

Town Board Meeting
September 9, 2019
6:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Aaron, Councilor Badami, Councilor McCormack, Councilor Coville, Councilor Tucker and Attorney Smith.

Also, Present: Courtney Alexander, Sue Murphy, Bridgett Winkelman, Allan Wellington, Beth Batlle, Julie Abbott-Kenan, Bob Herrmann, Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press).

Resolution #19-157

Onondaga County Legislator Julie Abbott-Kenan – Sims Building Funding: Supervisor Aaron introduced County Legislator Julie Abbott-Kenan.

Legislator Abbott-Kenan reported to the Board, due to the work of Supervisor Aaron and Sue Murphy, from the Parks Department the County has approved awarding the Town of Skaneateles \$25,000 for improvements at the Sims Building. Supervisor Aaron stated they had received a letter from David Knapp, Chairman of the Onondaga County Legislature stating that the contract will follow.

Legislator Abbott-Kenan stated she also brought more good news. She stated the Town of Skaneateles had been approved to receive monies from the Winter Severity Fund in the amount of \$102,055.57. This is the largest amount proportioned to the Town of Skaneateles since these funds had been distributed throughout the County.

Legislator Abbott-Kenan stated she is working on the communication protocol coming from the Department of Criminal Justice. She is concerned with the way the last emergency was handled. Information was not distributed to the residents quickly enough and she wants to see a change in this for the future. Councilor McCormack stated the Town of Skaneateles needs an Onondaga County Sherriff's substation and not rely on the Village Police Department, and the Village Police do not have jurisdiction outside the Village, in the Town.

She also stated the County Legislator is starting their 2020 budget sessions. She is advocating for more Sherriff Patrols on Skaneateles lake. This is important for the protection of the lake.

Supervisor Aaron asked Attorney Smith if the Board could authorize her to sign the Onondaga County Contract for the \$25,000 for the Sims Building project when it is received. This will make the process go faster. Attorney Smith stated yes, if the Board would like to, they could contingent upon his review.

On a motion of Councilor Badami, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Town Board authorized Supervisor Aaron to sign the contract with Onondaga County for \$ 25,000 for the improvements at the Sims Building contingent on Attorney Smith's review.

Department Reports

Highway, Water, Transfer Station: Highway Superintendent Allan Wellington reported they had paved both Visions Drive and Fennell Street with help from the Towns of Marcellus, Otisco, Sennett and Elbridge. They had helped both the Towns of Elbridge and Otisco with their paving. They installed snow fence for the Fire Department's Labor Day Field Days, excavated the drainage ditch along Sheldon Road, paved driveway approaches on both Fisher Road and Highland Avenue. He had also met with the Town's Workers Compensation carrier at the Highway Garage and the Transfer Station. In the Water Department they repaired 3 water main breaks that occurred on August 23rd. They made repairs to lawns damaged from previous water breaks and rerouted the water flow in District #3, so the Village could shut off their feed in order to make repairs to their system. They replaced the pilot valve in the pressure relieving valve vault on Jordan Road and the pilot valve will be sent to Ross Valve to be rebuilt and they installed a new water service to a home in Skaneateles Falls. At the Transfer Station they sold a truck load of baled cardboard, held a document shredding event last Saturday and took delivery of the new Bobcat Skid steer.

Parks: Sue Murphy reported in the Parks Department they were wrapping up summer activities in the Parks. The rafts had been removed from the swimming area at Clift Park, the Fire Department had their annual Labor Day Field Days at the Austin Pavilion and they are beginning to replace the woodchips at the playground areas in the Parks.

Supervisor Aaron stated the Sims Building is moving along. They met with Bill McGinnis, of McGinnis Construction and construction should be completed in the next few weeks and landscaping will be completed in the Spring.

Planning & Zoning: Councilor Tucker reported there were currently 8 open projects. He reviewed the status of existing projects still open; Hidden Estates, Zechman Subdivision, Skaneateles Country Club, Skaneateles Aerodrome, Chris Graham.

Codes: Codes Officer Herrmann stated they had closed out 10 additional permits this month bringing the expired permit number from the original 320 to 28. Codes Officer Ben Garrett has been inputting code sections into the IPS software for the upcoming fire inspections and Kim Benda is continuing to update IPS to have accurate data on the system for each parcel. Councilor Badami reviewed the Permit Monthly Report stating there had been 15 permits issued during August totaling \$363,905.00 in valuation and \$3,728.07 in permit fees. He reviewed the Completion Issued Report stating there were 10 more permits completed and there was one property maintenance complaint on Old Seneca Turnpike.

Budget: Budget Officer Winkelman reported she had billed Water District #1 and had begun working with the Board to prepare the 2020 Budget.

Historian: Town Historian Beth Battle gave a report on the "Schools of Skaneateles".
*report attached

Highway Superintendent Wellington stated he would like the Town Board to consider the following trucks; a 1998 International and a 1989 Mack, as surplus in order to place these trucks on an online auction service.

On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor McCormack and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Town Board declared the 1998 International and 1989 Mack as surplus and authorized the Highway Superintendent to place the equipment on an online auction service.

Resolution #19-158

Minutes of August 19, 2019: On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor McCormack, and with a (3-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Minutes of August 19, 2019 were accepted as presented, Councilor Tucker and Councilor Badami abstained due to their absence.

Resolution #19-159

Phase I – Town Hall Relocation: Supervisor Aaron introduced Chad Rogers, Bill Murphy and Tim Johnson. They are working on plans for the Town’s Fennell Street Property and the future of the Austin Pavilion.

If the Town Hall is to be relocated on the Fennell Street location they are looking into a plan for the current buildings and services located on Fennell Street. She stated, currently Parks uses this location for storage, the Laker Limo vehicles are housed there and also the Town’s loan closet operates there.

Supervisor Aaron reviewed the proposal submitted by Chad Rogers. She stated this proposal for Phase I of the project would include field visits to review the existing Fennell Street site and building conditions. Field visits to the existing Jordan road site (Austin Pavilion) and to the Transportation Center to review the possibilities for an addition to the facility.

Supervisor Aaron explained that if the Town Hall was to relocate to the Fennell Street property the Town would have to come up with alternatives for the Parks Department, the Loan Closet and Laker Limo. This proposal will look at options for the relocation. She stated in any event the Fennell Street property needed to be improved.

Chad Rogers presented the 2019 Phase I proposal concerning the proposed Town Hall relocation at the Fennell Street location. He stated step 1 in the proposal will look at the site and the options for the existing services housed there. Step 2 will look at costs of the demolition and the set up for further development. The cost to the Town would be \$16,400 in addition to a pre-demolition building survey at a cost of \$4,800 and a performance-based demolition scope at a cost of \$10,400 for a total of \$31,600.

Supervisor Aaron stated this is an important step if we are going to build a new Town Hall. The relocation of the existing services on the site and the buildings need to be demolished to improve the property. Supervisor Aaron asked Budget Officer Winkelman if we should complete the proposal for the \$16,400 this year and budget for next year the additional pre-demolition survey and the performance-based demolition scope. These additional services would be for things such as testing for hazardous materials and asbestos in the buildings. Budget Officer Winkelman stated there is money in the budget for this year to pay for the \$16,400 and they could budget next year for the additional services.

Councilor Badami stated we do not know what hazardous materials or asbestos are in the buildings so would it be more expensive to demolish the buildings without the pre-demolition survey done. Chad Rogers answered, yes it could be more costly if there is a large amount of hazardous materials or asbestos that need to be properly disposed of to have the survey done first. Councilor Badami stated that it would make more sense to also complete the pre-demolition survey, so we know what and how much material there is to budget for next year. Budget Officer said they could do that this year. The Board agreed.

Councilor Tucker asked If they should go out to bid due to the cost. Budget Officer Winkelman stated no, the first part of the project would be considered professional services. Attorney Smith agreed.

Councilor Badami asked if there is no asbestos could the Town Highway Department do the demolition? Mr. Rogers stated yes, the Town could complete the demolition.

On a motion of Councilor Badami, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Town Board authorized Phase I of the proposed Town Hall Relocation Services from Chad Rogers, Tim Johnson and Bill Murphy and authorized Supervisor Aaron to sign the agreement with King & King Architects to complete the proposal submitted for the cost of \$16,400 plus the additional pre-demolition survey at the cost of \$4,800 for a total of \$21,200.

Budget officer Winkelman stated we do have some information on the existing buildings that had been done in the past. Tim Johnson stated this would be helpful. Councilor Badami asked what the time frame would be. Mr. Johnson stated they would begin as soon as possible and would report back.

Resolution #19-160

Resignation – Eugene LaForte: Supervisor Aaron stated the Board had received a letter of resignation from Gene LaForte. He had worked for the Town for 11 years. He started when the Town was running the Community Center. He stayed on with the Town after the YMCA took over the Community Center. At that time the Austin Pavilion had ice. Gene spent time making repairs to the compressor and the Zamboni to keep the facility up and running the last few years. She stated he had been a valuable employee. Gene had worked with and retired from the Village prior to working for the Town. Gene supported and taught many young summer and seasonal employees. Supervisor Aaron stated this is a sad day for the Town and Gene will be hard to replace. Supervisor Aaron stated this position should now be considered a full-time position with the Town. Gene worked just under the 40 hours per week to keep it at part time. She asked the Board to authorize the creation of a full time Parks Crew Leader position.

On a motion of Councilor McCormack, seconded by Councilor Coville and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board authorized the creation of a full time Parks Crew Leader position to be posted in all departments and advertised.

Resolution #19-161

Hazardous Mitigation Plan: Supervisor Aaron thanked both Codes Officer Bob Herrmann and Highway Superintendent Allan Wellington for all there work on the Town of Skaneateles

Hazardous Mitigation Plan for Onondaga County. Supervisor Aaron reviewed the Plan and reviewed the following resolution.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SKANEATELES
AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE
2019 ONONDAGA COUNTY MULTI- JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION
PLAN UPDATE**

WHEREAS, all jurisdictions within Onondaga County have exposure to natural hazards that increase the risk to life, property, environment, and the County and local economy; and

WHEREAS; pro-active mitigation of known hazards before a disaster event can reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) established new requirements for pre and post disaster hazard mitigation programs, including the preparation of Hazard Mitigation Plans; and

WHEREAS, Onondaga County, with a Planning Partnership of Onondaga County municipalities, has gathered information and prepared the 2019 Onondaga County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (the “Plan”), in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership has completed a planning process that has engaged the public with opportunity for input and public comment, assessed the risk and vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards, developed a mitigation strategy consistent with a set of uniform goals and objectives, and created a plan for implementing, evaluating and revising this strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Town **has** reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Skaneateles adopts in its entirety, the 2019 Onondaga County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (the “Plan”) as the jurisdiction’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and resolves to execute the actions identified in the Plan that pertain to this jurisdiction.

Highway Superintendent stated having this plan in place will help the Town with grants and funding in the future.

On a motion of Councilor McCormack, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board adopts in its entirety, the 2019 Onondaga County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (the “Plan”) as the jurisdiction’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and resolves to execute the actions identified in the Plan that pertain to this jurisdiction.

Resolution #19-162

Landfill Post Closure Monitoring – Plumley Engineering: Supervisor Aaron explained to the Board the annual landfill monitoring is required by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and is due to be completed. The estimated project cost for Plumley Engineering to complete the required monitoring is \$11,500. Supervisor Aaron stated Plumley Engineering had been doing this monitoring for years and felt comfortable with them completing it this year as well.

On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor McCormick and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the proposal in the amount of \$11,500 for Landfill Post Closure Monitoring was authorized.

Resolution #19-163

Schedule Special Meeting to accept the 2020 Tentative Budget – October 4, 2019 at 10:00a.m.: Supervisor Aaron explained according to Town Municipal Law the Town is required to submit the tentative budget to the Town Board by October 5th of each year. The first meeting in October is on October 7th, therefore the Board will need to schedule a special meeting to accept the 2020 tentative budget.

After a discussion of the Board the Board, decided to schedule a special meeting on October 3rd, immediately following the final scheduled budget meeting at 9:00 a.m.

On a motion of Councilor McCormack, seconded by Councilor Badami and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board a special meeting accept the 2020 Town of Skaneateles Tentative Budget will be held at 9:00 a.m. on October 3, 2019 immediately following the scheduled 7:30 a.m. Budget Meeting.

Resolution #19-164

Amend the Annual Resolution – NYS CLASS: Budget Officer Winkelman explained to the Board NYS Class is an approved New York State investment company that is allowed by the State of New York to be an investment company for municipalities outside the banking institutions. The Town is limited in where they can invest or deposit funds. Deposits and Municipal funds must be insured up to 102% according to New York State law. NY CLASS meets all the requirements and currently has a better interest rate than M&T Bank.

On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Coville and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board authorization was given to invest Town funds in to NYCLASS and update the 2019 Annual Resolution to reflect this additional investment firm.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

▪*Comprehensive Plan Update:* Supervisor Aaron stated the draft updated Comprehensive Plan and Zoning had been submitted to Planning and Zoning Attorney Scott Molnar and Town Attorney Brody Smith. The Board is waiting for them to complete their review and then it will be presented to Joel Russell.

▪*Skaneateles Aerodrome – Withdrawal of ZBA Application:* Supervisor Aaron announced a letter was received from Attorney Jamie Sutphen, on behalf of their client, Skaneateles Aerodrome, to inform the Town Board of their withdrawal of the Applicant's application for a variance relating to the expansion of the runway at the Aerodrome property, stating that a runway expansion will not be sought by the Applicant.. The letter stated the request by the Applicant for the referral pursuant to the NY General Business Law Section 249 is no longer required as well as the referral to the Commissioner of Transportation also be withdrawn.

Supervisor Aaron state the Board would need to authorize a letter to be sent to the Commissioner of Transportation withdrawing the Town of Skaneateles referral of the application. Attorney Smith will send the letter of withdrawal.

On a motion of Councilor Badami, seconded by Councilor McCormack and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the Town Clerk was authorized to submit a letter requesting to

withdraw the referral from the Skaneateles Aerodrome to the Commissioner of Transportation Bureau of Aviation.

Public Comment: No public comment

Resolution #19-165

Budget Amendments: On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor Badami and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the following budget amendment was approved:

General Fund

\$ 2,350.00	Increase	071104.01.004.45	Summ Rec.-C/E-Equip. Rent.
\$ 2,350.00	Decrease	071104.01.004.51	Summ Rec.-C/E-Fields. Rent.
Cost of associated with Rental of Porta Potties at Austin Park			
\$ 190,760.00	Increase	071102.05.002.00	Summer Rec. – Capital Imp.
\$ 190,760.00	Decrease	000909.01.000.00	Fund Balance - GF
Fund Balance Transfer – Capital Project Sims Building			

Resolution #19-166

Abstract #19-17: On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers #19-0821-19-0898 were authorized from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$ 34,346.99	Co. Dev.:	\$170,760.00
Highway:	\$ 1,774.47	Water:	\$ 4,324.83
Highway PT	\$ 918.24	Part Town	\$ 1,471.04
Street Lgt.:	\$ 1,067.06	T & A	\$ 185.06
Total:	\$13237,071.27		

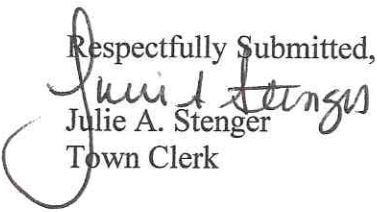
Resolution #19-167

Executive Session: On a motion of Councilor McCormack, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. to discuss contract negotiation, potential litigations and personnel.

On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor Tucker the meeting was returned to open session at 8:46 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk

Schools of Skaneateles Beth Batlle

Did you know that at one time there were 16 schools in the Township of Skaneateles? Why so many? In 1812 an act passed by the New York State legislature established the New York School system.

Included in this act was the requirement that schools to be within walking distance of the youngest students, who would have been five years old. Under good conditions, 20 to 30 minutes was considered to be a reasonable walking time for these students.

Some of the schools had interesting names such as Poverty Corners , Hen Coop, and Peach Blow. Others were named after their location such as Coon Hill, Mottville and Shepard Settlement. The "Hive" was a boarding school for female students on West Lake Road. Though it was a Quaker school , other female students were accepted.

Teachers, besides preparing lessons for their students from grades 1 to 8, also had to keep the fire burning in the pot belly stove, sweep the floor, shovel the entrance way in winter, and some even washed the windows. For all of this they earned \$10 per month.

All grades were taught reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic. Those in grade 4 and up were also taught English, geography and history. Younger students also learned by listening as the older students recited their lessons.

In 1853 New York passed the Union Free School Law. This act provided for a junior school which consisted of grades 7, 8 and 9, and a high school grades for grades 10, 11 and 12.

In order to continue their education rural school students were required to attend the Skaneateles Junior and Senior High School in the Village. Some students walked while others boarded with families in the village, often working for their room and board.

With the advent of motorized vehicles, the school bus came into being. New York State required that pickups should be near a student's house and the ride to school should not be longer than 45 minutes. Other requirements were that the name of the school was to be painted on the bus, the vehicle was to be heated in winter, and the bus driver was not to exceed 30 miles per hour.

In the 1930's, the first men to contract to run a school bus were Herbert Splane and Russell Lader. Students who rode the bus were called "bus kids."

Later George Talcott ran two buses which he kept beneath the building on the south side of Fennell Street where an insurance office is now located. George Bently also ran a bus out of his garage on Hannum Street.

In 1950 Skaneateles residents voted to centralize these schools. The vote was 826 for and 77 against. Now all students would attend the same school, receive the same education, and teachers salaries would be more equitable.

Besides being resistant to change, parents wanted control of where their children went to school and what was being taught to them. It was difficult to say goodbye to their school.

At the same time Fred Fundus became the superintendent of the schools and he visited the schools as they prepared to close. At Mandana, watching from the doorway as parents departed from the meeting, he said "I felt that a part of what had made America great was gone."

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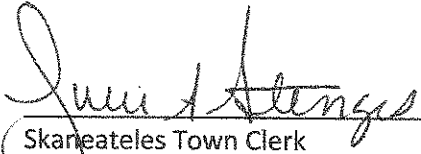
At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Skaneateles, Skaneateles, New York on September 9, 2019 the foregoing Resolution was duly moved by Councilor McCormack and seconded by Councilor Tucker, quorum of five members of the five-member Board being present, and each voted on the Resolution as follows:

Supervisor Janet Aaron	Yes
Councilor David Badami	Yes
Councilor Robert Coville	Yes
Councilor Kevin McCormack	Yes
Councilor Mark Tucker	Yes

The Resolution was, therefore, duly adopted.

Dated: September 9, 2019

Town of Skaneateles Supervisor
Janet L. Aaron



Skaneateles Town Clerk
Julie A. Stenger