

Town Board Meeting
March 4, 2019
5:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Aaron, Councilor Badami, Councilor Tucker, Councilor McCormack, Attorney Smith.

Absent: Councilor Coville

Also Present: Sue Murphy, Bridgett Winkelman, Allan Wellington, Martin Dillion, James Greenfield, Gene LaForte, Beth Batlle, Karen Barkdull, Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press).

Department Reports

Highway, Water, Transfer Station: Supervisor Aaron stated Highway Superintendent, Allan Wellington is not here this evening. Councilor Tucker reviewed the highway report which stated the Highway Department had plowed 13 times since the last Board meeting and 126 times for the season. They cleaned up fallen tree limbs, made equipment repairs and filled potholes. In the Water Department they replaced several broken meters and MXU's (signal transmitters for water meters). They hired New York Leak Detection, a private company to locate several small water leaks they will repair. He also reported the Transfer Station shipped another load of baled cardboard bringing the total to 102 bales for this year totaling 82,100 pounds.

Parks: Sue Murphy reported the Parks Department had been working with the Chamber of Commerce planning trips for seniors with other communities in the area. She updated the Farmers Market rules and application for 2019 as well as the Playday application for 2019 and snow plowing the parks.

Planning & Zoning: Councilor Tucker reported there were currently 7 open projects. He reviewed the status of existing projects still open; Hidden Estates, Zechman Subdivision, Skaneateles Country Club, Loveless Farm Development, Chris Graham, Pat Gray's subdivision, Eileen Murphy and John Swygert.

Codes: Councilor Badami reviewed the Codes Office report for the month of February submitted by Codes Officer Bob Herrmann. He reported there were a total of 16 permits issued for the month of February with a total valuation of \$200,000 and \$1,844 in permit fees collected. He reviewed the codes report for the Certificate of Completions he issued in the month of February and stated there were 37 C of O's issued, bringing the total of open permits to 157 from the original number of 320.

Budget: Budget Officer Winkelman reported she is preparing for the auditors, who will begin their audit March 25th and was working on updating the W-9 forms on file.

Dog Control: Supervisor Aaron reviewed the reports submitted by Dog Control Officer, Dave Wawro for the months of January and February. She reported there were 8 calls in January and 20 calls in February.

*reports attached

Resolution #19-042

Historian: Town Historian Beth Batlle gave a report to the Board titled “Royal Connections”.
*report attached

Resolution #19-043

Minutes of February 4, 2019: On a motion of Councilor McCormack, seconded by Councilor Badami, and with a (3-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Councilor Tucker abstained, the minutes of February 4, 2019 were accepted as presented.

Resolution #19-044

Minutes of February 21, 2019: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor McCormack, and with a (3-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Councilor Badami abstained, the minutes of February 21, 2019 were accepted as presented.

On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor McCormack, and with a (3-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Councilor Badami abstained, the amended minutes of February 21, 2019 were accepted as presented.

Resolution #19-045

Sims Building Bid Opening: Supervisor Aaron reviewed the bids received for the new Sims Restroom Building in Austin Park. The following bids were received:

Bouley Associates:

Building Demolition	\$ 21,000
General Construction	\$369,000
Plumbing	\$ 60,000
Ventilating	\$ 6,000
Electrical	\$ 21,000
Alternate #1	\$ 20,000
TOTAL BID	\$477,000 (excluding Alternate #1)

McGinnis Nelson Construct, Inc.:

Building Demolition	\$ 25,000
General Construction	\$315,200
Plumbing	\$ 45,000
Ventilating	\$ 20,000
Electrical	\$ 20,800
Alternate #1	\$ 22,000
TOTAL BID	\$426,000 (excluding Alternate #1)

David B. Lee & Co., Inc.:

Building Demolition	\$ 10,400
General Construction	\$315,400
Plumbing	\$ 87,100

Ventilating	\$ 13,100
Electrical	\$ 19,000
Alternate #1	\$ 7,700
TOTAL BID	\$445,000 (excluding Alternate #1)

Supervisor Aaron stated in order to make a determination, the Board is requesting additional information on the materials being used and to seek references in order to make the appropriate decision.

Resolution #19-046

Building and Zoning Fees – Engineered Trusses and Fire Inspections: Supervisor Aaron stated there has been a request from the Building and Zoning Department to update the fee schedule. Planning Secretary Karen Barkdull reported to the Board that it has come to their attention there needs to be a fee associated with the use of engineered trusses for commercial applications only. Buildings constructed with engineered trusses are marked with white signage and red lettering in order to warn firefighters that the building is constructed with engineered trusses. She stated engineered trusses are strong but if there was to be a fire the material is weaker than the traditional wood structure. In the Official Compilation of Codes and Regulations of the State of New York Law #19 CRR-NY 1264.4NY-CRR it states, “A fee of \$50 shall be paid by the owner of a building with truss type construction to the authority having jurisdiction for enforcement.”

Karen Barkdull also reported there is another fee update on the schedule. To add a fee for Fire Inspections for \$25. The number of Fire Inspections is growing, and this will help with the administration associated with Fire Inspections.

On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Badami and with (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board hereby authorized the updated fee schedule changes to add a \$25 fee for Fire Inspections and a \$50 fee for Commercial Applications, only, constructing with Engineered Trusses/Flooring.

Resolution #19-047

Authorize Transferring not to exceed \$35,250.00 from Transfer Station Equipment Reserve Fund for 2019 Bobcat S650 Skid-Steer Loader, subject to the permissive referendum requirements of Town Law: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor McCormack and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Clerk was instructed to advertise to transfer from the Transfer Station Equipment Reserve Fund an amount not more than \$35,250 to replace a 2012 Bobcat S770 Skid-Steer Loader, with a trade in value of \$85000 for a new 2019 Bobcat S650 Skid-Steer Loader, subject to the permissive referendum requirements of Town Law.

Resolution #19-048

Updated Water District Map: Supervisor Aaron reviewed the updated water district map from Town Engineer John Camp. She stated the reason the map needed to be updated was because over the years water services had been extended to properties outside the districts. This updated

mapping will verify all the properties in the Town that currently receive water. Supervisor Aaron reviewed the updated map and the additional properties.

Supervisor Aaron stated John Camp had provided the updated map with the new boundaries as well as a written description of the boundaries.

Supervisor Aaron asked Attorney Smith if this should be forwarded to the Village for their approval? Attorney Smith stated, yes it should be forwarded on to the Village. Attorney Smith asked if it is the intention of the Board to extend the district's boundaries to include these additional water services. Supervisor Aaron said this is to correct the district boundaries to include properties receiving public water.

Attorney Smith stated there would be a process to extend the water districts. John Camp would have to do a map, plan and report and a public hearing would have to be held. Supervisor Aaron asked if the map, plan and report would be the updated map and description John Camp has already provided to the Board. Attorney Smith stated the map would show where you wish the district to be. Supervisor Aaron stated the new district boundaries would only include the properties that currently have water, no additional properties. Attorney Smith said this is not the usual practice. Usually the district extension incorporates the connecting properties. Supervisor Aaron stated the properties are currently treated like they are in the district and this is to only incorporate the properties that currently have water and are outside the district and clarify where the water lines are.

Councilor Tucker stated Lucinda Drive has a private water line and a private road that services the housing located there, this was discovered when the Planning Board was working with an applicant that wanted to build at the end of Lucinda Drive. Supervisor Aaron stated she would check with the Water Department, but Lucinda Drive is currently in a water district.

Attorney Smith stated the Board has two options. They could accept the updated map as it is presented and stop there or go a step further and formally extend the boundaries to these areas the Board could have one map, plan and report to change the consolidated water district boundaries and hold a public hearing and completely go through the process. He stated that would be the best practice. Currently if someone in these extended areas did not pay their bill, the Town would have little recourse, since they are not in a formal district. It is in his opinion the better choice to formally extend the district and go through the process.

Supervisor Aaron stated in her opinion it is the better choice to formally extend the district. Supervisor Aaron said the 5 extensions have a narrow boundary. Attorney Smith stated in theory a water district line could go through a parcel, but it is not standard practice but legally you could only extend along the road. Currently Old Seneca and Highland only extend 500' from the road to only incorporate the properties along the road front.

Supervisor Aaron stated she would review this with Engineer John Camp and the Water Department.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

▪ *Update Austin Pavilion Roof:* Gene Laforte, Town Parks Department stated they had minimized the leaks and are waiting for the weather to break to begin the repairs.

▪ *Highlight of 2019 State of the County:* Supervisor Aaron stated, County Executive Ryan McMahon held his State of the County Address. He has a very ambitious agenda and a lot of energy is being put forth to the City and Towns. The County has agreed to fund the 9-Element Plan. The County would be reimbursed once the grant funding is received for all approved projects

Public Comment: No one commented

Budget Amendments: No Budget Amendments

Resolution #19-049

Abstract #19-03: On a motion of Councilor Badami, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers #19- to 19-0125 were authorized from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$ 17,197.61	Part Town:	\$ 512.03
Highway:	\$ 11,329.21	Water:	\$ 763.93
Street Lgt.:	\$ 1,488.93	T & A	\$ 628.48
Total:	\$ 31,920.19		

Resolution #19-050

Executive Session: On a motion of Councilor McCormack, seconded by Councilor Badami and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss personnel and potential litigations.

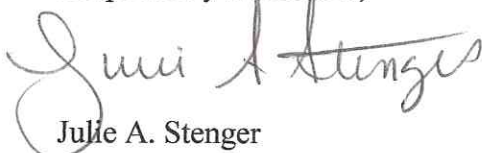
On a motion of Councilor McCormack , seconded by Councilor Coville the meeting was returned to open session at 8:15 p.m.

Resolution #19-051

Settlement: On a motion of Councilor Coville, seconded by Councilor Badami, and with unanimous (4-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the terms of settlement, ordered assessed value of \$6,500,000 from previous assessed value of \$7,000,000; as provided by Attorney Christopher Militello was accepted by the Board for the Settlement with 3074 West Lake Road, LLC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk

Royal Connections
Beth Batlle
Town of Skaneateles Historian

George Cole's parents left their home in Somersetshire, England, in 1848 and sailed to this country. They settled in Otisco where their son George was born. By the time the family moved to Skaneateles in 1874, 10 year old George had grown to be six feet two inches tall.

In 1875 the commissioners of the upcoming Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia advertised for 400 young men of good physique and at least 6 feet tall, to act as guards for the event. George applied and was accepted. His assignment was to guard the British exhibit.

The British commissioners there were pleased with George and one, the chief sergeant of the metropolitan police in London, invited him to come back to England with him and be a member of his force. George accepted the offer. He worked in several precincts and came to know the city quite well. However, one of the assignments he enjoyed most was when he was assigned to Windsor Castle where he was frequently acted as an escort for the Queen and the Prince of Wales.

George eventually returned to the United States and accepted a position on the police force in the town of Leadville, Colorado. Finally in 1880, tired of the wild life of the mines, he returned to Skaneateles to care for his aging parents. Here he married Delia Guppy and they raised two sons and two daughters on their farm in the "Gulf" area in the north eastern section of the Town.

George was never aware, however, that a neighbor, James Lockton, had been a passenger on the same ship that George's parents had sailed on in 1848.

James had once been the royal carpenter at the Windsor Castle in his younger days. One of his duties was the building of "head blocks" for the members of the royal family, including young Victoria. Even after her coronation, whenever she needed a new bonnet, James would have been summoned. He would take measurements of her head and build the form used in creating the new chapeau.

James, however, fell in love with one of the Queen's maids. They ran away, got married, and emigrated to this country, ending up in Skaneateles. Although the couple never regretted their actions, unfortunately the young wife was permanently estranged from her family in England.

More recently, in 1943, Army Sergeant Donald Fisher was stationed as an MP in the Bahamas. One day he was walking back to his camp located near Nassau, when a car pulled alongside him. The driver offered Don a ride. To his surprise the man behind the wheel was the Duke of Windsor, the former King Edward VIII of Great Britain. As the two men rode along, they chatted about Skaneateles, among other things.

The Duke and Duchess often threw lawn parties for the American non-coms, down to the lowest private. "They were just a couple of swell people", Don Said. "It was flattering to have them treat us like visiting royalty."