

**Town Board Meeting
December 17, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Supervisor Sennett, Councilor Greenfield, Councilor Murray, Councilor Brace, Councilor Howard, Attorney Taylor.

Also Present: Peter Buehler, Jonathan Monfiletto (Skaneateles Journal), Allan Wellington, Sue Murphy, David Murphy, Matthew Murphy, Jim Condon, Michael DalPos, Denise Rhoads, Dana Pickering, Alan Johnson, Curt Coville, Tim Johnson, Anne Emperor, Mark Tucker, Natalie Hempson, Julie Stenger, Bridgett Winkelman, Allan Wellington, Holly Gregg, Sherill Ketchum, David Ketchum, Sue Byrne, Paul Higman, County Legislator, Michael Plochocki, Kathy Coughlin.

Newsletter: While the Town Newsletter was being displayed on the overhead screen, Supervisor Sennett complimented Deputy Town Clerk, Julie Stenger for the great job she has done as editor of the Newsletter. She reminded everyone how easy it was to add your email to the list so that they could receive the email electronically. Paper copies are still available to anyone who calls the Town Clerk's office and requests to receive one by regular mail.

Department Reports:

▪*Highway, Water, Transfer Station:* Allan Wellington reported that the Highway Department picked tree limbs and cleaned up wood chips from stump grinding, mowed brush along roadways, patched potholes, repaired equipment and replaced drainage culverts on Masters and Crow Hill Roads. In the Water Department they installed a hydrant on Masters Road for automatic flushing and installed risers on hydrants on Lauder Lane and Miller Street and repaired a water main break on West Lake Road. At the Transfer Station they are busy selling the new permits for 2016, and making repairs to the compactor and loader. Clifton Recycling hauled away the log pile.

▪*Parks:* Sue Murphy reported that this was the last day for the winter Farmers' Market. She thanked Supervisor Sennett, Councilor Murray and Councilor Greenfield for all the support they had given her during their terms.

▪*Budget:* Bridgett Winkelman reported that Water District #1 has been billed. She said there will be two abstracts for each meeting in January; one for 2015 and one for 2016. Employee decisions on their 2016 health insurance benefits have been filed. She requested that the Town Board authorize her to release the paychecks a day early due to the Christmas holiday.

Resolution #15-224

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Budget Officer, Bridgett Winkelman was authorized to release the paychecks on December 24, 2015.

▪*Fire Department:* Peter Buehler read the November report showing 354 calls to date and reviewed the meeting and training schedule for Christmas. Peter also reported:

- The property at 1819 East Genesee Street Road (Town of Skaneateles) has been deemed unsafe due to the ongoing vandalism and compromised structural components so all

firefighting operations will involve “exterior operations only”. Town Codes Enforcement Officer is involved and documenting the ongoing issues with the property. Additional “Zombie properties” will be identified throughout the town and will be identified as such.

- The membership of the department has begun the approval process for new sets of by-laws for the fire department and the corporation.
- Tickets are available for the High Stakes Money Drawing. Thus far, 340 tickets have been sold and tickets are available from any firefighter or online at www.skaneatelesvfd.com. The winner of the “\$500 Early Bird Drawing” held on December 7, 2015 was ticket #709. \$100 monthly drawings will begin May 2, 2016. Mark your calendars now for the 4th Annual Casino Night and High Stakes Money Drawing scheduled for Saturday September 26, 2016 at the Austin Park Pavilion.

Resolution #15-225

Minutes: On a motion of Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Greenfield the minutes of December 3, 2015 were accepted as presented:

Councilor Howard	Yes
Councilor Brace	Yes
Councilor Greenfield	Yes
Councilor Murray	Abstain
Supervisor Sennett	Yes

Carried 4-0

Resolution #15-226

Annexation Decision: Attorney Taylor stated that the Town and Village Boards received a petition from Nicorele LLC and Elerion LLC in January 2015 to annex property (Tax Map Parcel numbers #047.-01-24.0 and #047.-01-25.0) from the Town of Skaneateles to the Village of Skaneateles. The Town and Village Boards held a joint public hearing on February 15, 2015 and the Town Board was declared Lead Agency on April 16, 2015 for SEQR purposes.

Attorney Taylor read the Resolution and Order regarding the Annexation of these properties in its entirety (Resolution Attached).

Councilor Brace commented that the Resolution was nicely done.

Supervisor Sennett made a motion seconded by Councilor Brace to consent and approve to annex the property now situated in the Town of Skaneateles (Tax Map Parcel numbers #047.-01-24.0 and #047.-01-25.0) to the Village of Skaneateles and the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor to sign the Resolution Order on behalf of the Town Board of the Town of Skaneateles.

Supervisor Sennett asked if the Town Board wished to make any comments.

Councilor Murray said it was a difficult process and it was important to her to understand the issues that the neighbors had. It was also important to her that both parties were comfortable with the agreement. She said that her concerns have been answered to her satisfaction and is

pleased that it will benefit the school district and that the Town and Village will reap the benefits.

With no further comments Supervisor Sennett requested that the Town Clerk poll the Board.

Councilor Howard	Yes
Councilor Brace	Yes
Councilor Greenfield	Yes
Councilor Murray	Yes
Supervisor Sennett	Yes

Carried 5-0

Supervisor Sennett thanked everyone for working through this process that started on January 8, 2015. She said it was a lot of work and a lot of concerns were answered. She thanked Natalie Hempson, Associate Attorney with Bousquet & Holstein who had a great deal to do with writing the resolution.

Supervisor Sennett said that the Village would also need to approve the Annexation.

Resolution #15-227

Appointment – Part Time 2nd Deputy Town Clerk: Janet Aaron requested that the Town Board approve her appointment of Michele Norstad as her part time 2nd Deputy Town Clerk. She said that currently Michele works part time as Zoning Board Secretary. Both Denise Rhoads, Chair of the Zoning Board and Karen Barkdull, Planning & Zoning Clerk have agreed that this would be a good opportunity for Michele to gain additional hours and since the Town Clerk hours could be flexible and would work around their schedule it would benefit both departments. She said this position has been budgeted for.

On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) approval of the Town Board, the Town Clerk’s appointment of Michele Norstad as part time second Deputy Town Clerk was accepted.

Resolution #15-228

Re-Appointment of Michael Zuber – Board of Assessment Review: On a motion of Supervisor Sennett, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Michael Zuber was reappointed as a member of the Board of Assessment Review for the period from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2020.

Resolution #15-229

Appointment of Zoning Board Member: Supervisor Sennett reported that Denise Rhoads, Jim Condon and Karen Barkdull interviewed candidates to fill the vacancy when Steven Tucker resigned. Denise submitted a letter, on behalf of the Zoning Board, recommending Curt Coville for the position. Supervisor Sennett thanked her for the thorough job she, Jim Condon and Karen Barkdull did.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Curtis Coville was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the period from December 17, 2015 to December 31, 2016.

County Legislator Michael Plochocki: Supervisor Sennett said around 5 p.m. today Michael Plochocki contacted her and asked if he could be on the agenda as he had a surprise for her. Legislator Plochocki said he has known Councilors Murray and Greenfield for years and thanked them for their service to the community. He said that he has known Supervisor Sennett and that her mom was a wonderful teacher in Marcellus. He thanked the Supervisor for her years of service to the community.

He reviewed the background on the Community Development Grant that the Town applied for about a year ago at the Supervisor's urging. The grant would build a playground at the Skaneateles Falls Park. While this grant was submitted through Onondaga County Community Development, the approval comes through the Federal Government Housing and Urban Development Agency. One area of grant approval requires that the area targeted for the project is on the census tract in the medium to low income area of the Town. He said that Skaneateles is a victim of their own success because it is blessed with great wealth in the community. He said the attitude in the County was that Skaneateles was doing well enough that they did not need this grant money. He said he thought it was about time that Skaneateles got this money and he went to bat to push it through and was pleased when he was notified that the money was on its way.

Then the Federal Government changed the rules and updated their census tracts which eliminated all eligible areas in the Town. The grant approval was then withdrawn. Skaneateles was not grandfathered. He said this was a huge disappointment to the Town and especially Supervisor Sennett who continued to lobby for this funding. He said he always appreciated the work that the Supervisor did to try to get this park for Skaneateles Falls.

At the end of this year there was contingency money available in the County to provide support to some of the communities who were denied grant funding. While many communities were denied funding, the County was able to provide support to four and Skaneateles was one of them. Legislator Plochocki said he was pleased to announce that Skaneateles would be receiving \$20,000 from the County to support making the playground happen. He thanked Supervisor Sennett for her devoted work on this project saying he wished all people on both sides of the aisle could work together as well as she worked with him.

Supervisor Sennett thanked Legislator Plochocki for his support and help. She said that she and Sue Murphy, and Councilor Brace worked really hard writing the grant. She said the Village has three playgrounds, Mottville has one and she always wanted Skaneateles Falls to have an updated playground.

Councilor Brace said it was a terrible shock after working so hard. She said Supervisor Sennett and Sue Murphy put a lot of time and energy into this grant.

Supervisor Sennett thanked Legislator Plochocki again saying that she has great confidence in the residents as well as the Parks and the Highway Departments we will be able to maximize this gift in order to have a really nice playground.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

▪*Town Hall Closed December 24th & 25th - The Transfer Station Closed December 25th open December 26th*

▪*Update on Matt Ingalls Contract:* Supervisor Sennett said that despite the fact that the Board passed the resolution to approve the contract with Matt Ingalls, it was not a unanimous Town Board decision. With the new Board coming into office on January 1st she contacted Matt Ingalls and told him it would be up to the new Board to decide how to move forward. She believes this is the right direction forward and hopes that the new Board will approve this contract.

Resolution #15-230

Budget Amendments/Adjustments: On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the following budget amendments/adjustments were authorized:

General Fund

\$ 6,100.00 Increase 014204.01.004.00 Attorney - C/E

\$ 6,100.00 Decrease 019904.01.004.00 Contingency

Cost of doing business – services provided by Town Attorney

\$ 190.00 Increase 011104.01.004.00 Justice – C/E

\$ 190.00 Decrease 011104.01.004.67 Justice – C/E - Training

Cost of doing business

\$ 90.00 Increase 012204.01.004.00 Supervisor – C/E

\$ 90.00 Decrease 012204.01.004.39 Supervisor – Other Cont.

Cost of doing business

\$ 40.00 Increase 013554.01.004.58 Assessment - Legal

\$ 40.00 Decrease 019904.01.004.00 Contingency

Cost of doing business – challenge assessments

\$ 200.00 Increase 014304.01.004.00 Personnel

\$ 200.00 Decrease 019904.01.004.00 Contingency

Cost of doing business

\$ 540.00 Increase 071104.01.004.63 Summer Rec. – C/E – Nature Trail

\$ 540.00 Decrease 071104.01.004.51 Summer Rec. – C/E – Fields

Additional costs for supplies

Part Town Fund

\$ 225.00 Increase 016704.02.004.00 Central Print - C/E

\$ 50.00 Increase 080104.02.004.65 Zoning –C/E - Advertising

\$ 275.00 Increase 001170.02.000.00 Franchise Fees

Cost of doing business

\$ 5,500.00 Increase 080101.02.001.00 Zoning – P/S
 \$ 5,500.00 Decrease 080201.02.001.00 Planning – P/S
 New Employee, balance between Zoning/Planning

Highway Town Wide

\$ 674.00 Increase 097307.03.007.71 Bond Anticipation – Interest
 \$ 674.00 Decrease 097306.03.006.71 Bond Anticipation – Principal
 Adjust Breakout for Lease payment on Gradall

Highway Town Wide

\$ 1,000.00 Increase 051101.04.001.00 General Repair – P/S
 \$ 1,000.00 Decrease 051101.04.001.55 General Repair – P/S - equipment
 Additional employee hours spent on road work

Sewer #6

\$ 20.00 Increase 081204.11.004.00 Sanitary Sewers – C/E
 \$ 20.00 Decrease 081104.11.004.00 Sewer Admin – C/E
 Cost of doing business

Resolution #15-231

Abstract #15-24: On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board voucher #15-1584 to #15-1689 were approved for payment from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$68,574.36	Part Town:	\$ 3,011.47
Highway:	\$26,469.50	Hwy P/T:	\$13,006.30
Water:	\$ 5,440.31	Sewer:	\$ 1,129.40
Sewer #6:	\$ 28.23	T & A:	\$18,965.90

Total: \$136,625.47

Presentations: Supervisor Sennett presented certificates of appreciation to Councilors Murray and Greenfield along with the new book “Skaneateles Through Time” and a box of cookies. She said that during their 8 years on the Board they faced many challenging decisions. These issues involved among others, mining, hydrofracking, closing the dispatch center, changing the operation at the Transfer Station, transferring the operation of the Community Center. She gave kudos to both on behalf of the Town Board for persevering through all these decisions.

Councilor Howard said that it was a pleasure working with Councilors Murray and Greenfield and thanked them for working together and being able to talk through differences.

Councilor Brace thanked both Councilors saying that she appreciated their perspective and said that while Councilor Greenfield doesn’t say much he works behind the scenes to make things happen.

Janet Aaron thanked both Councilors saying she appreciated the support they gave her and her department. She said she has worked with many over the years and they were among the best.

Councilors Murray and Greenfield thanked Janet Aaron, Bridgett Winkelman and the rest of the Town Hall staff working behind the scenes to support the Board.

Councilors Brace and Howard presented Supervisor Sennett with a certificate of appreciation, along with the book, “Skaneateles Through Time” and a box of cookies along with listing 28 accomplishments under her leadership. Among the accomplishments listed was the adoption of the joint Comprehensive Plan, a \$30,000 grant for the Open Space Plan, established the engineering committee, reached out to surrounding towns to build a Lake Council, partially funded tributary monitoring for Shotwell Brook, sponsored Solarize CNY, networked with stakeholders on the future vision for Austin Pavilion, established re-market and re-bike, established the Rails to Trails Committee, conducted a study of emerald ash trees, worked with National Grid to provide parking adjacent to the Skaneateles Falls Town Park, County funding for Fennell Street Bridge, working toward economic development in Skaneateles Falls to address abandoned properties, negotiated repair and restoration by County DOT of old Jordan Road railroad bridge, negotiated a drainage agreement with Mirbeau, negotiated a 5-year union contract, created an agreement with M & T Bank to take tax payments directly, and kept budgets below the state mandated level.

Supervisor Sennett thanked the Board and said it has been an honor to serve.

Comments: Tim Johnson thanked the Town Board for the amount of time they spent on the request for annexation. He praised the Board for listening to the neighbor concerns and said they did a fantastic job.

Resolution #15-232

Executive Session: On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. on potential litigation.

Meeting returned to open meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Resolution #15-233

Shepard Settlement Cemetery: On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Town Clerk was authorized to issue a deed on nine cemetery lots at Shepard Settlement Cemetery to settle a legal dispute.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet L. Aaron
Town Clerk