

**Town Board Meeting**  
**April 21, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**Zoom: Meeting Id: 861 8561 5824 Passcode: 760780**

**Present:** Supervisor Legg, Councilor Alexander, Councilor Tucker, Councilor Dove, Councilor Milne, Attorney Kokkoris.

**5:30 p.m. Executive Session Executive Session/Attorney Advice – Contract Negotiations:**

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned for the Executive Session at 5:30 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Milne and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the meeting returned to open session at 6:30 p.m.

**Also, Present (via Zoom):** Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Sue Murphy, Brian Buff, Mike Drake, Chris Buff.

**Minutes of April 7, 2025 and April 11, 2025:** On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Alexander, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Councilor Tucker abstained, the minutes of April 7, 2025, and April 11, 2025 were accepted as presented.

**Abstract #25-06:** On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Milne, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers were authorized from the following funds:

**ABSTRACT #25-05:**

General	\$	31,226.95
Prt Town	\$	3,742.43
Sewer	\$	600.58
HWY	\$	1,877.30
HWY Part Town	\$	9,308.30
Fire District	\$	10,900.00
Water	\$	15,167.30
T&A	\$	2,422.54
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>75,245.40</b>

**2025 Reassessment Update:** Councilor Dove discussed the ongoing reassessment project, highlighting the efforts of the Town Hall staff and the vendor Maxwell Appraisal Services. The tentative role for the reassessment will be available online May 1st, and residents can log in to view their property's current assessment. If residents disagree with the assessment, they can attend meetings in May to discuss their concerns with the town assessor, bringing relevant documentation to support their case.

Councilor Dove reviewed the following document she had prepared:

### ***2025 Town of Skaneateles Reassessment***

1. ***May 1, 2025.*** Tentative tax roll is published. Available at: [www.ongov.net](http://www.ongov.net).
2. ***1<sup>st</sup> week of May*** – letters will be sent to residents from Maxwell Appraisal Services for all residents who met with Maxwell Appraisal Services in March and April.
  - a. *If you have been advised of a change in your assessed value and **you agree** with the new valuation of your property **you need to do nothing further.***
  - b. *If you still disagree with your assessed value, go to Step 3.*
3. *Town of Skaneateles Assessor will meet with residents on the following dates who disagree with their assessed value as published on tentative roll on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Appointments are highly encouraged by calling: 1-(680) 666-8284 (Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm) Bring supporting documentation to show why you think your assessment is too high. (pictures, comparables)*
  - a. *Here are the dates and times available for meetings with the Assessor:*
    - Monday, May 12. 4pm – 8 pm*
    - Tuesday, May 13. 9 am – 1 pm*
    - Saturday, May 17. 8 am – Noon*
    - Monday, May 19. 9 am – 1 pm*
4. ***Grievance Day – Tuesday, May 27, 10 am – 2 pm, and 3 pm-8 pm*** – after meeting with the Assessor, if you still disagree with your assessment you may meet with the Board of Assessment Review (BAR). The BAR is comprised of 5 residents, appointed by the Town Board to hear your grievance. They have been fully trained on the reassessment process. Appointments are highly recommended. People with appointments will be seen before walk-ins. Call 1-680-666-8284 (Mon-Fri, 10 am – 4 pm) to make your appointment. ***You must fill out Form RP-524 and bring or email any supporting documentation to Town Hall, preferably prior to Grievance Day.***

*If time does not allow for all residents to be heard on Grievance Day, May 27<sup>th</sup>, you will be assigned a time to meet with the BAR on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 am – 1 pm. May 30<sup>th</sup> is only available to those people who filed all their information on May 27<sup>th</sup>, but time did not allow their grievance to be heard on the 27<sup>th</sup>.*

**Occupancy Tax Renewal:** Supervisor Legg stated the Town of Skaneateles Occupancy Tax was a 5% charge on any rentals less than 30 days in the Town of Skaneateles. The tax was started in 2024 and was approved by the State Legislature for 2 years. It will expire on December 31, 2025, and the Board is requesting a renewal from the State Legislature. The request had been submitted to Senator May and Assemblyman LaMondes.

The Board approved the following resolution as presented by Attorney Kokkoris:

### **RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD**

## OF THE TOWN OF SKANEATELES

April 21, 2025

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Skaneateles (the “Town”) has a vested interest in ensuring that Town services are provided in a fiscally responsible manner and that the costs and expenses associated therewith are equitably distributed among the Town’s taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the Town’s popularity as a tourist destination, the Town incurs additional costs in providing various Town services including, but not limited to, maintaining Town parks and providing DPW and sanitation services, with taxpayers of the Town largely bearing the burden of such additional costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has identified an occupancy tax as a potential means of offsetting these additional costs and promoting the betterment of the health and well-being of the Skaneateles community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town’s occupancy tax imposes a five percent (5%) tax upon persons occupying any room for hire in any hotel located within the Town, except that hotels located within the Village of Skaneateles are subject only to a Village occupancy tax; and

**WHEREAS**, New York State Tax Law Section 1202-hhh, the State legislation authorizing the Town’s occupancy tax, expires on December 31, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the attached draft legislation from the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission, bearing bill numbers S.5985/A.7901, is needed to authorize the Town to continue its occupancy tax.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to take such further steps as are reasonably necessary to facilitate the introduction of State legislation enabling the Town to continue its occupancy tax of five percent (5%) upon persons occupying any room for hire in any hotel located within the Town; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Home Rule Request Form requesting the enactment of S.5985/A.7901 by the State Legislature; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, in the event the Village of Skaneateles imposes an occupancy tax, hotels located within the Village of Skaneateles shall not be subject to the Town occupancy tax.

The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was moved by Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove, and duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

Chris Legg	Voting	Aye
Courtney Alexander	Voting	Aye

Sue Dove	Voting	Aye
Mark Tucker	Voting	Aye
Lori Milne	Voting	Aye

**Local Law 2 of 2025 “Truck Exclusion” Update:** Supervisor Legg updated the Board on Local Law #2 of 2025, “Truck Exclusion on Town Roads” . The local law has been recorded by the Department of State and now signs can be installed. The Local Law would now be sent to the NYS Troopers and Onondaga County Sheriff’s Departments for enforcement.

**Federal/NYS Requirement to Shift to .gov Domain by December 31, 2025:** Supervisor Legg stated Recent legislation amended General Municipal Law §§ 300 and 30(7) to require that towns with populations of 1,500 or more (as well as other municipalities) establish and maintain an official website with a ".gov" domain name. The law has an effective date of Dec. 21, 2025.

Supervisor Legg stated the .gov domain provides greater protections to Towns. He stated Clerk Stenger had submitted the application for approval for the .gov domain and once this is approved the Town would move the website over to the .gov domain and they would start to change the emails.

**Planning Board Position – Extend Letters of Interest to May 9, 2025:** Supervisor Legg stated The Board had decided to extend the date for accepting Planning Board letters of interest to May 9<sup>th</sup>.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board extended the date to accept letters of interest for the Planning Board to May 9, 2025.

**Schedule Special Meeting – April 23, 2025 at 4:00 pm:** On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board scheduled a special meeting for April 23, 2025 at 4:00 pm at the Austin Park Arena.

**Announcements/Correspondence/Updates:**

*Shred Day at the Transfer Station – April 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 12:00 noon*

*Swap Shop Opening April 26<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 am -1:00 pm (drop off before noon)*

*Hamlet Plan Update – Committee Meeting April 24, 2025 at 4:30 pm*

*Skaneateles Sunrise Rotary Invasive Species Mustard Pull on the Charlie Major Nature Trail*

**Town Employment Opportunities:** Supervisor Legg announced the following Town Employment opportunities:

**The Parks Department:**

Parks Laborers

Waterfront Lifeguards

Play Day Councilors

Councilor Alexander stated for any questions please contact the Parks Department.

## **Highway Department**

Full Time Motor Equipment Operators

*Fishing Derby – June 1, 2025:* Councilor Alexander announced the Conservation Fishing Derby will take place on June 1, 2025 and the rain date would be June 8, 2025

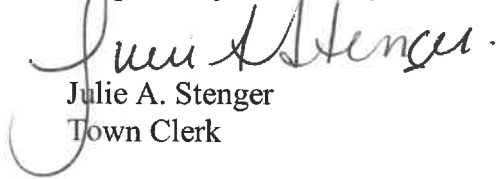
*OCWA -2024 Annual Report:* Supervisor Legg stated the Board was in receipt of the 2024 Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA) Annual Report.

**Public Comment:** Chris Buff, Sheldon Road: Ms. Buff asked when the no parking signs would be up on Mill Road.

Councilor Alexander stated the signs had been ordered and would be up soon.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Julie A. Stenger  
Town Clerk