

TOWN OF SALEM
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD
JUNE 10, 2026

Present: Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council: Brenda Levey; Tom McMorris; Scott Eastman; Howard Law present through videoconferencing from his residence @ 2277 State Rte. 313; Shushan, NY 12873; Pat Gilchrist-Town Clerk; Kathy Chambers-Clerk to Supervisor

Others Present: Travis Keys-Highway/Water; Kim Erbe-Planning Bd./Library; Rebecca Brown-Water/Library; Beth Ulion-Courthouse; Marissa Perkins-Courthouse

Public Present: Sherri Slater; Michelle Brown; MTM (?)

Absent: David Wrem-250th Celebration/July 4th Parade; Larry Haber-Economic Devel.; Kay Tomasi; Economic Development/Sewer; Steve Saunders-Salem Vol. Fire Dep't. (reports provided); Vicki Campbell-Rescue Squad; Nancy Quell-DCO (nothing to report)

5:00 pm-Review of Warrants #6 & Highway Abstract #6 for payment

6:00 pm-Regular monthly meeting called to order by Supervisor Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance. Introduction of Board members made around the table & Councilman Law, who was video-conferencing.

Financials-were provided to all for review by Clerk to Supervisor Chambers for Highway & Water.

6:05 pm-Open Public Hearing on adopting Local Law #2 of 2026 providing for flood damage protection in the Town of Salem. Supervisor Clary asked the required three (3) times if there were any questions or comments on Proposed Local Law #2 of 2026 regarding flood damage protection in the Town of Salem; there was no response & no questions and/or comments. Public Hearing on Local Law #2 of 2026 was closed.

Part 2-Impact Assessment of the EAF was read & questions answered by the Town Board. **Motion made by** Councilman Tom McMorris, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, that said proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts & declares the same to be a Negative Declaration; passed 5-0.

Resolution #46-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to pass said Resolution, adopting Local Law #2 of 2026 Providing for Flood Damage Protection in the Town of Salem; passed 5-0.

FEMA Letter-Supervisor Clary reported that she had rec'd. a letter from Rachel Sears, Director, Floodplain Management Division of FEMA, stating that due to administrative delays, FEMA did not provide the T/O/S with formal written notice 90 days in advance of the effective date, as required under Section 59.24(a) of Title 44, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). As a result, FEMA is extending the compliance period until 09/07/2026--not the 07/21/2026 original date to comply. The T/O/S passed the Local Law for Flood Damage Protection as of this date, so this does not really change anything for us.

Approval of Warrants #6 & Highway Abstract 65 for Payment-Motion made by Councilman Tom McMorris, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve Warrants #6 & Highway Abstract #6 for payment (w/exception of \$300 Voucher from Sue Carrolan for damage in R/O/W; Travis offered to fix & Sue said no, so don't pay). Also, pay LaBella's bill for assessment on the medical center; passed 5-0.

Highway Dep't.-Travis will send info on BAN renewal for loader in the am't. of \$32,000, which will be due in December, to Att'y. Fuller so he has it in plenty of time. Travis would like the Board to declare the old Hot Box as surplus equipment, selling the same to New Baltimore for \$20,000. **Resolution #47-Motion made by** Councilman Scott Eastman, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to deem the old Hot Box as surplus equipment & sell the same to New Baltimore for \$20,000; passed 5-0.

Resolution #48-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to purchase a new Hot Box, 1-KM 8000TEDD, 4-ton trailer mount; electric brake; diesel; dump; heated shovel

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deck per proposal from Trius, Inc.; 268 Towpath Rd.; Fort Edward, NY, 12828-Sourcewell Contract #050625-KMI, for the following Price:

Contract Total w/options	\$ 41,815
Freight	3,500
Delivery	500
PDI	<u>500</u>
TOTAL	\$ 46,315

Five towns will be going in w/Salem on using this equipment. \$1,300 each will be paid in 2026; \$1,400 each in 2027 & \$1,500 each in 2028. Pricing is good for thirty (30) days; passed 5-0.

Microsoft Office 365-Travis Keys, Councilwoman Levey, & others are having trouble accessing and/or receiving information since Mark Rode cancelled their Office 365 & went to the cheaper internet version.

Resolution #49-Motion made by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, to go back to the more expensive version of Office 365; passed 5-0.

Travis reported that the grad-all is apart-DP Hydraulics will be fixing the same; mowing tractor should be coming back on the 12th; guys can service part of it but dealer must do warranty stuff. Have been grading a little; neither Ron Jameson nor Kent Foster currently have anything put up for the Town to purchase. 1,300 gall. chloride tank broke; Travis has already ordered snowplow blades in anticipation of price increases & availability if he waits. Corinna Aldrich of Wash. Co. Soil & Water is looking into funding the tube. Highway still needs two full-time employees (one retired & one got done); currently have four.

Town's Speed Limit Sign-Wash. Co. is having trouble programming the same.

Water Dep't.-Flushing went very well; Andy Erbe attended schooling @ Turning Stone. Tank has been washed. School kids worked great--cleaned signs & whatever else Travis had them do. Monthly testing was done.

Resolution #50-Motion made by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, to have Travis execute generator contracts for the Water Barn, Proudfit, & the Courthouse; passed 5-0.

Motion made by Councilman Tom McMorris, seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, to do a Certificate of Appreciation to Carol McPhee for her many years running the Service Learning program w/the students all these years; Carol will be retiring this year & Vicky Perkins will be taking over. Passed 5-0

Town Clerk Report-Clerk Gilchrist reported \$318 had been collected in fees for May, 2026. Dog Licensing was \$85; 3-Marriage Licenses at \$17.50 each=\$52.50; 3-Marriage Certified Copies-\$30; 1-Manufactured Home Permit Application-\$75. A check for \$8 was sent to NYS Ag & Markets for the APCP submission & a check for \$67.50 was sent to NYS Dep't. of Health for the marriage licenses issued, leaving \$242.50 paid to the Town of Salem. Report will be filed.

Courthouse-Marissa announced the following events will be happening:

Silent Movie w/Music & Swooping Shapes-Thursday, 06/11/26, 6:30-8:30 pm

Light in Motion-Friday, 06/12/26, 5:30-7:00 pm-Mari Barboza's 'Light in Motion: a Tour Around the Rainbow' photography exhibit will open in the Great Hall.

Bike Day-Sunday, 06/27/26 from 1-4 pm for bike repairs, safety & more

July 4th Parade-Marissa reported that t-shirts are for sale for the July 4th celebration; parade will begin @ 4pm; events around town begin @ 2:30 pm. Planning Mtg. Monday, 06/15/26, @ 3 pm. Get your floats registered!

Lunch, Learn n Play-begins on Monday, 07/06/26, @ the Courthouse. Over 130 students have registered so far for this much loved program; some will be going to the swim program @ Hebron Camp; need to look at expanding this for next year as the interest was great & not all could attend this year.

Community Coffee Hour-will be held on Tuesday, 07/14/26, beginning @ 10 am. Please bring your favorite mug & visit w/your friends & neighbors!!

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Al Fresco Dinner-will be held on 07/18/26, from 5-8 pm on the Courthouse lawn. There will be a silent auction in the newly renovated Carriage Barn, done by Patrick McLenithan, performances by Mettawee Theatre Co., & David Cutie's Jazz Band.

Washington County Band-will perform on the Courthouse Lawn on 07/23/26, from 5-7 pm.

August Community Coffee Hour-will be held Tuesday, 08/11/26, beginning @ 10 am. You may bring your own favorite beverage if you like, although coffee will be provided!

2nd Annual Family Fall Festival-will be held on 09/26/26 from 5-8 pm @ the Courthouse. Savory Pig Food Truck, Casa Reyes Food Truck & Adirondack Brewery will all be on hand, as well as Reese Fulmer & The Carriage House Band.

1st Annual Car Show-will be held on 10/10/26 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm for some awesome vehicles, local vendors, delicious food trucks, live music & more.

Check out all these events @ www.salemcourthouse.org/upcomingevents

Georgi-Brenda Levey reported the grounds look wonderful, thanks to the Davis's mowing crew. Hope to begin opening the Museum from 10-1 or 10-2 on Saturdays. The changing table has arrived & will need to be install-ed. Prom pictures were taken last Saturday on the deck of the Museum. Soil & Water will hopefully be taking out more invasive species. Have been contacted by Sylvia Wilson's niece, who would like to donate to the Georgi in Sylvia's memory.

HVAC System-Have a quote from John Murphy for \$21,158 & the quote from two-three years ago was \$27,000. **Motion made by** Councilman Scott Eastman, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, giving permission for the Georgi Board to proceed w/John Murphy for the installation of an HVAC system at a cost of \$21,158; this will be paid for w/Georgi funds. Passed 5-0

Color run for Alzheimer's-Councilwoman Levey reminded everyone that the run to raise money for Alzheimer's would be held on 06/19/26, beginning @ 5 pm at the Gazebo.

Salem Volunteer Fire Dep't.-Reports provided by Chief Saunders. 11 Calls for May, 2026: 10-Salem (3-control burn; 2-personal injury/unknown PI-MVA; 1-structure fire; 1-smoke condition; 1-wires; 1-rescue call; 1-EMS assist-ECHO response); **Mutual Aid:** 1-Hebron (personal injury/unknown PI-MVA)

District/Mutual Aid Y/T/D-Salem-44; Hebron-7; Cambridge-5; Rupert-5; Cossayuna-2; Shushan-2; Argyle-1; Arlington-1; Greenwich-1; Middle falls-1 for a total of 69

Incident Type Year to Date-69 Responses: 14-personal injury/unknown; 7-stand-by's; 8-structure fires; 4-CO alarms; 5-EMS Assist-ECHO response; 5-EMS lift assists; 6-control burns; 3-good intent; 2 fire alarms-residential; 2-grass/brush; 2-hazardous condition; 2-LP gas leaks; 2-wires; 1-chimney fire; 1-property damage MVA; 1-rescue call; 1-svc. call; 1-traffic control; 1-vehicle fire; 1-smoke condition

Other reports-Members attending year to date; training/drill report from 05/01/-05/31/26 by firefighter name; event attendance report for 05/01-05/31/26 total hours for each firefighter; all reports will be filed.

Rescue Squad-has been very busy; no report

Planning Board-Clerk Kim Erbe reported zoned area on West Broadway is not in compliance. Blockhouse application submitted to Planning Bd. Waiting to hear back from Att'y. Fuller on Draft Zoning Law & any issues w/ Local Law Prohibiting Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems within the Town of Salem.

Washington County Planning Agency Meeting-scheduled for Tuesday, 06/30/26, @ 9 am; referrals due for public notice must be in by Monday, 06/22/26, not later than 4 pm to be noticed on the Agenda for this mtg.

Bancroft Library- Two new employees have been hired.

Economic Development-No formal report as Larry resigned at June's mtg. Did receive an email from Att'y. Fuller advising that the DEC office was compiling their information that Matt has Foiled; however, it is quite large so it may take a few weeks for them to get the information back to Matt. Matt will mark up the proposed Option Agreement & send it back to the Town to coordinate w/the power authority given that there

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are statements in the agreement the Town likely cannot make; the Town will need to do their own due diligence.

Assessor's Report-Welcome back to Town Hall!! Enjoyed my time @ the Georgi reviewing the Assessment Roll. A handful of taxpayers stopped by during my hours there; Grievance Day came & went w/o any opposition. Final Assessment Roll will be released on July 01, 2026; awaiting March-May transfers from Wash. Co. Real Property. Once they complete next year's processing for the 2027 roll, I will begin work on it. Bobbi will be out of the office for trainings on the following dates: Wednesday, 06/17; Wednesday, 07/08; & the week of 07/19. Reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Historian's Report-Al provided report. Students from Salem Central School were supervised on Comm. Svc. Day-05/27/26-at the Rev. War Cemetery; trees & shrubs were trimmed & a large pile of dead branches & trash were removed from the fairgrounds. The branches & trash were adjacent to the north wall of the cemetery & detracted from the grounds. The students did an awesome job! The H'way Dep't. removed the brush pile & the School custodians removed the trash; many thanks to all. Attended the Hebron Historical Preservation Society talk on 05/28 about Major-Gen. Israel Putnam, who fought in the French & Indian War, was a member of Rogers Rangers & also the Revolutionary War. He was from Salem, Massachusetts. Met w/July 4th Parade Committee to discuss parade route, SWA tri-corner hats, reenactors w/muskets & cannon, after-parade activities including music, speeches, children's events, flag displays, etc. Set up 2nd appointment for 06/18/26, w/researcher Alexis Graham to continue her research about Col. Joseph McCracken.

Rec'd. two books about Wash. C. Poor Farm from former Wash. Co. Historian Loretta J. Bates: *Portraits of Poverty 1875-1900* & *Those Called Paupers 1821-1883*. I sent her a copy of *Early History of Salem* by Dr. Asa Fitch, edited by July Flagg 2025, illustrations by myself 2025.

Re-arranged setup of Town archive/history room to free up filing cabinet space.

Accepted large family photos of the Minnie McQueen family, who lived on Black Creek Rd. Eileen Gerdes, who currently lives in the house, donated them.

Report will be filed.

Some sad news--Al is resigning as Historian. He has served Salem very well over these many years & his dedication & wealth of knowledge will be missed. Don't go too far, Al; we will all need your help & guidance for the future. A big, big thank you to Mr. Cormier!!

Sewer Committee-No meeting yet.

DCO Report-Nancy had nothing to report; everything has been pretty quiet in Salem.

Tree/Park Committee-After consulting w/H'Way Sup't. Travis Keys, 2 trees will be planted on Vale St. & 2 on West Broadway. ACA has been notified; he will let Tom know when he is coming. Also getting 3 Arrowwood Viburnums (bushes) at no charge from NYSEG; should be here in mid-June

250th Anniversary Celebration-4 bricks were installed in Veteran's Park. Supervisor Clary donated an old lamp owned by her mom; Marilyn would be very pleased that this was done.

PUBLIC COMMENT-None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Law Discussion-Planning Bd. Clerk Kim Erbe will revise the term 'Recreational Facility' & send back to Att'y. Fuller.

Master Comprehensive Plan Update-Zoom meeting was held on Tues., 06/09/26.

Salt/Sand Shed Grant Finalization-Probably another month to finalize.

Hudson Greenway Grant-\$30,000 & Wash. Co. EDC Grant-\$32,000-Town of Salem is the lead agency; structural assessment needs to be done on Northeast Rail bldgs. & what work might need to be done on the railbed.

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Battery Storage Moratorium-Local Law filed in May; extended for six months.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Office -All paperwork finally filed w/Wash. County Code Enforcement, new unit was inspected & passed, o.k. to move back in. No Admittance was taken off door of Town Office; we are back in our Main St. space as of Monday! Yipee!!!!

Mortgage Tax-First installment rec'd. of \$16,700; budgeted for \$20,000 in 2026.

RCAPPS Household Characteristic Income Survey-for the Sewer has to be done over as the prior one is too old now. It is only good for five years. **Motion made by** Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Tom McMorris, approving the survey be done over, contacting residents as was done in the prior survey; passed 5-0.

Sign Law Review-The Town's law was filed April02, 2018 w/the Department of State. It needs to be reviewed & redone. There is currently nothing in the Historic Preservation Law that was filed addressing signs in the district; that need to be addressed, also. The Planning Board will take a look at this.

Councilman Law & Water Barn-Councilman Law would like the Town to reimburse the time the Town Clerk was using their space as an office: \$25/day for 40 days = \$1,000

Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, for the Town of Salem to reimburse the Town of Salem Water District \$1,000 for office space used for 40 days by Town Clerk, Patricia Gilchrist; passed 5-0.

FYI-Farm truck took down a basketball hoop on Archibald Street; it did stick out into the road.

Motion to Adjourn-the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board made by Councilman Tom McMorris, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman; passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned @ 8:00 p.m.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting-of the Salem Town Board will be the regular monthly meeting on 07/08/2026, beginning @ 5 p.m. in Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY, to review Warrants #7 & Highway Abstract #7 for payment, regular business meeting will be called to order @ 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem

