

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 21, 2017**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Hubbard, Trustees Dove, Eriksen, Sennett and Stokes-Cawley, DMO Harty, Village Historian Batlle, Village Atty. Pavlus

**Others:** Jason Gabak Skaneateles PRESS  
Stacey Alburnio\* Appel Osborne Landscape Architects

**Public Hearing on Gateway Zoning Amendments** – In response to Mayor Hubbard, Atty. Pavlus explained that the Planning Board completed the SEQR review of the project at their meeting of October 5, 2017 and then recommended to the Village Board for the zone change. With the Paul Olszewski colored zoning district map on the overhead screen, Atty. Pavlus noted the area currently in the A3 zoning district that would change to A2, and the area currently in A2 that would change to A3. These zoning modifications would accomplish what the applicant is seeking. Relative to the Planning Board's second recommendation to make certain modifications to the Village Code open space subdivision language, Atty. Pavlus said that is not for tonight. If the Village Board is in favor of the zone change, he (Atty. Pavlus) will draft a local law to incorporate the GHD modified Village zoning map that reflects the change. At that time, Atty. Pavlus said he could also draft a local law modifying the open space subdivision language of the Village Code per the Planning Board recommendation. In response to Trustee Sennett, Atty. Pavlus explained that, because of the work that's necessary to implement a zone change (i.e. modifying the Village zoning map) this is a two-step process. First, the public hearing this evening to determine whether the Trustees are in favor of the zone change. If the Trustees are in favor of it, the second step is to amend the zoning map and go through the local law process to implement the zone change. Atty. Pavlus confirmed for Trustee Sennett that there would be another public hearing. Trustee Eriksen asked if the open space subdivision language modifications would apply to this project or only future projects. Atty. Pavlus said the Planning Board intends that the modifications would apply to this project. Trustee Dove commented that it makes good common sense to have A2 contiguous on Fuller Street. Trustee Sennett added, and on W. Genesee Street. Trustee Eriksen said he can attest to the amount of time spent on this. The Planning Board was sensitive to keeping to minimal zone changes and put in a great deal of thought, consideration, and work. Trustee Sennett noted that with the zone change A3 abuts A3 and A2 abuts A2. Atty. Pavlus noted that it is not spot zoning. **Resolution #2017-204:** On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to open the Public Hearing at 7:40 PM. Jorge Batlle, 818 Franklin Street Road, said he has been watching the progress of this project and is concerned about the five residences that are proposed as it doesn't match the character of the other side of the street. He said he is concerned about how this will look visually. In response to Trustee Dove, Atty. Pavlus confirmed that this will all come back to the Village Board eventually. Mayor Hubbard encouraged attendance at Planning Board meetings. In response to Mayor Hubbard, Stacey Alburnio of Appel Osborne Landscape Architects said she doesn't have anything to add as the discussion did a good job of explaining what the applicant wants to do. In response to Trustee Dove, Stacey said she has not heard anything from residents about this. **Resolution #2017-205:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to close the Public Hearing at 7:44 PM. **Resolution #2017-206:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to adopt the requested A2/A3 zone change as recommended by the Planning Board at their October 5, 2017 Meeting.

**Minutes – Resolution #2017-207:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 9, 2017, as presented. \*Stacey Alburnio left the meeting.

**Correspondence & Announcements** – Mayor Hubbard reviewed the following:

- Reminder – Thursday, December 14, 2017, 7:30 PM at Village Hall a Public Hearing on the Transfer of Austin Park to the Town of Skaneateles

- Glens Falls National Bank LOSAP Statement for October 2017
  - Receipt of email from NYCOM Executive Director Baynes relative to the State Austerity & Local Fiscal Stress Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> from 9 AM to 5 PM; Register for the free conference at: <https://goo.gl/forms/lujPvKikuPygYSN2>
  - Receipt of email from Peter Spaulding, 57 Onondaga Street, requesting new sidewalks on Onondaga Street from East Lake Road to the Village boundary. Mayor Hubbard noted that this will be discussed later in this meeting under New Business.
  - Onondaga County Mayors Association Holiday Party – Wed., Dec. 13, 2017, 6 PM Location TBD. Mayor Hubbard said any and all are welcome to attend – Mayor elect Walsh will be there.
- \* Other Matters That Have Come Before the Board since Posting the Agenda\***
- Receipt of a thank you letter from the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department Commissioner of SVFD Field Days Marty Lynn in appreciation of support of the 2017 Field Days.
  - Receipt of email from GHD Engineer Nick Hyde with dates for a kickoff meeting for the Village of Skaneateles' Cyanotoxin Treatment Evaluation. GHD is available during the following times:
    - Monday 11/27 10:30 am or later
    - Wednesday 11/29 9 am – 1 pm
    - Thursday 11/30 All day
    - Friday 12/1 All day

In response to Mayor Hubbard saying he thought it would be best to have the Village Board together to choose a date, DMO Harty explained that this initial meeting will be a smaller group as we don't need the entire Village Board at this time. She said she will be meeting with Trustee Stokes-Cawley, Municipal Board Chair McQuaid and Commissioner Rhoads, GHD, DOH, and the City of Syracuse. DMO Harty said the meeting has been scheduled for Friday, December 1, 2017, 8 AM in the Village Office boardroom.

**Director of Municipal Operations (DMO)** – DMO Harty said the garland is up. We are running a thin crew this week, so leaf pick-up will resume on Monday. The gazebo roof will be replaced next Monday to Friday. Additionally, the Christmas trees will go up next week. In response to Trustee Sennett, DMO Harty confirmed that the gazebo roof contractor will work around the garland on the gazebo and the tree. Trustee Dove noted that there is still a sidewalk closed sign on the corner of Leitch and Elizabeth.

**Village Historian** – Village Historian Batlle presented the following Historic Moment about Village Water.

Village water has been in the news these past months with the algae blooms effecting the purity of the drinking water. Protecting the purity of Skaneateles Lake water has been the responsibility of the City of Syracuse ever since they were granted use of the Lake for their water supply in 1893.

Before that, in August of 1887, a group of prominent local citizens led by George Barrow, formed the Skaneateles Water Works Company. Their purpose was to supply water for hydrants for fire protection, and water to homes for civilized lifestyles. They used sheet metal pipes lined with Rosendale natural cement.

*(This is a natural cement rock that was first discovered in Fayetteville, NY during the construction of the Erie Canal. It was used for the Brooklyn Bridge and the pedestal for the Statue of Liberty. The last major project using this product was in 1954 on the State Thruway.)*

After a few meetings, and some stock transactions, the company became wholly owned by the American Pipe Company of New Jersey. The Village gave them a franchise where they would charge \$20 per fire hydrant, and a stated fee for domestic connections. The Water Works Company tried to charge \$50 per hydrant and a much higher fee for domestic connections. The Village refused to pay these rates and subsequently did not renew the franchise.

This prompted the Village to consider its own water plant. The Water Works Company took the Village to court. In 1902, after six years of litigation, the Village regained control of its water supply. In 1896 the voters approved a tax levy for a bond issue of \$30,000 to build a pumping station for "the Village to supply pure and wholesome water to its inhabitants. The pumping station was built east of the City Gate House and a completely new water system was laid. Residents were given the option of remaining with the private company or hook to the municipal system. The old fire hydrants remained but

the Fire Department used the municipal system's hydrants. The private company was now operating at a loss as many had switched to the new municipal system.

July 1, 1927 the Skaneateles Water Works Company land and building located at 100 East Lake Street, or 7 Bobbett Lane, was sold to Barbara Stickley Wiles, and is still in the Wiles family.

The municipal pumping station drew water from a well in what is now Clift Park. It became clogged, another source was to tap the new City of Syracuse conduit. April 24, 1903 the City refused the request - so November 1904, the Village ran 10-inch intake pipe 4,000 feet out into the Lake. Water was then pumped through an 8-inch main east on Genesee Street, up Onondaga Street, then up East Street to open above ground reservoirs. One was 50 feet in diameter, holding 176,000 gallons and a second one, 110 feet in diameter, holding 500,000 gallons.

The above ground reservoirs were used by the Town water district. In 1981, The County Health Department suggested covering these reservoirs "to prevent a potential health hazard." Then Town Supervisor Charles Major said that it is unlikely that the Town will cover either, as they have no money to do it. The other option was to add chlorine at the site. That was done.

October of 1940, the City did allow the Village to run a 10-inch line from their Gate House to the Village pumping station in exchange for some Village owned land. August of 1994 this pipe was increased to 16 inches.

The next big improvement was the installation of the 250,000-gallon elevated storage tank in 1951. It came in on three Skaneateles Short Line flat cars then trucked to the East Street site.

May of 1969, fluoridation of the water started.

November 1993, spurred by a State Department of Health mandate, the 83-foot-tall, 34-foot diameter blue vertical tank was erected. It holds 540,000 gallons of water. This tank and a new dedicated 12-inch diameter line from the pumping station to the tank is part of a new contact time chlorination system.

In 1992-1993 the City of Syracuse updated their chlorination/fluoridation systems. Chlorine and fluoride will now enter the City intake pipe at its beginning with plastic, the tubing installed by divers located inside the intake pipes. The City of Syracuse now furnishes chlorinated and fluoridated water to the Skaneateles system and the City. This new injection point will also reduce the threat of zebra mussels. The Village has a back-up injector in the pump house, to be used when needed to boost the chlorine content.

A Federal mandate from the EPA, called the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, required unfiltered drinking water to have additional disinfection to target water borne pathogens and microscopic parasites such as giardia and cryptosporidium. While there are other ways to treat this, the Village felt that an ultraviolet light system was the most effective and cost-efficient method for the approximately 650,000 gallons of water that flow through the pumping facility. "Water flows through the unit and around the UV light, that produces radiation that kills the bugs," according to Bob Lotkowitz, the past Director of Municipal Operations.

**Status of NYSERDA Grant** – Mayor Hubbard said there is nothing new to report.

**Status of Franchise Renewals** – Mayor Hubbard said there is nothing new to report.

**Status of New Seawall Grant / Clift Park Improvements** – DMO Harty said there is nothing to report.

**Status of Parkside Subdivision** – There was no report.

## NEW BUSINESS

**State and Local Taxes (SALT)** – Mayor Hubbard said this was considered at the Mayors Association meeting last week. While Trustee Eriksen indicated that he is opposed to getting rid of the deduction, the prepared resolution seems aimed at Congressman Katko who voted for it last week. Trustee Dove said she doesn't have enough information on how it will affect residents. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said she doesn't think we need a lengthy resolution. **Resolution #2017-208:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett,

seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) that as a Board they oppose the elimination of the deductibility of State and Local Taxes (SALT).

**2018 Fire Contract Renewal** – Mayor Hubbard stated that the Trustees have copies of Village Attorney Pavlus' letter transmitting the draft agreement. Attorney Pavlus said that the agreement is for a five-year period and must be approved and signed by the Village, the Town, and the Skaneateles Fire Department, Inc. By Email, SVFD President Perkins said they are fine with the contract. Mayor Hubbard noted that even though renewal will be for five years, the formula will remain the same. We are fortunate that the procedure in place for the fire contract renewals work so well. Trustee Sennett said changing to a five-year contract is a good move – it makes sense. Attorney Pavlus said action tonight would be to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2018 renewal upon receipt of the signed agreement from the Town and Fire Department. **Resolution #2017-209:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to authorize Mayor Hubbard's execution of the renewal of the Fire Contract for 2018 upon receipt of the executed copy from the Town of Skaneateles and the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department.

**Fire Truck Agreement** – Atty. Pavlus said this has been done every year for probably 25 years. The mechanism stays the same – the Village leases equipment from the Fire Department for insurance purposes. The only difference is this agreement is for five years instead of annually. **Resolution #2017-210:** On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the Fire Truck Agreement between the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department and the Village of Skaneateles. Mayor Hubbard commented that moving both to a five-year term is good for the Village.

**Consider New Sidewalks on Onondaga Street** – Mayor Hubbard asked if residents on Onondaga Street would receive the same letter as sent to those on W. Elizabeth Street. DMO Harty said yes, to see if there is flavor for support. She added that it makes sense to do a Village-wide study. Trustee Sennett asked if letters will be sent to residents on the north or south side of Onondaga. DMO Harty said the topography on the south side is better for sidewalks, but we can send letters to both sides. Trustee Dove agreed that the topography on the north would be difficult. Trustee Sennett said this really involves Goodspeed and Teasel as well. She often sees kids riding bikes through Teasel onto Onondaga. She expressed concern about setting an expectation of sidewalks on the north. Mayor Hubbard agreed and said we should keep to the south side. Trustee Sennett said letters can be sent to 5-6 properties on the south side and see what kind of response we get.

**Consider SMTC Application for Sidewalk Survey** – Trustee Sennett recalled that a letter was received from SMTC announcing that they were initiating the process of developing the 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Syracuse Metropolitan Area. "The UPWP identifies the federally funded transportation (everything except air) planning activities that are to be undertaken in the SMTC study area in support of the goals and objectives of the SMTC's 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan. Trustee Sennett said she thought it might make sense to attend the meeting, so did so on November 13, 2017. Thinking that it would be good to have professionals look at the community and set priorities, she completed the application. Recognizing that bicycles aren't supposed to be on the sidewalks, Trustee Dove asked if it includes biking. Trustee Sennett said it could, but maybe one step at a time. Trustee Eriksen commented that SMTC is a good group and limiting the scope makes sense. He added that we could do bike paths next year. Trustee Sennett said it is not required for the application, but she'd like to know the sentiment of the Board. **Resolution #2017-211:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to support submitting an application to SMTC for a sidewalk survey.

**Operations Meeting** – The Board scheduled an Operations Meeting for Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 5:30 p.m. at the Village Office. Mayor Hubbard said there are a number of topics that could be discussed such as the Masonic Temple restrooms, the Parking Trust Fund, Zoning items, etc.

**Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

**Approval of Bills – Resolution #2017-212:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) that bills from Abstract #12 be audited and paid as follows:

*Abstract #12*

General	Vouchers #4117-4155	Checks #20387-20425	\$113,922.83
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #956-962	Checks #5636-5642	\$ 9,012.61
Electric Fund	Vouchers #1083-1094	Checks #6454-6465	\$100,010.49
Water Fund	Vouchers #571-575	Checks #4304-4308	\$ 43,056.09

In discussing the bills, Mayor Hubbard gave kudos to Clerk-Treasurer Couch for getting the retirement bills paid timely in order to take advantage of the discount. We are well within the budget.

**Adjournment – Resolution #2017-213:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

  
Patty Couch, Village Admin./Clerk-Treasurer