SPECIAL MEETING-SALEM TOWN BOARD
2nd 2027 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING, ETC.
SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

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

Absent: Highway Sup't.-Travis Keys

Public Present: Sherri Slater

5:00 pm-Meeting called to order by Supervisor Evera Sue Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Budget Review

Flood Plain Administrator-Would have to be a new line item added to budget; Alton Knapp, III will do a presentation @ the 10/14/2026 monthly meeting. His fee will be $5,000, if approved.

Line 10-Personal Svcs.-Justice-Judge requested no increase; requested that his Clerk get his 4% & her 4%. Board decided to give Justice 3% increase.

Line 32—Equipment-Town Clerk/Tax Collector-New workstation to replace old computer; add $2,800

Line 36-Con't. Exps.-Att'y.-Increase from $12,000 to $15,000

Line 40-Con't. Exps.-Bldgs.-Town Office-$25,000 to $35,000 for fuel, electric, etc. that we don't pay now.

Line 41-Con't. Exp. (comm. Room-George)-$750 to $1,000-Propane

Line 52-Other Gov't. Support-Special Items-Mark Rode, IT

Line 53-Contingent-Special Items-$28,000 to $32,000-Exps. in moving the Town Office

Line 67-Con't. Exps.-Control of Dogs-$6,696 to $7,696 (Nancy's figures)

Line 77-Con't. Exp.-Ambulance-$14,996 to $15,746 (5% same as fire dep'ts.)

Line 98-Con't. Exps. (sewer)-Economic Development-Add $1,000 (this was blank)

Line 104-Con't. Exps.-Park-Gazebo-$1,530 to $3,000-Lights in parking lot are set on high currently. Meter for gazebo is on Laura Dunham's bldg.; this is o.k. for now but might not be in the future. Councilman Law asked if these lights could be included in the Town of Salem Lighting District; Supervisor Clary will check w/NYSEG.

Line 111-Con't. Exps.-Library-Currently same figure as 2026; figure not finalized yet by Library Board.

Line 117-Pesonal Svcs.-Historian-$3,183 to $3,344; No one put in an application by the deadline of Monday, 09/28/2026, to Clerk Gilchrist. **Motion made by** Councilman Thomas McMorris, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, to put ad back in the Eagle newspaper, application deadline by the monthly November Town Board mtg; passed 5-0. This falls on Veteran's Day, 11/11/2026, leave mtg. on this date or change to Thurs., 11/12/2026? It was decided to change the date of the November mtg. to Thursday, 11/12/2026, @ Proudfit Hall if Library says it's available. Sherri Slater asked about the Records Mg'mt. position, since Al does both currently. It is two separate line items in the budget; Clerk Gilchrist reported that some of those duties were in the ad for Historian, but she will check w/Al Cormier to see if it should be split into two ad positions.

Line 133-Personal Svcs.-Zoning-$2,404 to $2,524; Kim Erbe is the ZBA Clerk

Line 146-Con't. Exps.-Cemeteries-$10,000 to $17,000; price of gas is going up all the time. Even though this is a contract, contractor may ask for an increase. Plus, there is still work to be done in Rev. Cemetery. Aug., Sep't./Oct. mowings still need to be done for 2026.

Line 183-Planning Bd. Fees-Dep't. Income-Typo-Change $100 to $1,200

Line 194-Permits Other (Clerk)-Drop 2027 Tent. Figure from $1,600 to $1,400

Line 221-Federal Grant-Sewer-Federal Aid-$30,000; Councilman Law wants a break-out on what was paid to Att'y. Matt Fuller.

Page 5-Georgi-Self-Funded & Does Not Affect Taxes-Line239-Con't. Svcs.-Museum-$46,400 down to $7,000; no expenses to pay.

Highway & Water-Pages 6, 7, & 8-were not reviewed as Travis was absent. Figures were given for H'Way to Kathy but not reviewed by Board. Tentative 2027 Water figures are included, but nothing for Water Revenues; these will be needed for next Budget Workshop.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Office Update-Letter has been sent to Landlord regarding cancellation of the Lease; Glens Falls Office employees have been told the office will be closing & the contract will not be renewed w/the T/O/S after 12/31/2026. Councilman Law reported that he had talked to the Landlord, who needs to talk w/his partner, but the Landlord did not think that a month-to-month rental would be a problem. A new sign outside of the building will be needed for the Town; the current one in front of the Town Office is not in good shape. Scott & Brenda will secure two or three estimates on what it would cost for a new sign. Lots of work to do in the current space, getting rid of what we don't need, packing up records that can be stored @ the Courthouse, and declaring equipment as surplus. We need at least two fireproof filing cabinets, w/ locks. Check out what grants might be available.

Request for starting Highway Wages-rec'd. from the Town of Easton regarding beginning wages & subsequent increases. Clerk to Supervisor Chambers asked Supervisor Clary if she had asked the question to the remaining 16 supervisors to explore whether wage & benefit information could be compiled for all towns to share w/each other. Supervisor reported that she had not but would be having meetings within the week & would bring up the question.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Councilman Thomas McMorris, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, to go into Executive Session to discuss union contract matters; passed 5-0.

Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Scott, to come out of Executive Session; passed 5-0. No action was taken in Executive Session, only discussion regarding contract changes.

Resolution #78-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Thomas McMorris, to approve the new Union contract. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Howard Law-Yes; Councilman Thomas McMorris-Yes; Coun-cilman Scott Eastman-No; Councilwoman Brenda Levey-Yes; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; passed 4-1.

Motion to Adjourn-Motion made by Councilwoman Brenda Levey, seconded by Councilman Scott Eastman, to adjourn the 2nd 2027 Budget Workshop meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed 5-0. Meeting was adjourned @ 7:35 pm.

Third 2027 Budget Workshop Meeting-will be held on 10/07/2026, @ 5 pm @ Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY. Any & all other business that may come before the Board at this meeting may also be discussed and/or acted upon at this meeting.

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Salem Town Board-will be held on Wednesday, 10/14/2026, @ Proudfit Hall; 181 Main Street; Salem, NY. Review of Warrants #10 & Highway Abstract #10 for payment will begin by the Board @ 5 pm; regular monthly meeting will be called to order @ 6 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk
Town of Salem