

Town Board Meeting

July 15, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Zoom: Meeting Id: 850 6417 7839 Passcode: 891229

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

Present via Zoom: Councilor Alexander.

Also, Present (In Person): Tim Dobrovosky, Mike Drake.

Also, Present (via Zoom): Jason Gabak (Skaneateles Press), Keri Fey, Brian Buff.

Supervisor Legg opening the Town Board meeting with the following statement:

“As the Skaneateles Town Board, we stand together in opposition to political violence in any form. There is no place for political violence in Skaneateles, Onondaga County, New York state, or anywhere in the United States of America. As American citizens, we all enjoy many rights including free speech and assembly. Civil discourse enables us to share differing views as we strive for a government that best serves all citizens fairly. All American citizens, eligible by law, enjoy the right to vote in free and fair elections. As elected officials, we recognize the absolute importance of the full exercise of these rights by voters and candidates. It is the foundation of our democracy which enables voters to choose our leaders in elections. Unanimously, we join President Biden, former President Trump, and so many others in their call for unity and the condemnation of political violence in the wake Saturday’s assassination attempt.

Please join us in a moment of silence as we honor the innocent victim Colin Comperatore with condolences to his family and friends and wish rapid recoveries for the two wounded innocent victims. According to Pennsylvania Governor Shapiro, Colin was a father, volunteer firefighter and retired fire chief, and community supporter who dove on his family to protect them from bullets.”

Minutes of June 20, 2024, and July 1, 2024: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Dove, and with a (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the minutes of June 20, 2024, and July 1, 2024, were accepted as presented.

Abstract #24-11: On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Milne, and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board vouchers were authorized from the following funds:

General:	\$ 65,808.45	Highway:	\$ 6,402.42
HWY PT:	\$ 93,348.31	Sewer:	\$ 871.78
Part Town:	\$ 5,003.14	Water:	\$ 21,607.28
T&A	\$ 4,054.70		
Total:	\$ 197,096.16		

Town Hall Project: Supervisor Legg stated the Town Board had scheduled a bid opening for renovations to the Town Hall in June.

Town Clerk Stenger reported to the Board they had gone out to bid for the Town Hall project. The project included stone and masonry work at the front entrance, plumbing and drainage, new roof, and new siding.

Town Clerk Stenger stated the bid opening was held on June 13th and only one bid was submitted, from JMR Excavation. The total bid submitted came in at \$557,950. Town Clerk Stenger, Codes Officer Herrmann and Town Engineer Robinson met with the contractor to go over the bid, since the cost was quite a bit more than anticipated. It was discovered during the walk through that the main beam under the front steps at the Town Hall had rotted, which is affecting the foundation and the concrete. This was one reason the price of the stonework for the front of the building was so high. Another reason that the price was so high was the prevailing wage requirements.

Since the bid was so high they looked at the bid specifications and decided to split the project into phases. The phases would be foundation work and front steps (including foundation beam), plumbing and drainage, exterior roof work and exterior siding.

The Board agreed the project should be looked at in phases and the first two phases should be the foundation/stonework and the plumbing /drainage. These are 2 issues that could be considered an emergency since they are affecting the safety of the building.

The Board agreed to go back out to bid for the project in 4 phases. The first 2 phases would be the stonework and the plumbing/drainage.

Engineer Robinson stated she would rewrite the bid specifications for the project in phases.

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board rejected the bid as received from JMR Excavation in the amount of \$557,950, for the Town Hall renovation project, to break out the project into 4 phases and schedule a bid opening for July 31, 2024 at 10:00 am., for the first 2 phases, consisting of the stone and beam work and the plumbing/drainage.

M&T Bank Third Party Custodian Agreement: Budget Officer Fey explained that M&T Bank is an official depository of the Town, and they are changing the custodian that holds collateral for the Town’s uninsured deposits at M&T Bank. Currently the Bank of New York Mellon serves as custodian for securities that M&T Bank pledges as collateral for uninsured deposits pursuant to a tri-party agreement between BNYM, M&T Bank and the Town of Skaneateles.

M&T Bank has requested changing the custodian to Wilmington Trust, N.A. to hold the collateral pledged for the Town of Skaneateles unsecured deposits.

Budget Officer Fey stated this is just a standard banking procedure.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Tucker and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board, the Town Board approved Supervisor Legg to sign the agreement with M&T Bank and Wilmington Trust, N.A. to hold the collateral pledged for the Town of Skaneateles unsecured deposits.

Mortgage Tax Apportionment: Supervisor Legg reviewed the Mortgage Tax Apportionments. The Town of Skaneateles apportionment for 2024 was \$141,752.01.

2025 Property Reassessment Status Report: Councilor Dove reported that the Town had started the property reassessment with Maxwell Appraisals. Mike Maxwell of Maxwell Appraisal submitted a status report to the Town Board. Councilor Dove reviewed the status report as submitted by Mr. Maxwell. *Report attached.

Supervisor Legg stated Mike Maxwell stated the data collection done by Garr Associates was done accurately and he had been able to use the updated information.

Announcements/Correspondence/Updates

Parks Project Comment Period – July 20, 2024: Supervisor Legg announced letters were being received for any questions or comments regarding the proposed Austin Park Project. The deadline for correspondence is July 20, 2024. Letters had been received from the following:

*Janet Aaron
Mary Giroux
Nicki Marquis
Laurie Haefele
Pat Benedict*

*Bill & Miki Mahood
Jackie Keady
Susan Wulff
Alan Johnson*

Hamlet Plan Public Comment Period – July 31, 2024: Supervisor Legg the comment period for the Hamlet Plan was open till July 31, 2024. Letters could be submitted to the Town Clerk.

Family Movie Night at the Austin Pavilion – Next Movie July 16, 2024, at 7:30pm -Happy Feet: Supervisor Legg announced the Family Movie night in the park.

Town of Skaneateles Parks Employment Opportunity: Supervisor Legg announced the Parks Department still had a full time Parks Laborer position open. The position would be full-time with benefits including health insurance.

Public Comment: No Comments

On a motion of Councilor Milne, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned to attorney advice at 7:00 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Dove, seconded by Councilor Milne and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting returned to open session at 9:00 p.m.

On a motion of Councilor Tucker, seconded by Councilor Dove and with unanimous (5-0) affirmation of the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie A. Stenger

Julie A. Stenger
Town Clerk

Maxwell Appraisal Service
143 Old Liverpool Road
Liverpool, NY 13088
315-391-8323
maxwellappraisal1954@gmail.com

Date: July 15,2024

Status Report Reassessment for 2025

Work Progress:

1. I have been reviewing the computer file with the current data on it for consistency and grade adjustments.
2. Most of the square footage of the homes are accurate, about 10% must be readjusted because of errors. The main errors are finished basement, vaulted ceilings finished area over garages.
3. Also, the improvements such as garages, pole barns, docks etc. I am updating the grade condition and sometimes the improvement code itself.
4. I have come up with a trend for appreciation to use on sales that are older. The State has provided trends right up till this year, but they will not have the trend for the 7/1/2023-6/30/2024 until later in the year. I see that trend around 10-15%, will have confirmation of this before we are doing field review.
5. The trends/appreciation of sales is one of the most important steps when making comparable sales. All sales and assessments must be as the market as of 7/1/2024.
6. The trend also will be different for sales in the other school districts other than Skaneateles. The trends there are not as much and will cause some discussion during the Informal Meetings and Grievance.
7. I have already come up with cost tables and land tables for the non-Skaneateles school district.

We have sent the State the list of Utilities for the advisories that they provide for these properties.

Letter of Memorandum has been signed and sent to Syracuse Office of real Property.

Thank you

Michael Maxwell

