

Town Board Meeting
October 2, 2014
7:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: Sue Murphy, Bridgett Winkelman, Jonathan Monfiletto (Skaneateles Journal), Beth Battle, Kevin MacLeod, Lonnie Warner, F. Scott Molnar

Department Reports

▪*Highway, Water, Transfer Station:* Councilor Greenfield reported that Highway Superintendent Allan Wellington was not at the meeting tonight because it was his birthday. He reported that the Highway Department was working with New York State DOT to help mill Route 20 from County Line Road to the Auburn city limits. They had been doing road side mowing, repairing street signs, cleaning ditches and installed a driveway culvert. He stated that Allan Wellington attended a Stream Bank Stabilization work seminar in Homer with the Soil and Water Department and the Army Corp of Engineers. Councilor Greenfield reported that the Water Department had installed a second solar panel for the repeater on the water meter system, installed a water meter for a new service and had mowed the grass around many of the fire hydrants. Councilor Greenfield reported that at the Transfer Station they had installed a cylinder and repaired the plunger on the compactor, loaded more mulch, investigated an incident of illegal dumping that was reported to the New York State DEC. He also reported that the Shred Day at the Transfer Station held on September 20th was a success. Supervisor Sennett stated that she had also heard that the Shred Day was success and thanked Councilor Greenfield and Town Clerk Janet Aaron for organizing it. Councilor Howard questioned the process for ditch cleaning. She said she had concerns about run off to the lake. Councilor Greenfield stated that she should talk to Allan, but in the past he said they hydro seeded after cleaning the ditches to protect against any runoff. Supervisor Sennett reported that Allan Wellington had talked to her about the insulation in the building at the Transfer Station. She said Councilor Brace had some concerns about it containing asbestos and its proper removal. She said that Allan had researched the type of insulation and found that it was a foam insulation that contained no asbestos. She stated that Allan had spoken to Town engineer Doug Wickman and he had also stated that it had no asbestos. They will still take the steps to remove it properly.

▪*Parks:* Sue Murphy reported that the cameras had been installed at the Sims building at the park and thanked Tom Corona for all his work and discount on the price and installation. She said he went above and beyond and thanked him again. She stated that since the cameras had been installed there had been no incidents of vandalism. She reported that the dug-out project had started and was going smoothly. She stated that next week will be the last Farmers Market for the season and that the last Re-Market is on Saturday. She completed the Skaneateles Youth Hockey and the school ice contracts. She also reported that the chiller had started at the rink and that the ice will be done tonight.

▪*Historian:* Beth Battle reviewed the history of the seawall being built in Clift Park, named after Joab Clift who sold it to the Village in 1886. She told of it first being owned by John Packwood

and that he had built his carriage and sleigh factory there in 1865. She reviewed the history from when the Village purchased the property with their intent of creating a public park to when Clift Park was completed in 1910 and the seawall was completed in 1912. The original seawall was about 600 feet long, 5 feet above high water and 5 feet below, 5 feet wide at the base and 3 feet on top. This changed in 1913 when the seawall had a much needed repair. The crest of the wall was raised a foot to prevent the water from washing over it and the job was finished by laying a cement walk on top of the wall. The Town Board thanked her for this piece of history.

- *Planning, Zoning & Codes:* Councilor Brace reported that she had received a copy of the codes office report for the month of September and that there were 21 permits issued for fees collected in the amount of \$54,000 which included 4 new homes and 2 fireworks permits.
- *Animal Control:* Supervisor Sennett reported that there were 19 calls on the Animal Control report for September. Councilor Howard stated that 50 % of the calls were non dog or cat.
- *Budget:* Budget Officer Bridgett Winkelman reported that the Board was in receipt of the September Monthly Fiscal Summary. She also reported that water district #2 had been billed and that all unpaid water will be transferred to property owners 2015 Town and County tax bills as of October 31, 2014

Resolution #14-145

Minutes of September 18, 2014: On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the minutes of September 18, 2014 were accepted as presented.

Resolution #14-146

7:15 p.m. Public Hearing – Shepard Settlement Fire Protection Contract: Supervisor Sennett explained to the Board that the Town of Skaneateles contracts with the Town of Marcellus for fire protection in the hamlet of Shepard Settlement. This contract had expired and as a matter of “housekeeping” the Board needed to update the contract. Supervisor Sennett noted receipt of the Affidavit of Publication dated September 24, 2014 and the Affidavit of Posting dated September 14, 2014 on the Shepard Settlement Fire Protection Contract.

Councilor Murray made a motion to open the public hearing seconded by Councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the public hearing was opened. Supervisor Sennett asked if anyone wished to speak in favor or in opposition to this contract. No one came forward. Councilor Murray made a motion to close the public hearing seconded by Councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the public hearing was closed.

On a motion of Councilor Murray, seconded by councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Supervisor Sennett was authorized to sign the Shepard Settlement Fire Protection Contract in the amount of \$13,000 with the Town of Marcellus.

Tentative Budget Submitted to The Town Board: Supervisor Sennett stated to the Board that they were in receipt of the 2015 Tentative Budget from Budget Officer Bridgett Winkelman. She

explained that this was just the tentative budget and is subject to change. Budget Officer Winkelman reviewed the following highlights:

- Overall assessed value has increased a little over 1%
- The amount of appropriations and revenues are both projected to increase in 2015 but the overall amount to be raised in taxes has only increased by \$2,495.00
- The current tax rate in the Tentative Budget is forecasted to go down by \$ 0.03, to \$2.3312
- Town board currently has a 2% increase for the majority of the work force ; this expense is off set by the reduction of the employers NYSR contribution 1.9%, to 18.2% of salaries.
- The Town Board is currently holding the line on employee health insurance costs.
- Additional expenses have been budgeted in professional service lines; in anticipation of a revised comprehensive plan and a future water tower.
- Government support is still being provided to community activities such as the Symphony in the Park, Community Restrooms and Christmas Lights.
- Highway Town Wide has budgeted to replace the bridge on Fennell Street and purchase a Loader, both of these items are being paid for with reserve funds.
- Long term reserves are still being funded

Resolution #14-147

Schedule Preliminary Budget Meetings: Budget Officer Winkelman suggested to the Board that they should have another meeting on the Tentative Budget before it goes to Preliminary. The Town Board agreed to schedule an additional budget meeting Thursday October 9 at 5:15p.m. to 7:15 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Resolution #14-148

Skaneateles Youth Hockey Ice Rental Contract: Supervisor Sennett reported to the Board that Sue Murphy had completed the 2014-2015 Skaneateles Youth Hockey Ice Contract. Sue Murphy stated that it was the same as previous years and that the president of Skaneateles Youth Hockey had signed it. Attorney Taylor stated that he had reviewed the contract and that it should include a clause that the facility is “as is”. Sue Murphy questioned what is “as is”, does this include maintenance that is part of the contract. Councilor Brace stated that it’s not a state of the art facility and that should be made clear. Supervisor Sennett stated that this would include any major repairs but we are still responsible for basic maintenance. Councilor Brace stated that an “as is” clause should be added.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, Supervisor Sennett was authorized to sign the 2014-2015 Skaneateles Youth Hockey Association with Attorney Taylor’s addition of a clause stating that the facility is “as is”.

Resolution #14-149

Declare Transfer Station Sanders as Surplus: Supervisor Sennett explained to the Board that Highway Superintendent Wellington had requested that two winter driveway sanders that were used at the Transfer Station be declared as surplus so they could go to auction.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board it was approved for two winter driveway sanders be declared surplus in order for them to go to auction to be sold.

Resolution #14-150

Approval to retain Randall Arendt, Planning Consultant for a presentation October 27:

Supervisor Sennett reported that the Town and Village had scheduled Planning Consultant, Randall Arendt to make a public presentation on October 27th at 6:30 p.m. at Waterman School. Councilor Brace explained that he will do a presentation on conservation subdivisions and preserving the rural character of the community.

Councilor Greenfield asked if Mr. Arendt was being considered as a consultant for the comprehensive plan. He stated that previously the Town had used Joel Russell. He was the consultant when the original comprehensive plan and updated zoning were adopted in 1996 and when updates had been done since then. Supervisor Sennett stated that maybe they could both play a role. Councilor Murray stated that she worked with Joel Russell and attended a presentation by Randall Arendt and they were both excellent.

On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, it was approved to retain Randall Arendt, Planning Consultant for a presentation October 27th at 6:30 p.m. at a cost jointly with the village not to exceed \$3,000.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates:

- *Letter from John Behrens Thanking Board for Radar Speed Detection Sign:* Supervisor Sennett announced that the Board had received a letter from John Behrens of East Street thanking the Town Board for installing the speed detection sign on East Street. He stated in his letter that he has seen a decrease in the car speeds since it was installed. Councilor Murray said she has also noticed a decrease in the speed of cars on the street, but it could still be better.
- *Stauffer Property Updates 7 p.m. 10/7/14 at Mottville Fire Department:* Supervisor Sennett announced that there is a meeting scheduled for October 7th at 7:00 p.m. with representatives from Stauffer Chemical, the New York State DEC and the Health Department regarding the clean-up at the Stauffer Chemical site in Skaneateles Falls.
- *Emerald Ash Borer Public Informational Meeting 7:00 p.m. October 20th:* Supervisor Sennett announced that there is a public informational meeting scheduled regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. Councilor Brace stated that the information will only be about Emerald Ash Borer trees that are on town property.
- *Letter from Bob Walters regarding weight limit on Masters Road:* Supervisor Sennett said that she had received a letter from Bob Walters who lives on Masters Road regarding the trucks that are traveling on Masters Road. He stated that large trucks are using Masters Road as a shortcut to the gravel pit on 321. He explained in his letter that Masters Road has a steep hill, is very narrow and has no shoulders. There are 13 residents on this road and he is concerned about this truck traffic. He stated that trucks were obeying the 30 mile per hour speed limit but that they were just too big for the design of the road. He stated that it was a hazard to the people who walk, or the children that ride their bikes or are waiting for the school bus, or just trying to pull out of your driveway. He stated that a number of years ago there were 5 ton weight limit signs at each end of the road but these had somehow been removed. Supervisor Sennett stated that the Town has the

authority to put a weight limit on the road. She said she would talk to Onondaga County and the Town Elbridge about this since the alternative routes would be county roads or through Elbridge.

Resolution #14-151

Budget Amendments/Adjustments: On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Murray and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the following budget amendments and adjustments were authorized:

General Fund

\$ 940.00 Increase 013552.01.002.00 Assessment – EQ
\$ 940.00 Decrease 013554.01.04.00 Assessment – C/E

Costs associated with equipment purchase – desk top for Assessor

Sewer #6

\$ 30.00 Increase 081104.11.004.00 Sewer Administration – C/E
\$ 30.00 Decrease 081102.11.002.00 Sewer Administration – EQ

Cost of doing business

Resolution #14-152

Abstract #2014-19: On a motion of Councilor Brace, seconded by Councilor Greenfield and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board voucher #14-1310 to #14-1365 were audited and approved to be paid from the following funds:

General Fund:	\$ 71,678.42	Part Town:	\$ 2,387.50
Highway:	\$ 664.65	Highway P/T:	\$ 897.70
Street Lights:	\$ 1,166.98	Water:	\$ 3,498.55
Limeledge Water	\$ 15,436.83	Fire Districts	\$73,125.00
T & A:	\$ 2,713.73		

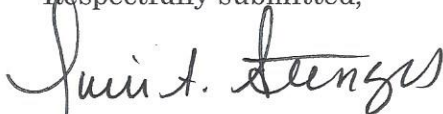
Total: \$171,569.36

Resolution #14-153

On a motion of Supervisor Sennett, seconded by Councilor Brace and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. for attorney advice.

On a motion of Councilor Greenfield, seconded by Councilor Howard and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the meeting returned to Open Session at 9:30 p.m., and was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie A. Stenger
Deputy Town Clerk