

Town Board Meeting

October 6, 2025

5:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 879 4532 6739 Passcode: 825428

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

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

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

Also, Present (In Person): Tim Dobrovosky, Richard Meyer, Keri Fey.

Also, Present (via Zoom): Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Robert Herrmann, Sue Murphy, Miranda Robinson, Janet Aaron, Bill Mahood, Charlie Major.

Department Reports

Highway: Highway Superintendent Dobrovosky submitted his report to the Board for their review. Mr. Dobrovosky reviewed Highway Department activities including cleaning and drainage maintenance. He also announced new employee, Chris Bryant, has started.

*Report attached

Transfer Station: In Municipal Liaison Brian Buff's absence Councilor Tucker reported the Transfer Station had sent out 13 loads of trash, 7 open top containers and 3 loads of recycling.

Supervisor Legg reviewed 2025 cost comparisons.

*Reports attached

Planning and Zoning: In Planning and Zoning Secretary Barkdull absence Councilor Tucker reviewed the report as submitted. He reported there were seven applications for the Planning Board. And two open projects: Johnson, and Winkelman.

*September Planning & Zoning Report attached.

Codes: Codes Officer Herrmann reviewed the September Codes Office report. Mr. Herrmann reported there were 73 expired permits in the month of September. He also reported that the new 2025 NYS Building Code & Energy Code is in the transition phase as of October 1st. The NYS Building Code officially changes as of January 1, 2026. All new buildings will be required to be fossil fuel free on that date. It will include in some form: tighter building envelopes, electrification of all appliances, hot water and heating/cooling, integration of zero emissions equipment, solar readiness, resiliency & safety enhancements and EV infrastructure requirements.

*September Codes Report attached

Parks: Parks Manager Sue Murphy reported they had replaced 6 wooden benches with metal benches at the park. The Farmers Market ends this week. Thursday and Saturday will be the last days. And they are catching up on maintenance after the summer.

Councilor Milne reported they were working on the planning and planting of the native trees at the arena with Richard Westover.

Water and Engineering: Town Engineer Robinson reported on the following:

- Replaced hydrant on Milford & Franklin
- Working on the hydrant on E. Genesee Street.
- Planning to replace hydrant North of Hydra
- Completed water sewer and engineering budgets for 2026.
- Creating rate worksheets for current/future projected rates and capital improvement projects.
- Discussed upcoming meter project with new water foreman and other capital projects coming.
- Submitted water meter replacement project for WIIA grant funding.
- Updated EDUs for County Tax Department.
- Replaced a water meter and did some other troubleshooting in the field with the water department.
- Attended the Tift Semi-Annual AWWA Conference.

Budget: Budget Officer Keri Fey reported she had been working on the 2026 Budget preparation for the Town Board and working with Paychex on the new payroll system and it was going well.

Dog Control: Councilor Milne reviewed the Dog Control Report, submitted by Dog Control Officer Wawro.

*September Report attached.

Fire Department: Councilor Dove stated no formal report was submitted by the Fire Department. Fire Prevention week was in October, and the Fire Department would be holding an open house at 7:00pm on October 17th.

Minutes of September 22, 2025: On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0), affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of September 22, 2025.

Abstract #25-17: On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers were authorized from the following funds:

Abstract #25-17

General	\$	491,750.06
Andrews Rd. Water	\$	3,950.00
Part Town	\$	2,071.37
HWY	\$	3,261.84
HWY PT	\$	1,265.13
Lighting	\$	30.03
Water	\$	2,7893.51
T&A	\$	692.65
Water Tower	\$	3,950.00
Butters Farm	\$	2,160.00
TOTAL	\$	505,804.59

Schedule Public Hearing 2026 Budget – November 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.: On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Dove and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, The Town Board scheduled the Town of Skaneateles 2026 Budget Public Hearing on November 3, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Andrews Road Water District Update: Supervisor Legg updated the Board on the progress of the Andrews Road Water District. Engineer Robinson has proceeded to check all the boxes for various state-level agencies, at the EPA and the federal level. The Town Board had one more action to complete tonight, which is a requirement for Agriculture and Markets. They have reviewed our record and are ready to provide their input, but the most critical part is that we have been answering questions with the New York State Department of Health and continue to wait for their approval.

Town of Skaneateles Water District #6 Ag & Markets Law § 305(4) Findings and Certification Resolution: Attorney Smith stated New York State Agriculture and Markets had requested the Town adopt a resolution, called a lateral restriction resolution, which the Town Board did in May 2025. The resolution before the Board tonight stated the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets determined that the proposed action would not have an unreasonably adverse effect on the continuing viability of farm enterprises within the District or State environmental plans, policies and objectives; and the Board wished to comply with the requirements of Section 305 of the Agriculture and Markets Law with respect to the District.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Milne and with a (4-0), affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board approved the Town of Skaneateles Water District No. 6 Agriculture and Markets Law § 305(4) Findings and Certification as presented:

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

Town of Skaneateles Water District No. 6

Agriculture and Markets Law § 305(4) Findings and Certification

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Skaneateles (the "Board") has created the Town of Skaneateles Water District No. 6 (the "District") pursuant to the New York State Town Law for the express purpose of providing public water to residents in the area bounded by County Line Road, Andrews Road, Kane Avenue, and NYS Route 20, as well as the area immediately surrounding those roads; and

WHEREAS, part of the land area within Water District No. 6 is also within Onondaga County Agricultural District No. 2; and

WHEREAS, the Board filed a Notice of Intent to Undertake an Action Within an Agricultural District to evaluate the impact of providing a source of public water supply within this area on lands within Onondaga County Agricultural District No. 2; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated September 22, 2025, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets determined that the proposed action would not have an unreasonably adverse effect on the continuing viability of farm enterprises within the District or State environmental plans, policies and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to comply with the requirements of Section 305 of the Agriculture and Markets Law with respect to the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby makes and adopts the following findings of fact:

1. At least 65 days prior to the acquisition, construction, or advance of public funds related to the District, the Board caused a Notice of Intent to Undertake an Action Within an Agricultural District to be filed with the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets and the county agricultural and farmland protection board.
2. The Notice of Intent set forth the following:
 - a. a detailed description of the proposed action and its agricultural setting;
 - b. the agricultural impact of the proposed action including short-term and long-term effects;
 - c. any adverse agricultural effects which cannot be avoided should the proposed action be implemented;
 - d. alternatives to the proposed action;
 - e. any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of agricultural resources which would be involved in the proposed action should it be implemented;

- f. mitigation measures proposed to minimize the adverse impact of the proposed action on the continuing viability of a farm enterprise or enterprises within the district;
 - g. any aspects of the proposed action which would encourage non-farm development, where applicable and appropriate; and
 - h. such other information as the commissioner may require.
3. As indicated in the Notice of Intent, the District will not have an adverse impact on agriculture because the Town will make suitable arrangements to ensure that any localized construction activities within the Town's rights-of-way do not adversely affect farm owners. The District will not result in any irreversible or irretrievable commitments of agricultural resources.
4. The District will not have an adverse impact on the continuing viability of a farm enterprise or enterprises within the District. However, to the extent applicable, any potential impacts shall be mitigated consistent with the construction standards promulgated by the Department of Agriculture and Markets, attached as Exhibit C to the Notice of Intent.
5. The District will not change the use of Agricultural/Residential lands within the Agricultural District. To further ensure that the District will not have an adverse impact on agricultural lands, the Board adopted a lateral restriction resolution, dated May 5, 2025.
6. Upon receipt of the Notice of Intent, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets forwarded a copy of the Notice of Intent to the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation, the Advisory Counsel on Agriculture, and the Onondaga County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. No comments were received by the Commissioner, and the Commissioner issued a determination, dated September 22, 2025, that the proposed action would not have an unreasonably adverse effect on the continuing viability of farm enterprises within the District or State environmental plans, policies and objectives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby determines, based upon the foregoing findings of fact, that to the extent that adverse agricultural impacts were revealed during the Notice of Intent process, such impacts will be minimized or avoided to the maximum extent practicable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that the requirements of Section 305(4) of the Agriculture and Markets Law have been met with respect to the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets pursuant to Section 305(4)(f) of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

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

Public Hearing for Introductory Local Law 3 of 2025 “A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy”: Supervisor Legg stated proposed Introductory Local Law 3 of 2025 had to do with overriding the tax levy limit, established by section 3C of New York General Municipal Law. Several years ago, New York State put a tax cap rate requirement on local governments stating their budgets had to be within the percentage that was outlined by the state. The Board is trying to keep the percentage under 2%, but with the increase in costs this might not be possible. He stated they are still in the process of working on the budget before it goes to a public hearing on November 3rd.

Supervisor Legg stated the Board would open the public hearing on Local Law 3 of 2025 “A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy” but the Public Hearing would stay open till the October 20th Town Board meeting due to an error in publishing of the notice in the Town’s official newspaper, the Skaneateles Press.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board opened the Public Hearing for Introductory Local Law C of 2024 - “A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established by Section 3-C of the New York General Municipal Law”.

Bill Mahood, 60 West Lake Street, Skaneateles: Mr. Mahood raised concerns about large budget items and the 2% tax cap, prompting the Town to explain that the current contract is over \$1.3 million for the Parks Project, with some funds already spent and more to come. He also expressed his concerns about the lack of updated information regarding the Parks Project on the website.

The Town Board agreed to provide more detailed and up-to-date information on expenditures for the pavilions project, including anticipated and actual costs, to increase transparency for residents.

Supervisor Legg stated the 2026 Preliminary Budget would have the final numbers. The tentative budget is the Board’s working document.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board authorized to keep the Public Hearing for Introductory Local Law 3 of 2025 “A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy” open till the Town Board meeting of October 20, 2025.

Final Change Order for Town Hall Roof Project: Supervisor Legg stated the Board was in receipt of a final change order for the Town Hall Roof Project. The Town Hall roof required addition plywood replacement in the amount of \$1,186.20, which brought the project total to \$100,713.39.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board authorized the change order for the Town Hall Roof in the amount of \$1,186.20, bringing the total of the project to \$100,713.39.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board authorized an amendment to Abstract #25-17 in the amount of \$100,713.39 made payable to Marchuska Construction.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

- *Seniors of Skaneateles PEACE Luncheon:* Supervisor Legg announced PEACE held the Seniors October luncheon on October 1st at the Presbyterian Church and their Thanksgiving Luncheon would be held November 5th.
- *Rescue Mission Holiday Meals:* Supervisor Legg announced holiday meal offerings from the Rescue Mission would be available on October 29th for Thanksgiving and November 5th for Christmas. This would be on the Town of Skaneateles website.
- *NYS Burn Ban effective until October 15th:* A state-wide burn ban remains in effect until October 15th due to drought conditions and increased fire hazard.
- *Town Departments - October 13th closed for Indigenous People Day:* All town departments would be closed on October 13th for Indigenous Peoples Day.

Additional Announcements:

American Legion Garage Sale and Oktoberfest – October 11, 2025.

The Swap Shop at the Transfer Station would remain open, weather depending on Saturdays, until early November.

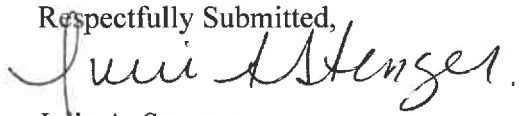
Public Comment:

Richard Meyer: Richard Meyer expressed concerns about unfair property assessments in the Town, highlighting discrepancies in how properties are valued over time and comparing his experiences with neighboring properties. He argued that recent buyers are being assessed at lower values than what they paid, which he believes is unfair to long-term residents who have paid higher assessments.

Mr. Meyer presented a letter to the Town Board. * Letter Attached.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Milne and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie A. Stenger". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk