFH-15; Saratoga-6; SVMC-4; RMA-8; Lift Assist-2; Albany Med Peds-1; cancelled-3; Fire stand-by-2

10-minute response time: 83% (33 Yes; 7 No); Report will be filed.

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Historian's Report-Al sent report to all. Inquiries re the Pushee house on East Broadway, from a woman who lives in Greenwich, which is **NOT** for sale (owned by Jean McLenithan) & the house on the corner of Old County Lane & Smith Road. Potential buyer of Old County Lane wants to restore it.

A resident of the Academy Apartments requested info about the building's history; material was copied for her.

Mary McClelland from Baltimore, MD, paid Al a visit in early November, donating genealogy materials of the Dunigan/Dunnigan/Reynolds family, handed down to her from her family.

Joey McGowan from NJ called Al; he collects original musical tapes/cd's of important singers. On July 5, 1968, the Salem Rotary Club sponsored folk singer, Don McLean, who held a concert @ the carnival grounds. He was touring at that time as the Huson Valley Troubadour & Salem resident, Bill Taggart, was acting as his agent. Mr. McLean stayed w/Bill @ his house on the corner of Archibald & Park Place. The concert was re-recorded & Joey sent Al three copies of the concert--one for Al, one for Judy Flagg, & one for Bill Taggart. McLean announced that he was in Salem, mentioning Bill Taggart & Pete Seeger as his good friends. Three years later, McLean wrote his most famous song, "American Pie". Al would like to apply to the William Pomeroy Foundation for a historical sign re Don McLean & the concert @ at carnival grounds. Eventually, Al will need a letter from the Town Board permitting placement of the sign on the town-owned carnival grounds. Since the Salem Fire Dep't. has a lease, will they need to be involved in the permit process? Please let Al know if the Board approves of said project.

Renovations @ Courthouse-Archive Room will be inaccessible when Great Hall is renovated in early Jan., '25.

Trees @ Rev. War Cemetery-John Hubbard will be trimming the trees overhanging the south side of the cemetery; Tonya Eaton has given permission to trim her trees hanging over the stone wall. I have asked Dan Chambers to look at designated sections of the south wall for an estimate on the cost to repair the same.

Historic Preservation Committee-needs at least two new members. Al met w/the Committee on 10/21/24, discussing ways to keep the public informed re the preservation rules for the Historic District. Current members are John Clark, Chris Preble & Michele Bardwell.

Report will be filed.

Economic Development-Larry reported that not much was going on now. Next meeting will be Monday, 11/18/2024 @ 9 a.m. in the Salem Town Office.

Courthouse-Annual meeting is tonight, 11/13/24, w/refreshments served @ 6 p.m. Various community members will be honored at the meeting, beginning @ 7 p.m.

Sewer Committee-Currently, nothing to report. Wyeth absent from meeting for work.

Town Clerk Report-Fees collected for October, 2024-\$443.75. Clerk Gilchrist ran a report from 01/01-10/31/2024 showing total collected of \$3,852.65, with \$139 being paid to NYS Ag & Mkts. & \$135 being paid to NYS Dep't. of Health, for a net to the Town of Salem for ten months of \$3,578.65.

Supervisor's Report-Over \$19,000 has been rec'd. in 2024 at the point; leave @ \$20,000 in 2025 Budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Bancroft Public Library Board of Trustees-Ed Donoghue has requested the re-appointment of Alesa Wilson as a Bancroft Public Library Trustee for another five-year term, beginning January 1, 2025 & ending December 31, 2029. **Motion made by** Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to re-appoint Alesa Wilson to another five-year term as a Trustee on the Bancroft Public Library Board, term beginning January 1, 2025 & ending December 31, 2029; passed 4-0.

2025 Preliminary Budget Review-Leave Line 23-**Assessor-Personal Svcs.** @ \$22,638 (Figure change was not approved @ 10/29/2024 Public Hearing mtg.)

Line 50-Contingent-Lower from \$32,000-\$28,000 (Due to increase in Hosp./Medical Ins.)

Lines 94 & 95-Economic Development-Con't.-Leave @ \$2,000; **Economic Development-Con't.-Sewer**-Leave @ \$1,000 (Figure changes were not approved @ 10/29/2024 Public Hearing mtg.)

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Line 143-Cemeteries-Con't. Exp.-Leave @ \$18,000 (Figure change not approved @ 10/29/2024 Public Hearing mtg.)

Line 152-Employee Benefits-Hospital/Medical Ins.-Raise from \$32,000 to \$36,000 (actual cost on Health Ins.)

Resolution #53-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to move the 2025 Preliminary Budget to Adopted, with changes on **Line 50-Contingent lowering** am't. from \$32,000 to \$28,000 & **Line 152-Employee Benefits-Hospital/Medical Ins., increase** from \$32,000 to \$36,000 (actual cost of health ins.); passed 4-0.

Resolution #54-Motion made by Councilman Tom McMorris, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve & sign the Commercial Lease Agreement on the Salem Town Office; Supervisor Clary will sign & send to Day-War Ventures, LLC; passed 4-0.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Supervisor Evera Sue Clary, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to adjourn the regular monthly board meeting; passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned @ 6:30 p.m. All those who want to can attend the Annual Meeting of the HSCPA @ the Courthouse.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting of Salem Town Board-will be held on Wednesday, December 11th, 2024, @ Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY. Review of Warrants #12 & Highway Abstract #12 for payment will begin @ 5 p.m., with business meeting being called to order @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem

