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## **Economic Development Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2026**

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

#### **Sue On Ongoing Initiatives**

- i. **Master Comprehensive Plan** – The responses are being packaged for the Public Meeting scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM at the School.
- ii. **Climate Smart** – A Grant Funding Ledger sheet meeting with LGLC is scheduled for April 14 to continue planning on creating the ledger.
- iii. **Land Banking** –The County Board of Supervisors wants housing as a priority over re-purposing the Linke properties. The Town of Salem has signed up as a Pro-Housing Initiative participant. LGLC has applied for a grant to re-purpose the Linke properties,
- iv. **Salem to Thompson Railcar Trail** – Work is continuing on the feasibility study.

#### **Project Updates**

1. **Georgi** – Brenda
  - i. Work continues on the 501C3.
  - ii. Annual Plant sale to be held the end of May.
2. **Sewer**
  - i. An alternative site off Stanton Hill Road has been declined. Revisiting the SAW property to see if a deal can be arranged.
3. **Solar Farm**
  - i. NYPA Renewable group has engaged a consultant to identify costs associated with tying into the grid from our proposed location. No additional information at this time.
4. **Salem Washington Academy**
  - i. Roof repair is on-going, and should be done by the fall and is coming in under budget.
  - ii. Budget planning being done this month. A public budget hearing will be held on 5/6 for school and BOCES. Expected increase to be within NYS cap.
  - iii. School is considering buying 3 gasoline powered busses using a bond. Electric busses are still considered too questionable to use at this time.

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#### **5. Economic Development -**

##### **i. NE Rail –**

1. Canadian Pacific has agreed to Quit Claim the Salem Freight Barn to NE Rail. The official transfer was missed in 1994.
2. A Steering Committee has been formed to oversee the following projects:
  - a. Perform architectural surveys of the Salem and Greenwich buildings to determine needs to bring up to code'
  - b. Provide a feasibility study of the Battenkill RR to determine potential future revenues along with identifying needed maintenance to insure safety.
  - c. Provide a plan to develop the Salem Station house properties into a tourist attraction.

#### **6. Miscellaneous –**

- i. An electronic speed sign will be set up in Shushan to try to control speeders.
- ii. Planning has begun for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary parade. Banners for Main Street are being purchased.

**Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday June 8, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Courthouse.**