

Town Board Meeting
December 4, 2014
7:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: Steve White, Sue Murphy, Bridgett Winkelman, Julie Stenger, Jonathan Monfiletto (Skaneateles Journal), Allan Wellington, Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Sue Murphy, Bill Pavlus, Beth Batlle.

Rt. 81 Update: Steve White, a representative on Save81.org reported to the Board that this group is advocating for a dual solution that includes tearing down the viaduct and constructing a tunnel that will be shorter than NYSDOT is recommending. The tunnel would go from Rt. 690 at Adams Street to Colvin Street with several ingresses and egresses. A boulevard would run along the top. He said this would allow for less travel time for emergency vehicles and would be less expensive than a full tunnel. He said there would be less rebuilding and less relocation of businesses. He said this could be a compromise with three groups looking into options for the viaduct. One group only supports the boulevard, one group only supports the tunnel, and the largest group that only supports the viaduct.

Mr. White said the decision that is made will impact Skaneateles and might keep garbage trucks off routes 41, 41A, 38 and 38A as they would find it easier to use the Thruway. The decision is important as it could lessen the chances of a hazardous waste spill in Skaneateles Lake. He said Congressman Maffei was able to get Seneca Meadows to add to their contract that all users of their facility would have to use only Routes 81, 690 and 90. Mr. White said as a business owner in Skaneateles he is impacted by truck traffic.

Mr. White said that he personally believes rebuilding the viaduct would be the best solution. There would be less demolition and ingresses and egresses could be added. He said that the dual option may be the only option that everyone can agree with.

Councilor Brace said there are other options. She said “ReThink 81” also has looked at removing the viaduct and advocates better utilization of the existing streets to reduce traffic congestion and improve efficiency and enhance property development without further demolitions. She said they advocate creating a regional plan for traffic flow.

Supervisor Sennett said there is still a lot of work to be done and options to be considered. The Board thanked Steve White for his many years of work on this project.

Department Reports

▪*Highway, Water, Transfer Station:* Allan Wellington reported that they have plowed 8 times since the last meeting and are doing road signs and routine repairs. The water department had a water main break on School Street and they were also winterizing fire hydrants. Dana Pickering has finished removing the old insulation in the Transfer Station maintenance building. The new foam insulation will be added next week.

▪**Parks:** She said everything at the ice arena is going well. On December 31st she is planning an open house at Austin Pavilion for a last skate at the “old rink”. The event will allow anyone to skate from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. and then just family skate from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. The donation will be \$5 per person or \$10 per family. In addition the design for the new expansion of the Community Center will be on display and light refreshments and beverages will be available.

▪**Planning, Zoning, Codes:** Councilor Brace reported that 173 building permits have been issued year to date. The valuation of the 4 building permits in November is \$282,000. The year to date property valuation is \$11,554,686.50. The Planning and Zoning Boards have approximately the same number of applications as last year. The increase has been in building permits.

▪**Tax Collector:** Lori Milne said that the County will be printing and mailing the Town and County tax bills as soon as they receive the final tax rates. She has changed her hours this year and her office will be collecting taxes as follows:

January: Tuesday – Friday 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m. to Noon

February & March: Tuesday – Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Additional Days: 2/2/2015 & 3/2/2015 & 3/30/2015 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year the Town has added a new option to allow taxpayers to pay at M & T bank by check or money order during their business hours and receive a stamped receipt. The amount must be for the exact amount of the tax bill. Taxpayers can go through the M & T Bank drive through as well.

Lori Milne also notified the Town Board that she is recommending Joan Thomsen to be her Deputy Tax Collector this year and asked for the Town Board’s approval.

Resolution #14-187

On a motion of Supervisor Sennett, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Joan Thomsen was appointed to the position of Deputy Tax Collector beginning January 1, 2015 at a salary of \$1,604.50.

▪**Animal Control Report:** Councilor Greenfield reviewed the 10 calls reported for the month of November 2014 on the Animal Control report. The majority were cat and dog issues but there was also a coyote or wolf sighting, 2 raccoon calls, and bats and rats in a house.

▪**Historian:** Beth Battle reported on the history of gateway entrance signs. The signs were a gift from the Municipal Board to the Village of Skaneateles in 1931 purchased from their surplus funds from the electric department. Gaylord Wiard was the artist who designed the signs. Today these signs are on East and West Genesee Streets and Onondaga Street. Originally there was also a pair on Jordan Street at the Village line.

Resolution #14-188

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

Resolution #14-189

Appointment of Data Collector: Supervisor Sennett reported that Assessor Linda Wright had advertised for this position and had three candidates that she interviewed. Her recommendation to the Town Board was to hire Calvin Winkelman because of his knowledge of construction, interpreting blueprints, and his organization of schedules and documentation. She recommended

that during training he would be paid \$15 per hour and that in 2015 he would be paid \$20 per parcel.

Supervisor Sennett said that Assessor Wright had budgeted for updating the valuation of properties, particularly properties on the lake and believes that Mr. Winkelman was the most qualified. She said that the Data Collector will wear a neon vest indicating that he is with the Town of Skaneateles, will be wearing a picture ID and will have a Town of Skaneateles magnet for his car.

On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board Calvin Winkelman was hired part time as Data Collector at a hourly training rate of \$15 per hour and a per parcel rate of \$20 per parcel.

Resolution #14-190

Appointment of Marriage Officer: Supervisor Sennett reported that Paul Banuski submitted a request to be appointed as a Town Marriage Officer for the period from July 1, 2015 to July 31, 2015 in order to officiate his brother's wedding.

Janet Aaron explained that under the NYS Domestic Relations Law “the governing body of any village, town, or city may appoint one or more marriage officers who shall have the authority to solemnize a marriage which marriage shall be valid if performed in accordance with other provisions of law. Nothing herein contained shall nullify the authority of other persons authorized to solemnize marriages. The number of such marriage officers appointed for a municipality shall be determined by the governing body of the municipality.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Paul Banuski was appointed as Marriage Officer for the Town of Skaneateles for the period from July 1, 2015 to July 31, 2015.

Resolution #14-191

Industrial Medical Associates: Supervisor Sennett said that the Town has contracted with Industrial Medial Associates for many years to cover our compliance with NYSDOT substance testing program.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Supervisor Sennett was authorized to sign the 2015 contract with Industrial Medical Associates.

Resolution #14-192

CNYSPCA – 2015 Animal Cruelty Contract: Supervisor Sennett said in the past the Town has signed the contract for the services even though our Animal Control Officer and Councilor Murray were not in favor of it because the Town never utilized their services and instead used

Finger Lakes SPCA of CNY.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Supervisor Sennett and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board it was decided not to contract with CNYSPCA in 2015.

Resolution #14-193

Introductory Local Law 2014-D – Schedule Refuse Disposal Schedule Public Hearing: On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of Town Board the a public hearing was scheduled for 7:15 p.m. December 18, 2014 to consider Introductory Local Law 2014-D.

Resolution #14-194

Union Contract: Supervisor Sennett said that the union employees had voted to accept the 5-year contract. Attorney Taylor said that the amount designated for health care should include \$500 per year, not just the first year. Councilor Howard questioned if this change would impact the budget. Attorney Taylor said no.

On a motion of Councilor Greenfield seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Supervisor Sennett was authorized to sign the 5-year union contract with the Teamsters for the period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019.

Announcements, Correspondence, Updates

•*Comprehensive Plan Special Board Information Meeting:* Councilor Brace reported that the first public information meeting will be held at the Skaneateles School district office at 7:00 p.m. on December 8, 2014. The draft comprehensive plan is on the Town website and copies are available at the Town Clerk’s Office. They plan on having breakout sessions to discuss different areas of the Plan. A second informational meeting, similar to this one, will be held in January. NYS law requires the Special Board to hold a public hearing before it is referred to the Town and Village Boards.

Councilor Howard said that this is a draft and not a final version. They want the public to be part of the process and encourage their comments.

•*Onondaga County Health Department:* Supervisor Sennett said that the Town was in receipt of the 2014 public water supply inspection report from Onondaga County Department of Health that had no violations. She said, “Hats off to Joe Dwyer”, for doing a great job.

Resolution #14-195

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

Budget Adjustment

General Fund

| | | | |
|-------------|----------|------------------|-------------------------|
| \$ 8,000.00 | Increase | 071404.01.004.48 | Winter Rec. – Utilities |
| \$ 8,000.00 | Decrease | 071101.01.001.00 | Summer Rec – P/S |

Costs associated with Parks Utilities expense

\$ 2,000.00 Increase 051824.07.004.00 Street Lightening – C/E
 \$ 2,000.00 Decrease 099019.07.009.00 Interfund Transfer
 Additional costs associated with Street Lights

\$ 2,000.00 Increase 083204.12.004.00 Source of Supply – C/E
 \$ 2,000.00 Decrease 099019.12.009.00 Interfund Transfer
 Additional costs associated with Lime Ledge Water District - Maintenance

Budget Amendments

General Fund

\$ 560.00 Increase 014104.01.004.00 Town Clerk – C/E
 \$ 560.00 Increase 001255.01.000.00 Town Clerk Fees
 Costs associated with E-Z pass – off set by revenues

\$ 100.00 Increase 088104.01.004.00 Cemeteries – C/E
 \$ 100.00 Decrease 088101.01.001.00 Cemeteries – P/S
 Cost of doing business – purchase supplies

Part Town Fund

\$ 475.00 Increase 080204.02.004.59 Planning - Engineering
 \$ 475.00 Decrease 019904.02.004.00 Contingency Account
 Additional costs associated with Professional services

Sewer #6

\$ 30.00 Increase 081102.11.002.00 Sewer Admin – Equipment
 \$ 30.00 Decrease 081104.11.004.00 Sewer Admin – C/E
 Costs associated with doing business

Resolution #14-196

Abstract #14-2014: On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, vouchers # 14-1621 to # 14-1667 were approved from the following funds:

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| General Fund: | \$21,886.64 | Part Town: | \$ 3,875.00 |
| Highway: | \$22,859.57 | Highway P/T: | \$25,595.97 |
| Lighting: | \$ 1,370.52 | Water: | \$ 829.82 |
| T & A: | \$ 435.03 | | |

Total: \$76,852.55

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet L. Aaron
Town Clerk