

**Town Board Meeting  
January 9, 2023  
6:30 p.m.**

**Zoom: Meeting ID: 853 5231 4190 Passcode: 714073**

**Present:** Supervisor Aaron, Councilor Alexander, Councilor Tucker, Councilor Legg, Councilor Dove, Attorney Smith.

Present (Zia Zoom): Councilor Tucker

**Also, Present (via Zoom):** Keri Fey, Bob Herrmann, Brian Buff, Tim Dobrovosky, Sue Murphy, Karen Barkdull, Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Shane Christman, Aimie Case, Kim Perse, Willard Mahood.

**Also, Present:** Keri Fey.

***Veterans Coordinator:*** Town of Skaneateles Veterans Outreach Coordinator Sheri Dove reported she has had the privilege of working with Veterans through out the Town in many areas, working with them on such things as disability paperwork, suppling them with caption phones and getting those veterans set up with needed medical equipment. The Veterans had been comfortable with her going to their homes for meetings and helping which she stated she is happy to go to the veterans when ever needed. She reviewed her work with the Clear Path for Vets agency and the Syracuse Vet Center. They paired up with the Syracuse Vet Center for “Operation Christmas Hope”. This is the local Christmas charity through the Skaneateles Legion. She had been working with Brian Buff at the Transfer Station to set up a stand and have handouts for Town Residents. They have worked with the Skaneateles Falls Legion and have been very successful having the two legion posts work together. She had attended the Skaneateles Falls Legion meeting and provide information to their members of the services the Town and the Veteran’s agency could provide their members. She also would be attending the “Sons of the Legion” meeting at the Skaneateles Falls Legion. They also, are providing CPR and First Aid training with SAVES to both posts, Skaneateles, and Skaneateles Falls.

Councilor Legg thanked her for reaching out to Veterans who are not part of an organization to offer any assistance. Councilor Dove stated the “Christmas Hope” project helped 25 families this past Holiday season and they had raised \$11,000 at the Legion’s guest bartender event held in December.

The Board thanked Sheri for all her hard work.

***Highway & Water:*** Highway Superintendent Tim Dobrovosky submitted his report to the Board for their review. He reported the Highway Department had the plows out 20 times for snow clearing in the month of December, had completed safety instructions on the loader, took delivery of road salt, cleaned up roadkill and assisted the Water Department.

Highway Superintendent reviewed his request to declare the 1978 D3 bulldozer as surplus. The new skid-steer would be able to perform what the bulldozer did and the money from the sale could go towards attachments for the skid-steer.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board declared the 1978 D3 Bulldozer as surplus.

Highway Superintendent Dobrovosky thanked the Town Board for the Christmas luncheon.

**Transfer Station:** Municipal Recycling Liaison Brian Buff reported they had sent out 10 loads of trash, 6 loads of construction and demolition material, and 4 containers of recycling. He reviewed the Trash/Recycling comparison report he had provided to the Board. The total savings for the Town as of November 2022 is \$107,294.82 over 2021. In 2022 it should start to level off now that we have removed all the refuse from restaurants, contractors & non-residents. This will give a baseline to work from in the future.

Supervisor Aaron thanked Mr. Buff for the new procedure of compacting more garbage to reduce the number of hauls that has also saved a considerable amount of money.,.

Councilor Alexander thanked Brian and the staff for all they had done at the Transfer Station to cut costs.

Councilor Legg stated the savings included the reduction in weight when we shifted to all residential and no business trash. The higher density packing in the compactors had been a significant factor in the cost savings as well.

**Planning and Zoning:** Planning and Zoning Clerk Karen Barkdull reported there were 3 open projects at this time with the Planning and Zoning Boards. Ms. Barkdull reviewed the status of existing projects still open; Community Solar Array TJA Solar, Lakelawn – proposed brick and stone masonry wall to replace wood fence along West Lake Road, this project is on hold. Nulty – application is on hold with the Planning Board for the shed, awaiting the owner to apply to the ZBA for variance approval. Chris Graham – Application pending for re-design of multi-family residences for the RR district. Victory Sports – The application is pending as the applicant is considering the potential for smaller scale development on the property, and Haba Toys-Expansion application on hold as they re-evaluate the entire property. Other activities included 2 pre-application meetings, a Shoreline Committee meeting to discuss findings, and 4 Hamlet Committee Meetings.

**Codes:** Codes Officer Herrmann reviewed the Codes Office report for November 2022. \* Report attached. He reported there were 7 new permits, and 10 Certificates of Completion. Codes Officer Herrmann stated there had been a total of 153 Permits issued for 2022. At this time there are 56 permits that have expired. The codes office is still working on scheduling fire inspections and closing old permits. He is starting to compile the NY State report for Codes of 2022 for the Town of Skaneateles.

**Parks:** Parks Director Sue Murphy thanked the Board for the Christmas luncheon. She reported they are working on summer Playday forms and the online Parks reservation web page. Registration will start March 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am. This year there will be a before and after camp program and they are working on lunch orders to be done online. Letters to families would be going out in the next few weeks. They would be starting to advertise for summer seasonal employment by the end in January. Ms. Murphy and Councilor Alexander are meeting with

lakeshore Baseball to discuss their proposal for new dugouts that would be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

**Water:** Councilor Legg reported Shane Christman had completed all his licensing requirements and had received his certificate for Water Operator from the Onondaga County Health Department. This allows Shane Christman to be in the position of Operator in the Town of Skaneateles Water Department and will be allowed to do all the required reporting.

**Budget:** Budget Officer, Keri Fey reported they are working on cleaning up 2022 and preparing for the auditors that will be beginning in February.

**Outreach:** Outreach Worker Jacque McConnaghy reported they had a very busy Fall and Christmas season. They had provided coats and boots to those in need to more families this year than in the past years. They had 37 families for Christmas. Each family received gift items as well as gift cards to Tops, Quickfill and Walmart. She thanked the Town Staff for all their help. They had a great year of donations, which helped buy the extra gift certificates. Gift certificates went to single adults and families without children as well this year. The food pantry supplied food for close to 100 families for this Holiday season. Items for families were supplied by students at the school and the community Rotary club. People were very generous throughout the county this year. The Outreach Office is available for anyone who needs help with heating costs this winter. With the increase in energy bills, she wanted the community to know help is available for those who need it.

The Board thanked Jacque McConnaghy for the great job she does.

Councilor Alexander commended Jacque and all the unsung heroes of the Town. There are so many in the Town that work behind the scenes. She thanked her for all she does. Jacque thanked the Board for the kind words and stated it is a privilege to do her job for the Town.

**Minutes of December 19, 2022, and December 30, 2022:** On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Legg and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Councilor Alexander abstained, the minutes of December 19, 2022, were accepted as presented. On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Legg and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of December 30, 2022, were accepted as presented.

**Budget Amendments:** On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the following budget amendments for abstract #22-25:

**General Fund**

\$223.00	Increase	88104.01.004.00	Cemetery Contractual Expense
\$223.00	Decrease	88101.01.001.00	Cemetery Personal Service
Cemetery Contractual Expenses			
\$6,630.00	Increase	13401.01.001.00	Budget Personal Service
\$6,630.00	Decrease	71101.01.001.00	Summer Rec Personal Service
Budget Personal Service			

\$940.00	Increase	51324.01.004.00	Garage Contractual Expense
\$940.00	Decrease	51324.01.004.84	Garage Contractual Expense-Electric
Contractual Expenses Clean up			

\$351.00	Increase	70204.01.004.85	Recreation Admin CE Telephone/Cable
\$351.00	Decrease	70204.01.004.00	Recreation Admin CE
Contractual Expenses Clean up			

\$12,691.00	Increase	71104.01.004.44	Summer Rec CE- Parks
\$12,691.00	Decrease	71104.01.001.00	Summer Rec PS
Additional Training for Parks Employees			

**Part Town**

\$43.00	Increase	80104.02.004.58	Zoning Legal- CE
\$43.00	Decrease	80104.02.004.59	Zoning Engineer-CE
Contractual Expenses Clean up			

\$18.00	Increase	80104.02.004.65	Zoning Advertising- CE
\$18.00	Decrease	80104.02.004.59	Zoning Engineer-CE
Contractual Expenses Clean up			

**Abstract #22-25:** On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers #22-1765 - #22-1832 were authorized from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$ 30,875.67	Highway:	\$ 33,264.50
Water:	\$ 27,101.26	Part Town:	\$ 10,228.37
T&A:	\$ 437.59	Street Lgt:	\$ 30.03
Highway PT	\$ 602.68	Sewer:	\$ 886.42

**TOTAL: \$103,426.52**

**Abstract #23-01:** On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers #23-0001 - #23-0015 were authorized from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$ 51,973.04	Highway:	\$ 1,109.34
Water:	\$ 1,451.56	Part Town:	\$ 2,135.26
T&A:	\$ 259.20	Limeledge:	\$ 982.06
Highway PT	\$ 4,104.96		

**TOTAL: \$62,015.22**

**2023 Town Department Fee Updates:** Supervisor Aaron reviewed the proposed changes to the Town fee schedule. The Parks Department would like to change the Playday fee from \$280 to \$300 for residents and non-residents from \$365 to \$385, before camp is proposed to be raised

from \$25 per week to \$30 per week for residents and \$35 to \$40 for non-residents and a new category is proposed for Playday after camp which would be \$35 for residents and \$45 for non-residents per week. Planning & Zoning had proposed a change to remove a separate fee for sheds and to incorporate the fee into the building permits fees. Supervisor Aaron stated these were the only proposed fee changes for 2023. The Board had previously approved the increase in the Transfer Station fees from \$60 to \$80.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized the proposed 2023 Town of Skaneateles fees as presented.

**2023 Reserve Fund Transfers:** Supervisor Aaron stated these Reserve Fund Transfers had been discussed during the 2023 Budget process. During the Budget process the Town Board approved that the following expenses be funded in the 2023 operational budget with the Town established reserves. To use the reserves the Town Board, needs to authorize the transfer subject to the permissive referendum requirements of town law.

Budget Officer Fey reviewed the general fund reserve fund transfers. These are all subject to the permissive referendum requirements of Town Law and General Municipal Law and had been discussed in the 2023 Budget. All these items would be purchased under regulations of the Town of Skaneateles Procurement Policy or State or County bid.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Clerk was instructed to advertise to transfer from the following fund subject to the permissive referendum requirements of Town Law: Town Hall Office Equipment Reserve Fund for the following: Town Board tablets, Highway wall mount screen and computer, laptop for Planning & Zoning and desk top computer for Town Clerk all not to exceed \$10,000.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Clerk was instructed to advertise to transfer from the following fund subject to the permissive referendum requirements of Town Law: Transfer Station Equipment Reserve Fund for a new open top container not to exceed \$15,000. On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Clerk was instructed to advertise to transfer from the following fund subject to the permissive referendum requirements of Town Law: general recreation reserve fund for the following: \$5,000 for Ventrac Accessories brush attachment, \$9,750 new mower, \$1,200 weed eaters, \$15,000 Kawasaki Mule, \$30,000 for a new dump truck.

**Schedule Bid Opening – Guppy Falls Stair Replacement:** Councilor Alexander stated the Conservation Committee had prepared the bid packet for the bids to be submitted to replace the stairs at Guppy Falls in the Conservation Area. The stairs had been in disrepair and needed replacement. She reviewed the plans for the stairs and thanked the Conservation Committee for all their work preparing the plans and bid documents, especially Committee member Ken Kaufmann.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Legg, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized the bid opening for the Town of Skaneateles Conservation Area Guppy Falls Stair Replacement Project for February 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

**Seneca Meadows:** Supervisor Aaron stated Seneca Meadows is looking to expand their landfill and this is already a large operation. The Town of Skaneateles has been impacted by the truck traffic using Seneca Meadows. Truck traffic impacts our community not only the residents but environmentally it impacts the lake and the drinking water the lake provides for over 200,000 people.

The NYS DEC is going through the SEQRA process and part of the process is to request comments. The scoping process is to gather the concerns to prepare the environmental impact study.

Attorney Smith stated this is a positive declaration through SEQRA and therefore they must prepare an environmental impact statement as part of the permit application to the DEC. They currently have a U-shaped landfill and are requesting a permit to fill the middle of the landfill. In the SEQRA process the public has an opportunity to comment before an Environmental Impact Statement is prepared. The Town Board is proposing to send a letter to comment on the expansion. The letter addresses the specific concerns of the Town of Skaneateles and the Finger Lakes region. Comments would be accepted through the entire process.

Supervisor Aaron stated it is important for the Town to communicate their comments and concerns about the truck traffic and its impacts to the region through the entire process. Trucks currently come off of Route 81 to make the short cut through the Skaneateles and the Finger Lakes to Seneca Meadows.

Councilor Legg stated the letter is specifically helpful since it identifies the truck traffic traveling north and west, as well as east and south. This one of the ways we could have input.

Councilor Alexander asked if photos of truck accidents on the routes of concern should be included? The Board agreed and Councilor Alexander said she would provide the photographs.

Supervisor Aaron stated she would send copies of the letter to the other Finger Lakes communities with Board approval.

On a motion of Councilor Legg, seconded by Councilor Alexander, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized Supervisor Aaron to send the letter to the NYS DEC and the surrounding communities regarding Seneca Meadows Landfill expansion.

#### **Announcements/Correspondence/Updates**

- *Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District Tree Risk Assessment Services:* Supervisor Aaron announced a letter was received from the Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District regarding their tree assessment services for municipalities. She stated this is a great program.

- *Town Board Meeting Schedule –January 23, 2023 & February 13, 2023:* Supervisor Aaron reviewed the change in the Town Board schedule for January and February due to the holidays .

- *Town Board Austin Pavilion Project Informational Meeting – January 30, 2023, at the Skaneateles*

*High School Cafeteria – 7:00 p.m.:* Supervisor Aaron announced there would be a public informational meeting, in person only, for the Austin Pavilion Project on January 30, 2023, at the High School Cafeteria and encouraged the public to attend. There would be a presentation with updated Austin Park plan.

Councilor Legg announced the Hamlet Committee would be meeting on January 30, 2023, at 5:30 at the Town Hall.

Councilor Tucker announced the Shoreline Committee would be meeting on January 18, 2023, at 6:30 at the Town Hall.


**Public Comment:** No Comments

On a motion of Councilor Legg, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to attorney advice at 7:55 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Legg the meeting returned to open session at 8:45 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Julie A. Stenger  
Town Clerk