

Town Board Meeting
September 22, 2025
5:30 p.m.
Zoom: Meeting ID: 816 2316 7912 Passcode: 990725

Present: Supervisor Legg, Councilor Tucker, Councilor Dove, Councilor Milne, Attorney Smith.

5:30 p.m. Executive Session Executive Session/Attorney Advice: On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned for Executive Session at 5:30 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, 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: Tim Dobrovosky, Keri Fey.

Also, Present (via Zoom): Sue Murphy, Brian Buff, Chris Buff, Jason Gabak, Doreen Simmons.

Minutes of September 8, 2025: On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of September 8, 2025 were accepted with the corrections made by Councilor Milne.

Abstract #25-11: On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Milne, and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers were authorized from the following funds:

Budget Amendments: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Dove, and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board the following budget amendments for abstract #25-16:

General Fund

\$1,006.11	Increase	13301.01.001.00	Tax Collector PS
\$1,006.11	Decrease	13304.01.004.00	Tax Collector CE
Personal Service for Tax Collection			
\$5,175.80	Increase	19104.01.004.00	Unallocated Insurance
\$5,175.80	Decrease	19904.01.004.00	Contingency Acct.-
CE			
Increases Cost			
\$5,361.55	Increase	33104.01.004.00	Traffic Control-CE
\$811.66	Increase	33104.01.004.39	Traffic Control-
Capital Project			
\$6,173.21	Decrease	19904.01.004.00	Contingency Acct-CE
Signage Project and Updated Road Signs			
\$815.00	Increase	51324.01.004.86	Garage- CE- Gas
\$815.00	Decrease	51324.01.004.84	Garage-CE-Electric

CE Cleanup			
\$5,970.58	Increase	71404.01.004.48	Winter Utilities
\$5,970.58	Decrease	71104.01.004.48	Parks Utilities
CE Cleanup			
\$389.00	Increase	71414.01.004.00	Creamery
\$389.00	Decrease	71104.01.004.48	Parks Utilities
CE Cleanup			
\$100.63	Increase	72504.01.004.00	Rec Program CE
\$100.63	Decrease	71104.01.004.48	Parks Utilities
CE Cleanup			
\$1,052.00	Increase	80204.01.004.58	Comp Plan Review
\$1,052.00	Decrease	19904.01.004.00	Contingency Acct-CE
CE Cleanup			
\$4,799.00	Increase	88102.01.002.00	Cemetery Equipment
\$4,799.00	Decrease	88104.01.004.00	Cemetery-CE
CE Cleanup			
<u>HWY Town Wide:</u>			
\$182,803.00	Increase	51304.03.004.55	
Equipment/Manit/Service			
\$182,803.00	Decrease	51304.03.004.00	Machinery EQ
Wrong Coding			
<u>HWY Part Town:</u>			
\$200,625.08	Increase	51104.04.004.00	General Repair
\$200,625.08	Decrease	51122.04.002.00	CHIPS Improvement
Allocation of Funds			

ABSTRACT #25-16:

General	\$ 46,025.58
Prt Town	\$ 3,550.38
Sewer	\$ 32.61
HWY	\$13,125.87
HWY Part Town	\$ 8,283.64
Fire District	\$ 1,041.00
Water	\$ 2,832.99
T&A	\$ 6,150.19
Limeledge Water	\$ 708.66
TOTAL	\$ 82,851.92

Abundant Solar Notice of Intent for PILOT Program – 4512 and 4515 Jordan Road: The Town Board discussed a formal notice received from Abundant Solar Power Company regarding their proposal to build a solar farm off Jordan Road, which triggered a requirement for the town to respond under state law. Attorney Smith explained that the town's response established a pilot program requirement, giving them the opportunity to negotiate terms with the solar company. The

town Board discussed negotiations for a pilot arrangement, with previous pilots of up to \$4,000-\$5,000 per megawatt, though most projects opt for the rolling tax rate.

Attorney Smith stated the Town received the letter dated September 5, 2025 and he responded to the Abundant Solar request for a PILOT on September 18, 2025, within the 90-day response time.

** Letter attached*

Onondaga County New Position Request – Planner I: Town Clerk Stenger discussed with the Town Board their proposal to appoint a Town Planner, instead of contracting with an outside firm. In order to do this the Town Board would have to request Onondaga County Personal create a new position to be added to the Town of Skaneateles’s Onondaga County Civil Service Roster.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Milne, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized the request to Onondaga County Personal to create the position of “Planner I” for the Town of Skaneateles with following description:

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

The work involves responsibility for performing entry level work in the collection, preparation and compilation of data as it is applied to a municipal and county planning program(s). An employee in this class performs routine planning assisting a higher-level planner in the preparation and execution of planning and zoning projects. Work is supervised and reviewed by an administrative superior. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES

Assists in studies involving compilation and analysis of physical, demographic, economic, environmental and sociological factors related to county and municipal planning.

Prepares reports and studies based on the results of research and data collection.

Interacts with the public in regard to zoning activities, conducts research and makes presentations to various planning and zoning boards.

Researches real property files, tax maps, and street addresses for planning or other special programs as needed.

Disseminates statistical data regarding zoning, population growth, economic trends, business activities, residential development and recreation projects.

Interacts with Geographic Information Systems staff to produce maps or solve data needs.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Working knowledge of standard principles, practices, methods and techniques of community, regional and municipal planning.

Working knowledge of statistical concepts and methods.
Working knowledge of uses of Geographic Information Systems software and data.
Ability to analyze factual data and prepare graphs, maps and reports.
Ability to prepare complex and detailed written reports relating to planning.
Ability to make presentations that are complete clear and concise to governmental planning and zoning boards.
Ability to attend evening and off-site meetings.
Ability to follow both oral and written directions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

OPEN COMPETITIVE

A. Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees with a baccalaureate degree or higher in urban or regional planning, transportation planning, geography, environmental studies, landscape architecture, public administration, or in a closely related degree field; or,

B. Four (4) years of paraprofessional or professional level work experience, or its part time equivalent, in municipal, community or regional planning, environmental planning, transportation planning and analysis, landscape architecture, or public administration; or,

C. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A and B above.

Assessor Notice of Retirement: Supervisor Legg stated Town Assessor Mike Maxwell has reached a point where he is eligible to retire and start collecting his retirement income. And as with many state employees, for them to be eligible and to stay in their position and to draw the retirement pay, they have to have a single-day gap at minimum in terms of their service. Mr. Maxwell has proposed that he resign as of September 26, 2025, and then he has requested to be reappointed to the 6-year term that happens to coincide with the 1st of October 2025.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board authorized the Town Assessor, Mike Maxwell's request to retire for NYS Retirement purposes as of September 26, 2025.

Town Assessor Appointment: Supervisor Legg announced accordance with the regular term of office, for an Assessor, the Town is required to appoint an Assessor on October 1st, 2025, for a 6-year term. The Town has spent weeks advertising in every normal process and posting on Indeed that we are seeking candidates for Assessor, and we have received only one, from the Town's current Assessor Mike Maxwell. Additionally, we went informally to both the State Office of Taxation here locally in Syracuse, and also the county.

Supervisor Legg stated some Counties have assumed the responsibilities of Assessor, Onondaga County has not.

Councilor Dove stated she had met with the Board of Assessment Review after Grievance Day, and they all said what a good, fair job Assessor Maxwell had done.

On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board appointed Michael Maxwell as the Town of Skaneateles Assessor for a six-year term commencing on October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2031.

Water Department Foreman Appointment: Supervisor Legg stated the Town had advertised for the open position of Water Department Foreman. A number of candidates applied and two of the candidates were fully qualified to step into the job immediately, they already have a Class D operator's license. Shane Chrisman, who had been the foreman previously was the most qualified candidate.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board appointed Shane Chrisman as Water Department Foreman at \$28.53 per hour starting September 29, 2025, based on his previous experience as foreman and current qualifications.

2026 Tentative Town of Skaneateles Budget: Supervisor Legg stated the 2026 Town of Skaneateles Tentative Budget had been received and filled in the office of the Town Clerk. The tentative budget is still a work in progress and there is more to do to prepare the preliminary budget for public hearing.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town of Skaneateles 2026 Tentative Budget was accepted.

Schedule Public Hearing for Introductory Local Law 3 of 2026 “A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy”: Supervisor Legg stated New York State Property tax levy growth will again be capped at 2% for 2026 for local governments that operate on a calendar-based fiscal year.

Supervisor Legg stated there is uncertainty about staying within the 2% cap. Therefore, we have routinely over the years, like most municipalities passed a local law offering the opportunity to override the 2% tax cap.

Supervisor Legg clarified that the local law is not mandating that we go over 2%, it is just providing the legislative possibilities that comply with New York State Law Section 3-C of the New York General Municipal Law.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board scheduled a Public Hearing for October 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. regarding Introductory Local Law 3 of 2025- “A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established by Section 3-C of the New York General Municipal Law.”

Austin Park Project Change Orders: Supervisor Legg stated the Town Board was in receipt of a change order for the Austin Park Project. The change order was to upgrade to code the catch basins in place for the drainage.

The Board agreed this would be an easy fix now while the ground is exposed and the project is still well within budget.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board approved the change order from King and King Architects as presented for the Austin Park project in the amount of \$10,395.00, making the project total \$1,107,202.11.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

Town Board Budget Meetings:

Town Board 2026 Budget Meetings:

September 29, 2025	3:30 pm
October 6, 2025	3:30 pm
October 14, 2025	3:30 pm
October 20, 2025	3:30 pm
October 27, 2025	3:30 pm (if needed)

Town Departments – Closed October 13, 2025 Indigenous People Day

Update – Town Hall Project: Supervisor Legg announced the Town Hall exterior renovations were completed for this year. The stone and beam repair, the drainage and now the roof. The siding will be considered in 2027.

Update – Austin Park Project: Councilor Milne announced the project was moving ahead nicely and they are on schedule. Supervisor Legg stated they walls have started to go up and they continue to stay on schedule. Parks director Sue Murphy had started to move some of the items from the storage trailers back into the arena.

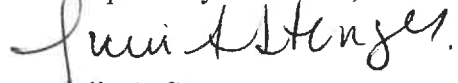
Transfer Station Shred Event – September 27th - 9:00 – 12:00 noon

Seniors of Skaneateles October 1st PEACE Luncheon: Supervisor Legg announced the Senior PEACE Luncheon would be held the first Wednesday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church.

Public Comment: No Comments

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION
OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SKANEATELES**

**Proposed Local Law to Override The Tax Levy Limit Established By
Section 3-c of the New York General Municipal Law**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 20(4) and General Municipal Law Section 3-c, Board Member Milne has introduced for consideration Local Law No. 3 of 2023 entitled "A Local Law to Override The Tax Levy Limit Established By Section 3-c of the New York General Municipal Law" (the "Proposed Local Law"); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Proposed Local Law is to allow the Town of Skaneateles (the "Town") to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by New York General Municipal Law § 3-c; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to comply with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and its implementing regulations set forth at 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the "Regulations"), with respect to the adoption of the Proposed Local Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to comply with the requirements of the New York Town Law and the New York Public Officers Law and shall schedule a public hearing to allow the public to comment on the Proposed Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board will hold a public hearing on October 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to hear all persons interested in the Proposed Local Law and to consider the adoption of the Proposed Local Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby classifies the Proposed Local Law as a Type II Action under SEQRA involving the "adoption of regulations, policies, procedures and local legislative decisions" as set forth in Section 617.5(c)(33) of the Regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall cause notice of such public hearing to be published in the official Town newspaper in accordance with all legal requirements.

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

Supervisor Legg	Voting	Aye
Councilor Dove	Voting	Aye
Councilor Tucker	Voting	Aye
Councilor Milne	Voting	Aye

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Dated: September 23, 2025