

**Town Board Meeting
December 16, 2024
6:30 p.m.**

Zoom: Meeting Id: 890 6568 0753 Passcode: 200480

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

Also, Present (In Person): Tim Dobrovosky, Karen Barkdull

Also, Present (via Zoom): Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Brian Buff, Sue Murphy, Miranda Robinson.

Minutes of December 2, 2024: On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of December 2, 2024, were accepted as presented.

Abstract #24-23: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Alexander, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers were authorized from the following funds:

General:	\$ 69,037.16	Highway:	\$ 14,476.73
HWY PT:	\$ 500.00	Part Town:	\$ 2,905.12
Water:	\$ 19,957.19	Sewer:	\$ 713.96
Street Lght.	\$ 30.03	T&A	\$ 10,850.18

Total: **\$118,470.37**

Appoint Highway Department Motor Equipment Operator: Supervisor Legg stated Highway Superintendent Dobrovosky had hired a Motor Equipment Operator for the Highway Department. Highway Superintendent Dobrovosky stated Hunter Woodruff had his CDL Drivers License and had experience with machinery and a mechanical and repair background.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board supported Highway Superintendent Dobrovosky's appointment of Hunter Woodruff as a Motor Equipment Operator at a salary as approved in the Teamsters Union Contract, to start December 7, 2024.

Mid-Winter Swap Shop – January 11th at the Austin Arena: Supervisor Legg stated the Swap Shop volunteers were asking to hold a mid-winter Swap Shop in the Austin Arena lobby like the one they conducted several years ago for winter recreation equipment. They are proposing Saturday, January 11th, 7:30 am to 1 pm.

The swap shoppers have found that after Christmas, Goodwill and the Salvation Army are overwhelmed with merchandise. They would like to advertise this event far enough in advance so that town's people can plan to use this mid-winter swap to share unused and unwanted items. They

would operate it exactly as they do out at the transfer station, but they we would need the park staff to haul the garbage that would be generated.

The Board agreed this was a great idea and fully supported the event. Parks Director Sue Murphy was also in support and thought it was a great event to host.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Alexander, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized a mid-winter Swap Shop event to be held at the Austin Arena on January 11, 2025, from 7:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Skaneateles Fire Department OSHA Letter: Supervisor Legg stated the Occupational Safety and Health Administration “OSHA” had enacted new mandates for fire departments. The Town of Skaneateles is grateful that OSHA is improving emergency responder safety through the new 1910.156 Emergency Response Standard but, the proposed rules impose extraordinary mandates for small volunteer fire departments. Many of the mandates may make sense for a well-resourced large fire department staffed by professional firefighters, but our departments are entirely staffed by volunteers who already devote considerable time to train, administer, and respond while carrying fulltime employment obligations and family responsibilities.

The Skaneateles Fire Department asked the Town Board to write a letter to OSHA in support of their request to differentiate rules for volunteer firefighters to protect them appropriate to the local conditions and operations while recognizing resource limitations.

The Board discussed and agreed to send the letter of support for both the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department and the Mottville Volunteer Fire Department

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized Supervisor Legg to send a letter to the Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) regarding the difficult mandates for small volunteer fire departments.

Eastern Shore Associates Workers Compensation and General Liability Insurance 2025 Renewal: Supervisor Legg stated the Town of Skaneateles Insurance renewal for 2025 had been distributed to the Board and Attorney Smith for review. There are no changes in the 2025 policies.

The Board and Town Attorney stated they had no concerns or comments.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized Supervisor Legg sign the Eastern Shore renewal insurance documents for the 2025 renewal of the Town of Skaneateles Workers Compensation and General Liability Policies.

Schedule Special Meeting – Union/ Insurance Contract: Supervisor Legg stated the Town Board would need to schedule a special meeting to finalize the Town employee’s health insurance contract and the Union contract negotiations. The Board agreed to schedule a special meeting on December 19, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board scheduled a special meeting for executive session to discuss contract negotiations.

Clean Energy Communities NYSEDA Grant: Supervisor Legg reported on the Clean Energy Communities NYSEDA Grant. He stated the program was the same as the program we received grant funds to install heat pumps at the Transfer Station. These pumps provide heating and cooling at a Transfer Station in a more efficient process.

The grant application needed to be resubmitted for the additional grant monies available to the Town. The new submission would not only include the heat pumps at the Transfer station but the heat pumps and installation at the Sims Building in Austin Park and would include 6 LED streetlights to complete the LED street lighting project, and the funding to purchase a Club Car, an electric UTV for the Parks, the Conservation Areas, and the Transfer Station. This would complete the \$50,000 grant reimbursement.

The Board discussed the uses of the Club Car for the Conservation Areas.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board authorized Supervisor Legg to sign the amended application for the Clean Communities NYSEDA Grant.

Appoint Denise Rhoades – Zoning Board of Appeals and Don Kasper – Planning Board: Supervisor Legg reported the Board had met with both Denise Rhoads and Don Kasper. They are both currently on the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board and have requested to continue on the Boards as members and has the chair of the Boards. Denise Rhoads for the Zoning Board of Appeals and Don Kasper for the Planning Board.

Supervisor Legg stated they had interviewed each candidate and were excited they would like to continue. They both shared their thoughts and desire to continue on the boards and to continue working together with the other Board members and the Town Board.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Dove, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Board appointed Denise Rhoads to a five year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals and appoint her as chair of that Board, and to appoint Don Kasper to a five year term on the Planning Board and to appoint him as chair of that Board.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

TOMRA Glass Recycling Update: Brian Buff, Municipal Recycling Liaison announced they had started the glass recycling program at the Transfer Station. Transfer Station employee, Matt Major had been at the Transfer Station glass bins to educate people on the process, and it was going well.
2025 Transfer Station Permits on sale December 2nd - \$100 per household: Supervisor Legg announced the 2025 Transfer Station permits were available at the Town Hall. The cost is \$100 for 2025.

Town Department Hours December – January:

December 20th Town Departments Christmas Luncheon

December 24 th	Christmas Eve – Floating Holiday – Town Hall and Transfer Station
December 25 th	Town Departments Closed – Christmas
January 1 st	Town Departments Closed – New Years Day
January 20, 2025	Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Councilor Dove thanked the Mottville Fire Department for inviting the Town Board to their annual banquet and thanked the Mottville Fire Department for all the work they do for the community.

Councilor Alexander reported the Outreach Department had a successful holiday season helping local families and thanked them for all their hard work.

Councilor Dove announced Sheri Dove, Veterans Outreach Coordinator had a successful Christmas Hope at the American Legion, helping veterans and their families this holiday season and thanked her for all her hard work.

Councilor Tucker announced the Shoreline Committee met last week and are preparing the guidelines to submit to the Town Board.


Public Comment: No comments.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Alexander and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to Attorney Advice at 7:10 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Alexander, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting returned to open session at 9:15 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Alexander and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk