

**Town Board Meeting
January 23, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

Zoom: Meeting ID: 853 5231 4190 Passcode: 714073

Present: Supervisor Aaron, Councilor Alexander, Councilor Tucker, Councilor Legg, Councilor Dove, Attorney Smith.

Also, Present (via Zoom): Paula Powell, Brian Buff, Sue Murphy, Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Aimie Case, Willard Mahood, Jed Delmonico, Dessa Bergan, Lori Milne, Holly Gregg, David Ketchum, Jean Vincent.

Also, Present: Keri Fey, Kevin Cooper, Justin Reeves, Kennedy Reeves, Luella Kiefer, Caitlyn Grady, Paul Grady, Giselle Gerlach, Eric Sell, Violet Kiefer, Grace Hughes, Victor Duniec, Kathleen Zapata, Andrea Hughes, Heidi Crane, Joshua Crane, Sue Murphy, Sarah Kiefer, Kris Kiefer, Steve Murphy, Ellie Murphy, Ava Murphy, Michelle Domke, Ellie Domke, Olivia Domke, Kacey Marsh, Jocelyn Marsh, Lillian Marsh.

Minutes January 9, 2023: On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Legg and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of January 9, 2023, were accepted as presented.

Lakeshore Little League Request for support – Softball Dugouts Austin Park North Field: Supervisor Aaron announced the girls from the Lakeshore Softball teams were here this evening to present their request to the Town Board for their support improving the softball fields at Austin Park.

Luella Kiefer, from Lakeshore softball, presented their request to the Board. She stated they were requesting the Town's support and approval to construct dugouts at the Austin Park north baseball field. The girl's softball teams had always played at the Skaneateles Falls field, that has a muddy path to the field which makes it difficult for older family members to attend games. There is no dugout or fencing and there had been no improvements since??? the 2013-2014 field?? project, or at the Austin Park North field, overlooking the baseball field with the fancy dugouts. She stated her and her teammates questioned why the softball fields were not taken into consideration when the dugouts for the baseball fields were built. So, the softball girls decided to do something about this. She stated they do not want another group of softball girls playing on a field overlooking the fancy baseball dugouts. She stated she and her teammates do not want other girls to feel excluded.

Luella Kiefer asked the Board for their support.

Kennedy Reeves, from Lakeshore softball, stated she had played softball last year at the North Austin Park field and had also seen the boys baseball field having brick dugouts and the girls only having benches to sit on and an old back drop fence. So, the girls started fund raising for money to make the girls field better. They had a concession stand, a go-fund-me page and were working with an architect to come up with a dugout plan. They have raised almost \$10,000.

Nora Zapata, from Lakeshore softball, stated the new dugouts would be a great addition to the field. It would be a better place to have other teams come to play and there would be shade and protection from the rain when needed. They are working hard on being good softball players and want to see this project happen. She asked the Board to please support their project.

Kris Kiefer made the following statement:

“Supervisor Aaron and Members of the Board, thank you for inviting my daughter and her teammates to present today.

I want to take a moment. We talk a lot about youth sports around here. We can all get caught up in the games, the hits, the championships. But this. This is what it’s all about. These young ladies are organizing, they’re advocating. They are empowered!

You should have heard the excitement when they signed the initial letter to the Town Board in March of last year, or when we provided fundraiser updates during practice.

When they received the Lakeshore Board’s letter of support for the dugout project and for improvements at the Falls field, they were overjoyed.

In order for all of this to come together, they’ve needed allies. And I’d like to talk about a few them.

Kacey Marsh on the Lakeshore Board in the picture on the screen, advocating and supporting.

Bill Murphy at Space Architectural Studio. He volunteered and put together a great design. He even invited the girls down to the office to learn more about architecture and how it brings math and art together.

Councilor Alexander and Parks Manager Murphy have provided guidance throughout the process. They’ve helped guide us throughout the process.

Kevin Cooper at the Lakes Property Management and Renovation. He doesn’t have a daughter in the program, but he cares. He’s passionate about the program and sought me out to help. He’s put together the estimate. Initially at \$29,000, he’s volunteered his time and secured additional donations to help lower the price significantly to \$21,855.

Chris Neumann and Erie Materials, who have made a significant donation of metal roofing materials.

The donations have been increasing all day – up almost \$350 since this morning, with 66 donors from Arizona, California, Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and New York.

The three concession stands raised almost \$2,000.

Ava Murphy’s dad, Steve Murphy. He went to bat for the project and secured a \$1,000 donation from his Company, Brookfield Energy.

The American Legion donated \$500.

The dugout project is a finalist for a CNY Tuesday grant – please vote, you can vote once per day until Thursday.

Cadence Sullivan’s parents, Kevin and Charlene Sullivan put together great fundraising ideas through Lake Life Laser Studios, where you can purchase an engraved brick for the dugout (\$75 for individuals, or \$125 for businesses with a logo).

The polar plunge is where I’ve found the commitment to allyship is truly tested. We have 12 committed folks who are doing the polar plunge on team “Dunk for Dugouts.” In addition to the \$600 we’ve collectively raised through our registration fees for the Skaneateles Polar Bear Club’s philanthropic efforts, we’ve also sought sponsorship of \$100 each for the dugout project. That effort generated over \$1,200 in donations.

Finally, I’d like to thank my wife, Sarah. She has been a constant source of support for Luella and her teammates throughout this process. For example, without her, the concession stands never would have happened.”

Supervisor Aaron thanked Mr. Kiefer and the girls from Lakeshore Softball. She stated the girls had done a fabulous job. They were willing to put in the work to find a solution. Supervisor Aaron commended the young ladies for coming to the Board to support their solution instead of coming to fix a problem. Supervisor Aaron stated she agreed with them, why were the girls left out? It should not happen in this day and age.

Councilor Legg stated he had taught participation in government classes at BOCES for 20 years and he is very impressed with what these young ladies have done. They are taking real action. This is an important action and fantastic what they have accomplished. He encouraged the girls to contact the Sunrise Rotary, which he is president, and give them their presentation for more support and donations. He thanked the girls.

Councilor Tucker and Dove also stated they were very impressed with the girls and thanked them for their efforts.

Councilor Alexander stated she is so proud and impressed with the young ladies for coming to the Board with a plan and a solution rather than a request for the Town to just “fix it”. She congratulated the girls on a great job. There will be some scheduling that would have to happen, and the Town and Parks Department would work with the user groups.

Parks manager Sue Murphy stated she is also impressed with these young ladies, and it has been a joy to work with them on this project.

Supervisor Aaron asked if there is support from Lakeshore Baseball for this project? Joshua Crane, President of Lakeshore Baseball answered that at Lakeshore Baseball’s next board meeting there would be a strong recommendation to donate to this project.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board approved the Lakeshore Softball Field Improvement Project Plans for the Austin Park North Field Dugouts as presented by the Skaneateles Girls Lake Shore Baseball representatives.

Budget Amendments: No budget amendments.

Abstract #22-26: On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers #22-1833 - #22-1874 were authorized from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$108,856.13	Highway:	\$ 21,415.37
Water:	\$ 27,654.33	Part Town:	\$ 13,030.09
T&A:	\$ 6,003.77	Highway PT	\$ 17,422.36
Sewer:	\$ 886.42		
TOTAL:	\$194,716.06		

Abstract #23-02: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Legg and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers #23-0001 - #23-0015 were authorized from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$ 51,973.04	Highway:	\$ 1,109.34
Water:	\$ 1,451.56	Part Town:	\$ 2,135.26
T&A:	\$ 259.20	Limeledge:	\$ 982.06
Highway PT	\$ 4,104.96		
TOTAL:	\$62,015.22		

Skaneateles and Mottville Fire Departments’ request for review of NYS Real Property Tax Law §466a: Supervisor Aaron stated the Town Board was in receipt of letters from the Skaneateles and Mottville Fire Departments requesting the Town Board consider adding a property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters.

Supervisor Aaron stated the Town currently has a law that was adopted December 30, 2005 which gives an exemption to firefighters. That law is pretty much the same as the new law that had been passed recently by the Governor and the State Legislature. One of the differences in the law the Town currently has, there is a \$3000 cap for the exemption and the new law allows for a 10% cap.

Supervisor Aaron stated it is her understanding that emergency service volunteers can either take the property exemption or take a deduction on their income tax but cannot do both. According to the Town Assessor this would require the individuals to apply each year and supply documentation they had not applied for both the property tax exemption and the income tax deduction.

Supervisor Aaron stated Attorney Smith had submitted a resolution and draft law for the Board to consider. Councilor Legg stated the process would be to replace the Local Law in its entirety in the Town Code and replace with the proposed Local law A of 2023. “Proposed Local Law to Strike and Replace Article IX of Chapter 134 of the Town Code of the Town of Skaneateles”.

The Board agreed to introduce the Introductory Local law A of 2023 “Proposed Local Law to Strike and Replace Article IX of Chapter 134 of the Town Code of the Town of Skaneateles” and schedule the Public Hearing for February 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m..

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

**Proposed Local Law to Strike and Replace
Article IX of Chapter 134 of the Town Code of the Town of Skaneateles**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 20(4), Board Member Alexander has introduced for consideration Local Law No. A of 2023 entitled “A Local Law to Strike and Replace Article IX of Chapter 134 of the Town Code of the Town of Skaneateles” (the “Proposed Local Law”); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Proposed Local Law is to strike and replace Article IX of Chapter 134 of the Town Code titled “Volunteer Fire Fighters and Ambulance Workers Exemption” to provide for the continuation of the real property tax exemption currently available under Section 466-g of the New York Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) pursuant to the provisions of Section 466-a of the RPTL, as enacted in Chapter 670 of the Laws of 2022; 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 February 13, 2023 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 Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove, and duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

Janet Aaron	Voting	Aye
Courtney Alexander	Voting	Aye
Sue Dove	Voting	Aye
Chris Legg	Voting	Aye
Mark Tucker	Voting	Aye

NYS Occupancy Tax: Supervisor Aaron stated Councilor Alexander had brought to the Boards' attention that the Village is starting the process to have special legislation approved by the State to allow the Village to collect an occupancy tax or room tax. This would be a percentage on hotels, motels and air b&b's in the Village. The percentage the Village is asking for is 5%. She stated the Town Board would like to consider establishing this tax along with the Village. She thought this would be a good idea and would be a benefit to the residents that are at times inconvenienced by the tourism in the Town and Village. This additional revenue could be used for special projects, such as the Parks project. Supervisor Aaron stated she thought this is a benefit to the Town and asked the Board to support requesting the Governor and State Legislature to adopt special legislation to allow the Town of Skaneateles to charge an occupancy tax. She had reached out to our State Senator Rachael May, and Assemblyman John Lemondes and they are willing to support the Town in this request.

Councilor Legg stated the 5% Occupancy Tax would be paid by the tourist reserving the room. The Village would have the tax for rooms within the Village and the Town would tax the rooms located in the Town. This would not be a double tax. Supervisor Aaron stated yes, that is correct. She stated Mayor Sennett had spoken to the hotel owners in the Village and they were happy to see that the Town would be applying this tax as well and it wouldn't be just the Village. This would not give the hotels outside the Village any advantage.

Councilor Alexander stated it is a shame they had not done this sooner. The Town no longer received the benefit from sales tax, and this would benefit all the residents. The residents support a lot of tourism, and this is a little benefit for the Town. This is a great idea, and she supported the Board approving this request.

Attorney Smith stated if the Board was in favor of this it required the State to approve Special Legislation. He had prepared a resolution for the Town Board to authorize the Town Supervisor to take such further steps as are reasonably necessary to facilitate the introduction of State legislation enabling the Town to impose an occupancy tax of five percent (5%) upon persons occupying any room for hire in any hotel located within the Town. Attorney Smith reviewed the resolution.

Councilor Dove stated she had done some math and when the proposed hotels are complete there will be 137 rooms in the Town that does not include air b&b's and at an average daily rate at a 60% occupancy that is approximately \$6,000,000 in revenue and multiplying that by the 5% as proposed that could mean about \$300,000 for the Town.

Councilor Legg stated the State is tracking b&b's to make sure they are paying the tax as well. Councilor Dove stated this revenue could be a great benefit to the Town and was in favor of the request.

Council Dove stated it won't affect the higher end hotels as much as the lower end hotels. People booking at the higher end will not pay much attention to an additional charge, but she would like to get feed back from the hotel owners.

Supervisor Aaron stated being restricted to the 2% tax increase and losing the sales tax

revenue we needed to look at other ways to get revenue to help our taxpayers. There is a burden on our taxpayers with tourism and this would be a benefit to the taxpayers. She had heard from one of the hotel owners and commented that the reason Skaneateles attracts tourist is because of the many things the community offers and they would like to see the revenue be put back into the community. We would earmark this money for specific projects in the community.

Councilor Dove asked if we can be specific where we spend this money? Councilor Alexander stated we would like to earmark the money for the Parks. The Parks, the Conservation Area and the boat launch is where it could be utilized but, the Town should be able to use the revenue for other community projects if there were no needs at the Parks. The roads and utilities are also affected by the tourism and we should be able to use the revenue where needed.

Attorney Smith stated the Board could earmark the money during the yearly budget process, you would not need to be specific with funds in the Resolution to request the legislation.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized the Supervisor to move forward with the request to the State Legislature to impose a 5% Occupancy Tax in the Town of Skaneateles.

Town of Skaneateles Sign Fabrication Project Phase 1 Bid Opening: Supervisor Aaron stated a bid opening for Phase I of the Town of Skaneateles sign project was held on January 13, 2023, at 10:00 am.

Councilor Alexander reviewed the following bid that was received:

Fast Signs
1401 Erie Blvd. East, Suite 3
Syracuse, NY 13210

Total: \$45,175.19 with tax

Councilor Alexander stated Phase I of the sign project was for the following Town signs:

- 2 entrance signs for Austin Park
- Town Hall signs – front and back
- Boat launch parking, building and drop box
- Information Board at the boat launch
- Transfer Station signs – entrance
-

Councilor Alexander stated this does not include installation of the signs. When the signs are ready, they would see if the Town work force could install the signs.

Supervisor Aaron stated the bid price included taxes which should be removed which would make the bid \$41,828.88. The Board agreed.

Attorney Smith stated this is above the state bidding policy, and asked if the bidding requirements were followed. Town Clerk Stenger stated yes, the bid opening was posted and advertised and held on January 13, 2023. Councilor Alexander stated the signs are a specialty material and only one company fabricates this locally. This is a unique product that is why only one bid was received. The funding for these signs is in the 2023 budget.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized the Board accepted the bid for Phase I of the Town of Skaneateles sign project for the amount of \$41,828.88 and to submit the deposit of \$20,914 to Fast Signs of Syracuse New York.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized an amendment to abstract #23-02 to add the deposit to Fast Signs for \$20,914.

Town of Skaneateles Water Department Foreman Position and Municipal Recycling Liaison/Refuse Officer- 2023 Annual Resolution Amendment: Supervisor Aaron stated the 2023 Annual Resolution would need to be amended. Shane Christman of the Water Department recently received his Operators License from the NYS Department of Health. With this certification he would be appointed to Water Foreman on the annual resolution and his pay increase would be effective January 1, 2023 to \$27.00/hr.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized to amend the 2023 Annual Resolution increasing the pay for Shane Christman to the foreman rate of \$27.00/hr. effective January1, 2023.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized to amend the 2023 Annual Resolution to classify Shane Christman as Water Superintendent per the Town Code of the Town of Skaneateles.

Supervisor Aaron stated the 2023 Annual Resolution also needed to be amended to add Brian Buff as Municipal Recycling Liaison/Refuse officer also per the Code of the Town of Skaneateles.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized an amendment to the 2023 Annual Resolution naming Brian Buss Municipal Recycling Liaison/Refuse Officer per the Code of the Town of Skaneateles.

Drainage Facility Maintenance Agreement with Mirbeau: Supervisor Aaron stated the Town is in receipt of a drainage facility maintenance agreement and easement agreement with Mirbeau. This is a request from Mirbeau as a requirement of the Village Planning Board. The Town wanted to make sure the maintenance of the swale is maintained at the top by Mirbeau and any of the Town drainage pipes installed from the Town property is maintained by the Town. She stated this had never been clarified in writing who was responsible. This is good to have this identified for future repairs.

Attorney Smith stated he had reviewed the documents. The easement is fine as presented but there is some concern with the drainage facility maintenance agreement. He referred to the section that stated:

“ The terms of this Agreement shall supplement, modify, and amend the terms of 1996 Drainage Easement, as they relate to the responsibilities of the Town and Mirbeau for maintenance of the Drainage Swale and of any stormwater facilities located or constructed on the Mirbeau Property.”

He stated the goal behind this is for Mirbeau to take over maintenance of the surface drainage swale and the Town to maintain any infrastructure beneath it. He reviewed the following section of the agreement:

“WHEREAS, after taking title to the Town Property, the Town constructed certain additional drainage facilities (the “Town Storm Water Facilities”) on the Mirbeau Property to more effectively transport the storm water coming from the Town Property and under, through and across the Drainage Swale to drainage facilities in the Village of Skaneateles along Fuller Street”

Attorney Smith stated this should be made clearer by stating it is referring to “underground piping system”. Attorney Smith stated he would recommend approving this agreement with “legal approval”. He would go back to their attorney and make the recommended changes the Board agreed upon.

Councilor Dove asked if the cost could be the responsibility of Mirbeau if they do not clean out the swale and the Town had to clean out the swale that is the responsibility of Mirbeau according to this agreement? Attorney Smith stated the Town had always been responsible for the underground piping, the dispute with Mirbeau had been who would maintain the surface. If they do not do this the Town would be able to assert their rights under this contract. This will stay with the land, even if the property is sold.

Attorney Smith stated there a couple of exhibits that also need to be attached to this agreement. He recommended the Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement upon approval of the Town Attorney. The exhibits should be attached to the agreement once the approval is given by the Village Planning Board, which is not approved yet.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized the Town Supervisor to sign the “Construct Use and Maintenance Easement” and the “Drainage Facility Maintenance Agreement” with Mirbeau upon legal approval of the Town Attorney.

Water Department Request to Declare Water Rescue Vehicle Surplus: Supervisor Aaron stated the water department had purchased a rescue truck from the Fire Department and had exhausted their need for the vehicle. Water Superintendent Shane Christman had submitted a request to the Town Board to declare the rescue vehicle surplus to sell the vehicle and purchase a trailer that would hold the equipment for the water department.

Councilor Legg stated, he is in agreement with this request. This is the most cost affective solution. At this time the Water Department is asking only to have the old vehicle declared as surplus in order to sell and then put the proceeds to the new trailer.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board declared the Water Department rescue truck as surplus.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

Supervisor Aaron announced she had received information from Onondaga County regarding a Shapeup Housing Assistance Program for Veterans. This is a house repair program. She would pass this on to Veterans' Coordinator Sheri Dove.

- *Shoreline Committee Update/ Lake Survey*: Councilor Tucker reported the Shoreline Committee had meet and discussed the need to establish a mid-lake line for survey purposes. He checked with a local surveyor and the cost would be approximately \$3000 for the Town and \$1000 for the Village. The Board discussed this request and asked for the committee to give them more information regarding the mid-lake line. The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2023 at 6:30 via Zoom.

- *Austin Park & Pavilion Project Informational Meeting January 30, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Location: Skaneateles Highschool Cafeteria* : Supervisor Aaron announced there is a meeting scheduled for January 30th at the Highschool cafeteria to present the updated Austin Park Project Plan.

- *Town Board February Meeting – February 13, 2023*: Supervisor Aaron announced the February Town Board meeting schedule was changed to one meeting which would be held on February 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Supervisor Aaron made a statement regarding Solar in the Town of Skaneateles. The Town Board had great faith in the Planning and Zoning Boards and the strength of the Town Zoning. The Board attended the last Planning Board meeting and heard the concerns and comments from the residents regarding solar. The last solar project that was approved by the Planning Board was considered the “perfect” project. It was not in a residential neighborhood, it could not be seen from the road or the lake. There are concerns for agricultural and visual impacts on the Town. There have been a lot of comments from residents to only allow solar in the IRO district only. Supervisor Aaron stated there are a lot of residential properties in the IRO district and there are residents there that feel the same way – “not in my back yard”. We all know there is a push from the Governor to reduce our fossil fuels and to move towards more solar. She stated they do need to take a harder look at solar zoning in the community. Therefore, she stated she would like the Town Board to consider introducing a moratorium on Solar, to give the Board the opportunity to look at areas in the Town best suited for solar and to listen to the concerns of the residents. Solar is an opportunity to reduce our use of fossil fuels, this is a balance in our community the Board is working on.

Councilor Alexander asked if a moratorium would affect projects that had been approved. Attorney Murphy stated it could if that is the way the Board choose to write the moratorium.

Supervisor Aaron asked if this would need to be decided before the moratorium could be introduced. Attorney Murphy stated the Board would have to give him some direction.

Councilor Alexander stated she would be in favor of considering a six-month moratorium but not including the project that had already been approved by the Planning and Zoning Boards.

The Board agreed to consider and discuss in Attorney Advice.

Public Comment: Victor Deniac stated he lived across the street from the approved solar farm, and he thanked the Board for their efforts. He stated if the previous solar farm was approved and the moratorium would not apply to it, he did not see the point in the moratorium. The concern is the questions regarding the approved “perfect” solar project. The homeowners on East Lake Road could see the solar project across the lake. This could affect the property values in the Town and the Village. He stated he is in favor of the moratorium, but it should apply to all projects.

Dessa Bergan: Ms. Bergan commented the residents had asked for a moratorium before the project was approved. She is in favor of the moratorium, but it should be for the approved project as well.

Paul Torrisi: Mr. Torrisi stated he agreed with the moratorium, and it should be retroactive to be consistent through the community. He also lived across the street from the approved solar project on West Lake Road and stated this project should fall under the moratorium. Nobody wants these projects in their back yard or in the watershed. The Town Board should adopt the moratorium and study the situation.

Holly Gregg: Mr. Gregg agreed with the others and is favor of the moratorium. He thanked the board for considering the moratorium. He suggested bringing in planner Joel Russell to look at the zoning. The Town of Sennett just passed a 9-month solar moratorium.

Jane Cummings: Commented on the chat that she is in favor of the moratorium as well.

Bill Mahood: Mr. Mahood stated he is also in favor of the moratorium.

Annual Accounting of Town Financial Records: Supervisor Aaron explained that Town Law §123 requires that each town officer and employee who receive or disburse any moneys in the previous fiscal year shall account with the Town Board such monies by presenting their reports and certifying to the Board the amount they received during the 2022 fiscal year.

Supervisor Aaron stated for the first time the Town Clerk’s office had collected over \$1,000,000. This is due to an increase in all the categories the Town Clerk collects. The Town Clerk’s office had been very busy all year.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (5-0) of the Town Board the certified financial accountings of the Town Clerk, and Justice Court were accepted as presented.

*report attached

Supervisor Aaron announced the Town of Skaneateles website had been updated and reviewed the new website. She thanked the Ibanez's from Skan Drone and Marianne Angelillo for the pictures they provided.

Councilor Alexander reported on the Conservation Committee. The Committee had been working on rerouting the trails around the wetter areas at the Conservation Area. They had been out working on clearing invasive species. They want to get the public more involved. She thanked the Committee for all the work they do behind the scenes. The bid opening for the Guppy Falls stairs would be February 3, 2023 at 10:00a.m.

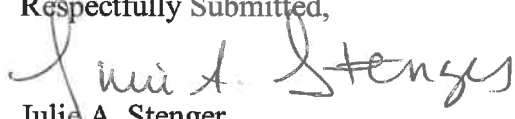
On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to attorney advice at 8:30 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker the meeting returned to open session at 9:40 p.m.

Supervisor Aaron started the Board agreed to have Attorney Smith draft a resolution to consider a moratorium on solar projects and present at the next Town Board meeting.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Legg the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk