

Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2025

Attendees: Sue Clary Kay Tomasi, John Bardwell, Bob Berger, Mike Mugits
Julie Collier

Josh Dranoff, Guest Speaker

Josh provided information on some on-going projects with Sue such as working with the NYSDEC to get to a Bronze level which could yield additional funding for projects. He is also working on Hebron and Salem's behalf with NYSERTA on clean energy programs for lowering utility costs for low income individuals. There will be a future workshop at the Courthouse in an attempt to identify approximately 30 to 40 eligible people.

Sue On Ongoing Initiatives

- i. **Master Comprehensive Plan** – Labella held a well attended initial meeting on November 21. The previously issued survey to all members was discussed. The project will last approximately 15 months, with monthly meetings to be held. Historical documentation to be utilized was identified, with some additional documentation to be provided to LaBella for review and consolidation.
- ii. **Climate Smart** – See above under Josh Dranoff.
- iii. **Land Banking** – The Land Banking proposal passed at the County and will now go to the State for approval. Salem will need to develop proposed plans for these properties for development and funding.
- iv. **Sidewalk Grants** – Sue is working on a DOT grant for sidewalks and storm drains. Potential areas are: Park Place to Dollar General, Main Street to Archibald Street, Main Street to Hudson HeadWaters.

Project Updates

1. **Georgi** – Brenda
 - i. Charter and MOU have been approved by the Town Board
 - ii. Work has commenced on the 501C3.
2. **Sewer**
 - i. Town Board approved site cost funds. Contract signing scheduled for early 2026
 - ii. A public video will be developed for marketing before the public voting referendum.

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3. **Solar Farm**

- i. John and Larry spoke with NYPA Renewable group. NYPA remains interested in the project, and will start internal discussion on next steps and possible timings. Monthly calls to monitor progress are to be scheduled.

4. **Salem Washington Academy**

- I. Applied to NYS Dept of Education for getting out Roof Repair Bids,
- II. Are talking with NYSERTA re electric busses.
- III. NYS Building Survey Completed, identifies top 5 issues to be addressed, and usually SWA addressed top 2.
- IV. SWA to begin planning for next project.
- V. Timeline being created for Debt Servicing.
- VI. New plans being developed for new courses.

5. **Economic Development -**

- i. **NE Rail** – Work continued on reviewing all NE rail properties has been started to determine any next steps with these properties.
Sue received a \$30k Greenway Grant to apply for an NYS EDC grant. Grant is for a feasibility study to build a Rail Trail around the Greenwich Thompson Yard area.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on February 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at Salem Town Hall