

**Town Board Meeting**  
**February 5, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**

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

**Also Present:** Sue Murphy, Mary Menapace, Allan Wellington, Dave Laxton, Donna Himelfarb, Beth Battle, Sherill Ketchum, David Ketchum, Jonathan Monfiletto (Skaneateles Journal), Steven Tucker, Denise Rhoads, Laurie Spencer, David Colegrove, Terri Roney, Julie Stenger, Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press).

**Department Reports**

▪*Highway, Water, Transfer Station:* Allan Wellington reported that they have been out plowing 34 times since the last meeting. They also are doing truck and sign repairs. The Water Department has been shoveling out hydrants and doing water meter repairs. The Transfer Station is loading mulch for DiMarco's and doing enforcement of the 2015 permits.

Supervisor Sennett said she was invited to ride in the snowplow truck with Brian Buff today and she said it was amazing and very impressive. They covered roads including Jewett, Highland and Rickard. She said Brian has a complete control of the vehicle managing the plow, wing and salt. She can understand why our snow plow drivers have a concern with drivers on the road who don't understand how long it takes to stop a big truck and the amount of room they need.

▪*Parks:* Sue Murphy reported that she worked with the Village DPW replacing deteriorating signs at Austin Park. She is also setting up interviews for summer PlayDay counselors and running ads for counselors, lifeguards and park laborers. She is working with the farmer's market vendors to establish different rules for the Saturday market to encourage more attendance. She will be presenting them to the Town Board for approval once they have been finalized.

▪*Planning & Zoning:* Councilor Brace reviewed the January Codes Enforcement report showing that three permits were issued with one being a solar permit and one being a fireworks permit at Welch Allyn on March 20<sup>th</sup>. She also read the open projects report from Karen Barkdull showing 6 open Zoning Board of Appeals applications and 3 Planning Board applications.

▪*Budget:* Bridgett Winkelman said that she billed Water #3 and processed the third payroll of the year. She is working this week with the auditors from Cuddy & Ward. They should complete their yearly audit Friday.

▪*Historian:* Beth Battle submitted her annual report to the Town Board outlining the meetings and programs she attended, articles written and researched, and projects and programs she initiated. She said it was a busy year and she were very pleased after submitting her annual report to the NYS Historian that both she and her husband, Jorge Battle, Village Historian, received recognition for the work they accomplished.

Beth Battle also read an 1862 newspaper article about the difference in convict's servicing time at Auburn Prison. The article cited differences from convicts who were from the eastern and western part of NYS, saying that 49 convicts that were transferred from Sing Sing conducted more criminal activity.

*Resolution #15-024*

**Minutes:** On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the minutes of January 15, 2015 were accepted as presented.

**Library Update:** Laurie Spencer, a member of the Skaneateles Library Board of Trustees reported to the Town Board that the Library is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The library is researching their future needs and the possibility of expanding their current location or finding another location. Access to upstairs at the library is one of the biggest problems for events the library has. They would also like larger children's section and larger meeting room.

The library hired Butler Rowland Mays Architects to help them with this process. They have experience building libraries throughout New York State. She invited everyone to attend a community library design workshop at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at the School District Office that will allow residents to provide input.

**Certificate of Appreciation – Garron Snyder:** Councilor Murray read a certificate of appreciation for Garron Snyder for over 14 years of service with the Town of Skaneateles Conservation Committee, and as one of the founding members and organizers of the first fishing derby. Mr. Snyder also was co-chair of the Conservation Committee for several years. The Board expressed their thanks for Mr. Snyder's service to the community.

**7:15 p.m. Public Hearing Introductory Local Law 2014-B-1 “A Local Law Amending the Town of Skaneateles Town Code” (Signs & Definitions)** Supervisor Sennett said that many people worked on this local law and they spent many hours updating the sign ordinance and definitions.

Supervisor Sennett said The Town Board is in receipt of the Affidavit of Posting dated January 16, 2015 and publication dated January 21, 2015. With no one asking to have the notice read, Supervisor Sennett said that this public hearing is to consider Introductory Local Law 2014-B-1. Introductory Local Law 2014-B was withdrawn and Local Law 2014-B-1 was introduced on December 18, 2014 incorporating the changes proposed by the Town of Skaneateles Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. Onondaga County Planning Board has also recommended approving this Local Law.

The proposed law pertains to updating and renumbering the chapter of Town Code which pertains to Signs in the Town of Skaneateles, and to otherwise re-order the sections within said Chapter and to re-define terms used therein; and to define new terms and to redefine certain existing terms in Chapter 148 of the Town Code.

On a motion of Councilor Greenfield and seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the public hearing was opened.

Denise Rhoads Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) said that the ZBA sent a letter to the Town Board recommending adoption of the proposed local law. She thanked her Board and the committee for working so hard on this law.

Councilor Howard said that she was impressed with the amount of detail and diligence everyone provided and the time they spent on this law.

Councilor Murray said she was impressed with the definitions that clarified many of the zoning words.

Steven Tucker member of the Zoning Board of Appeals said he helped to rewrite the local law and agreed that a lot of man hours went into this by many who took a great deal of effort and care in writing it correctly.

Supervisor Sennett said that Steven Tucker took the initiative to do a great deal of work on this law. She said that an application before the Zoning Board for a pergola prompted the review when they found there was not a definition for pergola in the Zoning Ordinance.

On a motion of Councilor Murray, seconded by Councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the public hearing was closed at 7:20 p.m.

Attorney Taylor reviewed the resolution regarding short EAF Part I form saying because this is an unlisted action the Town Board just has to complete Part I and Part II. Each Board member had a copy of the completed Part 1 and 2 of the EAF that Attorney Taylor reviewed with them. He explained that this is just for the Local Law being considered which does not have an environmental impact or land disturbance.

*Resolution #15-025*

On a motion of Councilor Brace, Seconded by Supervisor Sennett, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board a **Negative Declaration** according to SEQR for Introductory Local Law 2014-B-1.

*Resolution #15-026*

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Introductory Local Law 2014-B-1 which shall be known as **Local Law 2 of 2015 and known as “A Local Law Amending the Town of Skaneateles Town Code” (Signs and Definitions) was adopted** and enacted to take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**NYSERDA Support Solarize CNY:** Supervisor Sennett reported that NYSERDA has invited local governments and other community partners to participate in Community Solar NY, a new effort to make solar easier and more affordable through community-driven initiatives. She said the Town Board has been considering becoming part of Solarize CNY. This would benefit our residents by working with other communities such as Marcellus, Spafford and Elbridge to host workshops that residents can attend.

Supervisor Sennett introduced Mary Menapace, who has worked with Solarize Syracuse. Mary Menapace said that this cooperative solar idea began in Seattle many years ago to educate and promote solar power and to help residents find ways to obtain funding and support. She said that Solarize CNY has been a great success. They help simplify the process and help understand the choices. They also have a list of installers within the local area that they can recommend. Different options are discussed in workshops such as leasing or buying. She said that Solarize Syracuse had a goal of doing 30 homes but over 500 residents from Manlius, Syracuse, and Dewitt signed up for free assessments and 77 were eligible for projects. She said that Solarize CNY is not there to make a profit but to work with residents to find the best solution for their needs.

Supervisor Sennett said that Solarize CNY puts together workshops and finds qualified solar installers. She said basically they do all the work. The only thing the Town has to do is to schedule dates for workshops. She said that the Town received a \$2,500 grant from NYS Energy Research and Development Authority for adopting the state's unified solar permit last November. She said that money could purchase materials that might be needed for the workshops. She said she was very much in favor of this because Skaneateles is a leader in solar installation and residents can obtain an assessment at no charge.

*Resolution #15-027*

On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Board agreed to work with the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board on their Solarize CNY initiative.

*Resolution #15-028*

**CNY Regional Planning & Development Agreement:** Supervisor Sennett said that this agreement to provide guidance and assistance to municipalities for sustainable land use planning. The Town of Skaneateles is a municipal partner of this grant and the Town would contract with CNY Regional Planning and Development Board for the preparation of a Townwide Open Space Plan.

Councilor Howard said that the Town needs to establish a vision for the overall open space plan and for preserving agriculture land, view sheds and the beauty of the Town. She believes this is a missing piece of the Comprehensive Plan. The program is funded by NYSERDA. She said that if the Town agrees to apply and is awarded the \$45,000, the Town would be obligated to match the grant with \$15,000 that could be financed at \$5,000 a year for three years.

Supervisor Sennett said that professionals will work with the open space committee and other interested groups to primarily do mapping. A formal document will be created to delineate areas of open space.

Councilor Brace said she knows there is a deadline to apply for the grant and asked how it would be budgeted.

Bridgett Winkelman said for the first year it would come out of the contingency fund then the following years would be budgeted.

Councilor Howard said that the professionals will do an open space analysis and map conservation lands, forested areas and view sheds. They will review previous reports and plans such as the SAVIT report. This will be a two year process.

Supervisor Sennett said that first we will do the Town outside the Village and in the future we there may do a joint town/village effort.

On a motion of Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Supervisor Sennett was authorized to sign an agreement for services with Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board to provide guidance and assistance to the Town of Skaneateles for sustainable land use planning for a total project cost of \$60,000 that will be funded from the NYSERDA grant in the amount of \$45,000 with a matching amount of \$15,000 from the Town of Skaneateles.

*Resolution #15-029*

**OCMBOCES Agreement:** On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Supervisor Sennett was authorized to sign the contract for professional services with OCMBOCES to provide online training for mandated OSHA Hazard Communication & NYS Right-to-Know Training and OSHA Bloodborn Pathogens Training for Town of Skaneateles employees.

*Resolution #15-030*

**Delegate to Association of Towns Annual Conference:** On a motion of Councilor Murray, seconded by Supervisor Sennett and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Lori Milne, Tax Collector was appointed as delegate to the Annual Business Session of the Association of Towns meeting on February 18, 2015.

**Announcements/Correspondence/Updates**

▪*Thank You Letter to Sue Murphy from Chairs of SCC Capital Campaign:* Supervisor Sennett said that the thank you letter was for the skate event that Sue Murphy organized in December where the proceeds went to the Skaneateles Community Center capital campaign funds.

▪*Note of Appreciation to Linda Wright, Assessor:* Supervisor Sennett said that the letter was received thanking the Town Assessor for her assistance.

▪*Notification Letter from Community Development Application for \$600,000 Grant:* Supervisor Sennett said that there are no eligible areas that the Town can apply for.

▪*Onondaga County Fire Coalition Breakfast Invitation:* Supervisor Sennett said she would be attending.

▪*Letter from East Street Residents regarding traffic:* Supervisor Sennett said John Behrens submitted a letter signed by residents of East Street with concerns about the speed of vehicles on that street. Supervisor Sennett said that while she had some ideas such as contacting the school, she suggested that the neighbors work together to come up with a strategy.

Councilor Murray said that people use East Street as a short cut from Rt. 332 to East Lake Road and the speed should be lowered.

Supervisor Sennett said she would be happy to meet with the neighbors.

▪*Rails to Trails Committee Update:* Councilor Brace said that the committee met this week and that Steven Ladd has done a remarkable job meeting with the City of Syracuse Water Department, SOCPA, and National Grid. They are looking at their easements. SOCPA is creating maps delineating municipal owned properties. The committee will develop a master plan to link all of this together. She said this takes time but they have a good plan and great members of the committee. They have scheduled the next cleanup for the Charlie Major Nature Trail for May 2<sup>nd</sup> and they hope that local groups will join in to help take care of the trails.

▪*Comprehensive Plan Update:* Councilor Brace said that the Special Board held two public information meetings and they are working now to incorporate changes from comments received at those meetings. They are also working on a glossary of terms and an appendix to the plan. Character Areas are being updated and adding Transect Areas. The Special Board plans to have a public hearing in early March.

*Resolution #15-031*

**Abstract #15-03:** On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, voucher #15-0062 to #15-0131 were audited and approved to be paid from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$31,904.85	Part Town:	\$ 810.93
Highway:	\$28,792.54	Street Lighting:	\$3,137.63
Water:	\$ 514.67	Sewer #6:	\$ 42.28
T & A:	\$ 1,233.54		

Total: \$66,436.44

*Resolution #15-032*

**Attorney Advice:** On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to attorney advice 8:00 p.m.

Meeting reopened and adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet L. Aaron  
Town Clerk