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TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD
JANUARY 08, 2025

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

Others Present: Travis Keys-Highway/Water; Rebecca Brown-Water/Library; Kim Erbe-Planning Bd./Library; Larry Haber-Economic Development

Public Present: None

Absent- Eric Rogers-Water Dep't.(report provided); Moe Patrick-Planning Bd.; Al Cormier-Hist./Records Mg't.(report provided); Mary Menard-Proposed Georgi Trustee; Sandra Haber-Georgi; Steve Saunders-Salem Fire Dep't.; Nancy Quell-DCO

5:00 P.M.-Review of **Warrants #1 & Highway Abstract #1 of 2025** for approval & payment (done before Organizational Mtg. began).

6:00 P.M.-Regular monthly meeting called to order by Supervisor Clary. **Motion made by** Councilman Wyeth Coburn, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve Warrants #1 & Highway Abstract #1 of 2025, with discussion of the Voucher presented from Paul Kobyluch for the Courthouse. (This would be work being performed from the \$100,000 grant rec'd. by the Courthouse; town to pay 20%, or \$20,000.) **Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to sign voucher for half the am't. presented, approx. \$14,237 +/-, as long as Attorney Klingebiel & NYS says it is o.k.; passed unanimously 5-0.

Approval of Minutes from 12/11/2024-Motion made by Councilman Wyeth Coburn, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve the minutes from the 12/11/2024 regular monthly meeting; passed unanimously 5-0.

Highway-Travis' reports were provided via email to all. New mowing tractor is working well; have been using it some. Have had a few small breakdowns but nothing major. Have been out plowing & sanding; we have had a lot of trouble w/salt being wet & having stone in it. I rec'd. a 10% reduction on cost. I have made some enhanced brine & have tried it a few times. Town rec'd. the grant for the new shed for sand storage for around \$600,000. We need to look @ payment schedule & time frame for building. Have also been notified that we rec'd. the grant for the sidewalk in am't. of \$200,000 (from auto store to corner by Tavern). Lawn mowing bids need to be sent to newspaper. **Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Wyeth Coburn to get lawn mowing bids in the Eagle; passed unanimously 5-0. Travis will work on gravel & topsoil bid & get to Clerk Gilchrist when done. **Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Wyeth Coburn, to work on getting out the bid for the sidewalk; passed unanimously 5-0. Think help will be coming from the engineer on drafting the bid. Day by day report for month of December provided, also; reports will be filed.

Water-Eric emailed report to all. 320 meters in service, w/one new water hook-up for the month. Regular upkeep & maintenance was performed; did a hand full of dig safe mark outs; eye wash & fire extinguisher checks were done, as well as yearly inspection. All hydrants have been winterized & are ready for cold weather. Monthly water sample required by the D/O/H met the bacteriological requirements for a public water supply as set forth in subpart 5-1.5 of the Sanitary Code under Public Health Law 225. 4th quarter iron & manganese sample was done. I have turned off a couple water lines for the winter months; one meter froze. As usual, if a hydrant is used, please contact the water department so it can be re-winterized. Also, it is much appreciated when residents clean around the hydrants near their property after a snowstorm. This makes access much easier in case of an emergency. Report will be filed.

Salem Volunteer Fire Dep't.-7 calls for month of December, 2024: 4-Salem (1-EMS Lift Assist; 1-Control Burn; 1-MVA w/injuries; 1-Alarm Activation); Mutual Aid Calls: 1-Hebron (Echo); 1-Rupert(MVA); 1-Cambridge (structure fire)

Monthly Meeting; station maintenance; driver/pump/SCBA Extrication Training

Events-Santa tour around former Village on 12/22/202

Year-end Report-also provided by Chief Saunders. 159 Calls for year; 170 total fire hrs.; 6,199 total man hrs.

37 active members; 9 support group members; 4 junior FF members

OSHA Mandates: All trucks serviced & had NYS inspections done & passed; annual ladder testing done & passed; yearly air packs & air station were serviced & passed; yearly turnout gear inspection done-repairs done where needed; yearly hydraulic & all extrication tools were serviced & passed; yearly hose testing was done & passed; annual fire extinguishers & fire suppression system was inspected & passed; yearly fire department physicals were conducted & all members passed; 17 members are SCBA fit tested for 2025 year.

Meetings: Salem Vol. Fire Dep't. held 13 monthly mtgs.; 1 annual election mtg.; attended Fire Advisory Bd. Mtgs.; officers attended 6 bi-monthly Chiefs & Officer's mtgs. throughout the County; held several special mtgs. within the organization (Chiefs & Officers, Board of Directors, etc.); attended Salem & Jackson Town Board mtgs.; Chief Saunders is the Treasurer for the Wash. Co. Fire Chiefs Assoc.

Fundraising: Chicken/rib bar-b-ques; Calendar sales; 500 club tickets; coin drop; Sunday breakfasts

Breakdown of hours: Tuesdays-739; SCBA Drills/Fire Calls-326; Fire hrs.-170; extrication training-146; cold water training-31; fire schools-396; misc. mtgs.-2,149 for TOTAL HRS. OF 6,198.75; average manpower hrs.-167.5/fire fighter

Also rec'd. a complete breakdown of what each member has participated in & their total hrs. for 2024 year.

Salem Rescue Squad-46 calls for December 2024: T/O/S-28; Hebron-14; VT-4

Call Disposition: GFH-20; Saratoga-5; SVMC-2; RMA-12; RRMC-3; Cancelled-2; Fire Standby-1; Lift Assist-1

Total Year-to-Date Hours-534; 4451-11; 4452-33; 4453-2

Salem Rescue Squad-Year-end Report-Call origin: T/O/S-353; Hebron-154; VT-48; Jackson-10; Cambridge-1; Fort Edward-1

Call Disposition: G.F. Hosp.-224; Saratoga-90; RMA-109; SVMC-50; RRMC-14; Albany Med Peds-1; Albany Med-3; Lift Assist-29; No Patient-10; Cancelled-29; Class 17-9; Fire Stand-by-8; Transfer Care-2; Residence-1 Report will be filed

Historian's Report-Al sent report. He met w/Jim & Karen Sheldon, who are looking to date the old horse barn on the Cato Street farm; connected them w/Bill Krattinger from SHPO. They hope to get grants to restore the barn. Attended a County Historian's mtg. on 01/03/2025 @ the Co. Bldg. Events were discussed for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence celebration taking place in 2026. A follow-up story about Don McLean, folksinger, was recently published by the Salem Press. He performed in Salem in 1968 & Jean Conety McMorris related her memories of that July 4th weekend. Bill Taggart, former resident of Salem, recently passed away; Bill lived on Archibald Street next to the carnival grounds & taught history in Granville. Bill wrote in detail about his life w/the Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus. Al was asked to write a eulogy for him. Crystal McMorris, historian's clerk, began work on 01/07/2025. She will work approx. 4 hrs./week doing office mg'mt. & research. Report will be filed.

Georgi-Sandy Haber reports the Georgi exhibition of paintings @ the Hyde will begin on 01/25/2025; everyone is looking forward to that. An itemized invoice has been submitted from Harris-Pero for hourly chgs. On the Charter work and By-Lays. Still waiting for notice from NYS Dep't. of Education on approval of the rovisional Charter. Once rec'd., work will begin on the MOU w/the T/O/S & the 501 (c)(3). Law mowing bids will be going out soon, including the Georgi. Councilwoman Levey has been in touch w/Grasshopper--they would appreciate getting paid now & will correct the grade in the Spring of 2025, if necessary.

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Courthouse-Nothing to report; working on inside.

Planning Board-Kim reported the meeting for January will be held on January 23, 2025. Election of officers will take place. AJ Signs has a site plan application for signs to be erected on the site of the new Hudson Headwaters bldg. Site Plan application for Mary Braymer to place a new, single-wide manufactured home on their property, located @ 1405 County Route 153; no public hearing necessary. Site Plan application from Travis Keys, T/O/S Highway Sup't., to a new 72' x 180' sand/salt building, w/possibly a second new 42' x 40' bldg. on the town's property located on Rexleigh Rd. There may be one or two other applications; they have not yet been rec'd.

Town Clerk Report-Clerk Gilchrist reported amount collected for December, 2024, for monthly fees was \$290--\$235 paid to T/O/S. \$10 paid to NYS Ag & Mkts. for dog licensing & \$45 paid to NYS Dep't. of Health for two marriage licenses issued.

DCO-No report rec'd.

Economic Development-Larry e-mailed report. Did a year in review report for 2024 & plans for 2025. There has been no response back from the YMCA re implementing on what programs might be implemented in Salem; will continue trying in 2025. Cambridge Co-op is looking at setting up an on-line ordering system; this would allow Salem residents to order products online & pick up @ the store. The Gazebo roof needs replacing; please read the report, which will be filed.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT-Supervisor Clary reported that there was a bad fire in Sandgate, w/many local fire departments responding. There was loss of life reported.

OLD BUSINESS

Website update needed-Updates need to be put on the forms portion of building applications: Site Plan, Sub-division, Zoning & Solar have all been updated & the most recent ones need to be put on the website. Planning Board Clerk, Kim Erbe, will see that this is done.

Right-to-Farm Law/Zoning-regarding manure, especially coming off trucks in the former Village. Supervisor Clary will talk to some of the farmers transporting liquid manure in trucks that often drip all over the road.

NEW BUSINESS

Climate Smart Community Repair Café-will be held @ the Courthouse on Saturday, 04/26/25. Hebron is looking for a sponsorship proposal; talk about in February. Working w/Josh Dranoff from the Capital District Regional Planning Commission, applying for grants w/points earned through the town's participation in the Climate Smart program. John Bardwell is co-chairing the committee & by working w/Josh, the Town has rec'd. one grant for \$10,000. Through cooperation w/the Town, the Library, Courthouse, & Georgi may qualify for other grant opportunities in 2025. Potential solar use of the Salem Landfill by an outside company is also underway.

Salt Barn Grant Award-As mentioned by Travis, the T/O/S Highway Dep't. has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$600,000. Bldg. paperwork might need to be executed by the end of February, 2025. Travis reported that the floor would be 72' x 180. The brine storage grant could also be resubmitted--the original one submitted, but denied, was for \$150,000--w/T/O/S providing 20% or \$30,000. Supervisor Clary, Travis & Clerk to Supervisor Chambers will be meeting w/Allison Gaddy on Monday, 01/13/2025.

AGFT Sidewalk Grant-in the amount of \$200,000 was also awarded to T/O/S. This will be to replace the sidewalk from the corner by the auto parts store to the corner by the Tavern, including a new sidewalk into the Gazebo entrance.

Master Comprehensive Plan Start-up-Rec'd. \$73,000 to update Salem's Comprehensive Plan. The engineering firm will put this out to bid.

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Saratoga Networks-Workstations for the Historian & Town Clerk were discussed, ordering through Mark Rode, using ARPA money.

Year-end Financials-were reviewed by Clerk to Supervisor Chambers before the Organizational Mtg. for Highway, Water, Benjamin Bancroft Trust, & Georgi Museum.

Motion to Adjourn-the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board made by Councilman Wyeth Coburn, seconded by Councilman Howard Law; passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned @ 7:33 p.m.

Next Meeting-of the Salem Town Board will be a special meeting on 01/29/20245 beginning @ 5 p.m. in the Salem Town Office; 214 Main Street; Salem, NY 12865, to discuss the salt/sand shed grant, the sidewalk grant, & the Master Comprehensive Grant & whatever else might come before the Board at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem