

SPECIAL SALEM TOWN BOARD MEETING
INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTION FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #3-2026
PROHIBITING COMMERCIAL BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS IN THE TOWN
OF SALEM and
TO REVIEW ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD
PROUDFIT HALL-5 pm
JULY 29, 2026

PRESENT: Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council: Tom McMorris; Brenda Levey; Scott Eastman; Howard Law-Video-conferencing from his home, located @ 2277 State Rte. 313; Shushan, NY 12873; Town Clerk-Pat Gilchrist; Clerk to Supervisor-Kathy Chambers

OTHERS PRESENT: Travis Keys-Highway Sup't./Water; Kim Erbe-Planning Bd./Library; David Wren-250th Anniversary Comm./Deputy Historian

PUBLIC PRESENT: Sherri Slater

5:00 P.M.-Supervisor Clary called the meeting to order, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

Resolution #54-Motion made by Councilman Thomas McMorris, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, to pass said Introductory Resolution for proposed Local Law #3 of 2026-Prohibiting Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Salem, Washington County, NY. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Thomas McMorris-Yes; Councilman Scott Eastman-Yes; Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilwoman Brenda Levey-Yes; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; passed 5-0.

Resolution #55-Motion made by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Thomas McMorris, to schedule a Public Hearing on the passage of Local Law #3 of 2026-Prohibiting Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Salem, Washington County, NY, for the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board on August 12, 2026 @ 6 pm, to be held in Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY; passed 5-0.

Resolution #56-Proposed Zoning Local Law #4 of 2026 (w/revisions)-Motion made by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, to schedule a special meeting on Friday, 08/07/2026, @ 5 pm in Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY, to pass the Introductory Resolution on the revisions to proposed Local Law #4 of 2026, amending the Zoning Law of the Town of Salem; passed 5-0.

BAN Renewal for Loader-Renewal will be \$37,000, plus interest.

New Business

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Program-There will be a presentation at the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board on 08/12/2026 to review this grant; the amount is for \$350,000 to establish an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program, said program to be administered by the North Country Rural Development Coalition. The application would be to the New York State Office of Community Renewal. A Public Hearing must be held before the passage of the Resolution to apply for the grant money & a 2nd Resolution is necessary designating the Essex County Land Bank Corporation to Administer Fair Housing Responsibilities & Adopting Required Community Development Block Grant Policies.

Gutters for Bancroft Trust Bldg.-Bancroft Library Board could apply for a grant thru the Salem Community Foundation, the Library being the lead agency if the Library Board of Trustees approves the same for the Bancroft building.

Supervisor's Report-Supervisor Clary reported that the NYS Tropper barracks on State Rte. 29 has rec'd. a Certificate of Occupancy for the bldg. & the septic was approved by Wash. Co. Code Enforcement.

Planning Board-Clerk Erbe reported that the meeting for the Planning Board for August would be held on 08/27/2026; most on the Board or those present are not involved with the Wash. Co. Fair. She also reported that already four people have been in the new flood zone area that have come before the Planning Board w/ projects. Possibly do a LOMA application to come out? Kim will contact Whitehall to see what they are doing. Might be a great idea if Tracey Ledder, from Delaware Engineering, could speak to both the Town Board & the Planning Board at a joint meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Computer Issues-The cost will be \$1,216.80 to go back to the Microsoft that everyone had before; Travis has been having major issues as well as Councilwoman Levey & several others since the changeover. Mark Rode will work on this.

Blockhouse-David Wren inquired if the foundation for the Blockhouse needed to be put out to bid by the Town of Salem @ an approximate cost of \$8,000. Supervisor Clary responded that this should go thru whatever not-for-profit they are going under & not the Town of Salem.

PUBLIC COMMENT

TOM CLARK-spoke about the flooding issues; bridges are **NOT** big enough. Route 22 bridge needs to be bigger & the Archibald St. bridge needs to come out entirely. Arlington needs to do major work to prevent flooding in T/O/S; what can the Town of Salem do about this or NYS?? Supervisor Clary responded to Tom that if he still has copies of information & the engineering report he had obtained before about the flooding problem, a letter could be drafted to NYS Dep't. of Transportation regarding the Rte. 22 bridge.

Councilman Howard Law-asked again about getting a letter or something in writing from Glens Falls Hospital/Albany Med stating that they were not going to renew the lease on the medical center for 2027. Supervisor Clary will send grant paperwork to the Board on the Master Comprehensive Plan; Salt/Sand Shed; & Brine Maker.

OTHER BUSINESS

Executive Session-Councilman Law wants to go into Executive Session w/ five Board members, H'Way Sup't. Travis Keys & Clerk to Supervisor Chambers to discuss Union Contract matters. Councilwoman Levey expressed her feeling that at first, the Executive Session should only involve the five Board members. **Resolution #57-**

Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Thomas McMorris, to go into Executive Session to discuss Union Contract issues w/the five Board members present, asking H'Way Sup't. Keys & Clerk to Supervisor Chambers to wait outside; passed 5-0. Town Clerk Gilchrist will leave the meeting.

Out of Executive Session-Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to come out of Executive Session. No vote was taken or decisions were made in Executive Session; passed _____.

MOTION TO ADJOURN-Motion made by Councilman _____, seconded by Councilman/Councilwoman/ _____, to adjourn the July 29, 2026, special meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned @ _____ p.m.

Special Meeting of the Salem Town Board-will be held on Friday, 08/07/2026, to pass the Introductory Resolution for the revisions to proposed Local Law #4, amending the Zoning Law of the Town of Salem. Meeting will begin @ 5 pm in Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY.

NEXT REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING of the Salem Town Board will be held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, in Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY. Review of Warrants #8 & Highway Abstract #8 for payment will begin @ 5 p.m., business meeting to begin @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem