

**Town Board Meeting**  
**August 21, 2014**  
**7:00 p.m.**

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

**Also Present:** Bill Pavlus, Allan Wellington, Bridgett Winkelman, Sue Murphy, Julie Stenger, Tom McGuire (Skaneateles Journal), Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press) Jennifer Savage.

**Department Reports**

▪*Highway, Water, Transfer Station:* Allan Wellington reported that the Highway Department was doing drainage and topsoil, picking up limbs from the recent storm, blacktop patching on roads and general maintenance. There were 7 water breaks this week, 4 were individual services and 3 were water mains. The Transfer Station received the new 4 yard container and is continuing to load mulch.

Superintendent Wellington also reported that he attended the first of three meetings with the NYSDEC, the Army Corp of Engineers and the Soil and Water Conservation District regarding stream bank erosion. The AMR repeater located in Skaneateles Falls is now solar powered.

▪*Parks:* Sue Murphy reported that PlayDay ended on August 15<sup>th</sup> and that everything went very well this year. The Firemen are ready to move into the Arena for the Labor Day events. After this event they will be preparing the Arena for the ice season. She has been working with Bridgett Winkelman on the budget.

▪*Budget:* Bridgett Winkelman reported that she submitted the July Supervisor's Monthly Financial Statement and Monthly Fiscal Summary to the Town Board. She is working with multiple departments on their budgets.

*Resolution #14-127*

**Ice Bucket Challenge:** Jennifer Savage reported to the Town Board that she and Patty Langley were organizing an Ice Budget Challenge at Austin Park and were asking for the Town Board's permission. She said she is issuing a challenge for community wide support to participate. Their team name is called "Tom's Team Tidal Wave" in support of Tom Ruhlman, who has ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) and in support of ALS research and awareness. At 10 a.m. on September 1, 2014, willing participants will gather around the walking path at Austin Park. She is hoping that there will be enough people to circle Austin Park at least one time who are willing to be part of a mass domino style challenge creating one fluid wave. Representatives from the ALS Association will be on hand to accept donations. She said that ALS will not provide insurance for this event. Attorney Taylor said he would call our insurance company to verify that the Town's insurance would cover this event.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the September 1, 2014 Ice Bucket Challenge Event for "Tom's Team Tidal Wave" was approved.

*Resolution #14-128*

**Minutes of August 7, 2014:** On a motion of Councilor Howard, seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of August 7, 2014 were accepted as presented.

*Resolution #14-129*

**Letter of Resignation – Matt & Rose Olszewski/Animal Control Officers:** Supervisor Sennett said the Town Board was in receipt of a letter of resignation from Matt & Rose Olszewski as Animal Control Officers effective December 31, 2014. She said she was not happy about losing Matt and Rose and will not accept their resignation at this time. She said they have done a great job for many years and are available 365 days a year and have handled so many calls. She said the Town Board has to consider the responsibilities of this position and whether or not it should be just for dog and cat services in the future.

*Resolution #14-130*

**Introductory Local Law 2014 –B Known as “A Local Law Amending the Town of Skaneateles Town Code”:** Supervisor Sennett said that this Local Law zoning amendment has two parts. The first part is an updated sign ordinance. A lot of work was done on this by Debbie Williams, Councilor Greenfield and the sign committee and reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Boards. The second part is changes and additions to definitions. A lot of work was done on this by Steven Tucker who is on the Zoning Board of Appeals. For example, there was an application for a pergola and there was no definition for a pergola. Steve not only added this definition but went through the zoning code to find other words that did not have a definition or needed clarification. The Planning and Zoning Board members have also worked on this section as well.

Councilor Brace read and made a motion to accept the formal resolution seconded by Supervisor Sennett and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Skaneateles has been advised of the desirability of revising the Town Code to: (1) re-number that Chapter of the 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 (2) to define new terms and to re-define certain existing terms in Chapter 148 of the Town Code, all as is more particularly set forth in the Introductory Local Law 2014-B attached hereto as Schedule "A" and incorporated herein;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Town Board of the Town of Skaneateles

**RESOLVES**, the Town Board hereby introduces said Local Law 2014-B; and

**FURTHER RESOLVES**, that the Town Board declares itself as Lead Agency for SEQR purposes; and

**FURTHER RESOLVES**, that in compliance with State Law, that the Introductory Local Law 2014-B of the Town of Skaneateles be referred to the Syracuse Onondaga County Planning Agency for its review, input, comment and advice; and

**FURTHER RESOLVES**, that Introductory Local Law 2014-B be referred to the Town's Planning Board and to the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals for their respective review, input, comment and advice; and

**FURTHER RESOLVES**, that the Attorney for the Town of Skaneateles shall forthwith cause a copy of Introductory Local Law 2014-B to be sent to each of the Syracuse Onondaga

Planning Agency, the Town of Skaneateles Planning Board and the Town of Skaneateles Zoning Board of Appeals for their respective review, input, comment and advice; and

**FURTHER RESOLVES**, that upon receipt of the comments, input and advice of the Syracuse Onondaga Planning Agency, the Town of Skaneateles Planning Board and the Town of Skaneateles Zoning Board of Appeals, a Public Hearing on the Introductory Local Law 2014-B shall be scheduled according to law by further action of this Town Board of Skaneateles.

Councilor Howard questioned why we need to do SEQR for the zoning amendment. Attorney Taylor said that State law requires the Town Board consider environmental impacts and assess the environmental significance by completing an Environmental Assessment Form.

**Discussion on Transfer Station Yearly Permits:** Janet Aaron reported that last year the Town began selling Transfer Station Permits that were effective January 1, 2014 on October 1, 2013. This year all permits will be required to be renewed on January 1, 2015 and asked the Town Board if they again wanted to start selling them October 1<sup>st</sup>. The difference this year is a Transfer Station permit purchased in August or September would only be valid until December 31, 2014 because all permits in the future will renew annually in January.

Bridgett Winkelman said that if we started collecting in October the revenue would need to be deferred to 2015.

Allan Wellington said he agreed that selling the 2015 Transfer Station permits should begin October 1, 2014. The Town Board agreed.

#### **Announcements/Correspondence/Updates**

- Letter From County Executive Mahoney:* Supervisor Sennett read a letter from Joanne Mahoney notifying the Town that due to the severity of last winter, the Town will be receiving an additional payment of \$34,187 for plowing County roads.
- The Y – Letter notifying of free access for residents:* Supervisor Sennett read a letter from Dorothea Hughes, Director of the Skaneateles YMCA & Community Center that they would continue the free access to Town of Skaneateles residents on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. The free access was originally negotiated by the Town as part of the court stipulation and order for the final transition from the Town operation to the Y operation.
- Congressman Maffei Forums on funding opportunities for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant:* Supervisor Sennett read a letter from Congressman Maffei that he would be hosting two forums regarding funding opportunities for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant.
- Assessment Board of Review Vacancy:* Supervisor Sennett said that the Town Board would be advertising for the Assessment Board of Review vacancy.
- Lecture on Conservation Subdivisions:* Supervisor Sennett said that she along with Councilors Brace, Howard and Murray attended a lecture by Randall Arendt on conservation subdivisions. Councilor Brace said it was a wonderful presentation on ways to preserve the rural character without diminishing the value of property. They provided strategies that improve economic value for property owners that will be shared with the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilor Murray said that they repeated more than once that a landscape architect should be on board with the Planning Board.

Councilor Brace said that they had case studies showing that by using these alternative strategies and techniques, developers find it easier to get approvals. There are ways to have fewer roadways with condensed infrastructure. She said she discussed this with Jeff Till at the Onondaga County Health Department who said everything depends on the soil. Everything that was discussed at the workshop is acceptable to County Health. It all comes back to the land type and the soil.

Councilor Howard said that this was a good resource as they move forward with the Comprehensive Plan and updated zoning. Workshops can be scheduled for the Boards. She said we want to maintain open space and green space and identify wetlands, trees and environmentally sensitive and ecologically significant areas that we want to preserve. A residential house can be planned on a parcel differently in order to preserve these identified areas.

She said Mr. Arendt recommended that the before developer hires an civil engineer to develop a plan to present to the Town, they would do a site walk with a landscape architect, engineer and landowner and develop a preliminary sketch.

Councilor Murray said they were not in favor of 2 acre parcels. Supervisor Sennett said that they said 2 acres is too big to mow and too small to plow. She said it was a very good workshop with ideas that would be shared with the Boards.

▪*Newsletter:* Councilor Murray questioned what was going on with the newsletter. Supervisor Sennett said that Julie Stenger was finalizing it and it would be mailed out after Labor Day. Councilor Murray questioned if the Town Board would be making the decision on the newsletter. Supervisor Sennett said that the Board has had continuous discussions and that the decision would be made by the Board. Bill Pavlus said he thought it was a mistake to give it up. Councilor Howard said that regardless what the decision is, paper copies would be available to anyone who requests one. Councilor Murray said she thought that it needed to be explained better.

*Resolution #14-131*

**Budget Amendments/Adjustments:** On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the following budget amendments were authorized:

**General Fund**

\$ 50.00	Increase	085101.01.001.00	Community Beautification – P/S
\$ 50.00	Decrease	085104.01.004.00	Community Beautification – P/S

Costs associated with mowing conservation area

\$ 50.00	Increase	71104.01.004.49	Summer Rec – Play day – C/E
\$ 50.00	Decrease	71104.01.004.52	Summer Rec – Supplies – C/E

Cost of doing business

**Parttown**

\$ 40.00      Increase      080204.02.004.65      Planning –C/E - Advertising  
\$ 40.00      Decrease      080204.02.004.00      Planning – C/E

Costs associated with print advertisements

**Highway Townwide**

\$ 2,500.00    Increase      051204.03.004.00    Bridges – C/E  
\$ 2,500.00    Decrease      051204.03.004.93    Bridges – C/E – Reserves

Cost associated with anticipated bridge work 2015.

**Sewer #6**

\$ 75.00      Increase      081104.11.004.00      Sewer Admin. – C/E  
\$ 75.00      Decrease      081101.11.001.00      Sewer Admin. – P/S

Cost associated of doing business.

*Resolution #14-132*

**Abstract #2014-16:** On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Supervisor Sennett and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board voucher #14-1087 to #14-1172 were audited and approved from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$75,705.51	Part Town:	\$ 3,460.45
Highway:	\$ 5,974.00	Highway P/T:	\$14,567.68
Water:	\$ 3,438.05	Sewer:	\$ 177.90
Sewer #6:	\$ 362.55	T & A:	\$11,244.33
Total:	\$114,930.47		

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Aaron  
Town Clerk