

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2017
7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Hubbard, Trustees Dove, Eriksen, Sennett and Stokes-Cawley, Police Chief Coon, SVFD 2nd Assistant Chief Pickering, Village Attorney Pavlus

Others:	Jason Gabak	Skaneateles PRESS
	Courtney Alexander	24 Leitch Ave.
	Megan Ehrhart	The Citizen
	Connie Brace	15 Kane Ave.
	Kathleen Zapata	41 Academy St. / Skaneateles Nursery School
	Gene LaForte	Town Parks Department
	Sue G. Murphy	Town Parks Department

7:30 PM – Public Hearing – Transfer of Austin Park to the Town of Skaneateles – Mayor Hubbard said the topic of this evening’s Public Hearing, the Transfer of Austin Park to the Town of Skaneateles has been well documented over the last couple of years. Atty. Pavlus said he sent the draft Resolution this afternoon and recognized the long process that was initiated nearly two years ago. First, we obtained a parkland alienation law from the NYS Legislature and signed into law by Governor Cuomo. Subsequently, because the property is held in trust, we obtained authorization for the transfer from the NYS Attorney General’s Office and a NYS Supreme Court Justice signed it. Those two were pre-requisites for the Village Board to actually determine whether to transfer ownership of the park to the Town. That brings us to the Public Hearing this evening. Trustee Eriksen said the Village Board supported the transfer and a lot of work has been put in. He added that he is proud to be able to make this happen. Trustee Sennett said as a former Town Board member she saw the care that the Town has taken of Austin Park. For example, the entrance work done and the Garden Club took care of the trees. She said we are entrusting Austin Park to very good hands. **Resolution #2017-214:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to open the Public Hearing at 7:34 p.m. Kathleen Zapata thanked the Village and the Town for the Skaneateles Nursery School’s new home that is working out great. Connie Brace, currently a member of the Town Board, said she is excited about the transfer that she sees as advantageous for everyone. She recognized the fabulous job the Town Parks Department has done. Relative to the maintenance of the parking lots, Ms. Brace said historically the Village has plowed. With the proximity of the Village it makes sense for the Village to continue plowing. Mayor Hubbard said our crews will continue. He said the DPW and Town Highway get along really well – formality may or may not be necessary. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said it would be a good idea for the Town and Village to get together to talk about what each does and any changes. Sue Murphy said thank you – it has been great working with both the Town and Village. She said she hopes all goes through. Trustee Dove said she appreciates the Town’s efforts in providing easy access to Austin Park. **Resolution #2017-215:** 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 7:38 PM. Mayor Hubbard said the Trustees have the resolution drafted by Atty. Pavlus, but first the Board needs to do a SEQR review. Atty. Pavlus said that inasmuch as the transfer of the park is an unlisted action under SEQR, the short form is appropriate. He said he circulated part one this afternoon, and part two & three. The action is a transfer of ownership, and since there is not any construction related activity, Atty. Pavlus said he doesn’t believe there will be any adverse environmental impact associated with the transfer. Before he takes the Board through the questions and answers on the SEQR form, Atty. Pavlus asked if there are any questions. With there being none, Atty. Pavlus read aloud all questions and answers on the SEQR forms. Atty. Pavlus said if the Board agrees with that assessment, the Board can pass a resolution. **Resolution #2017-216:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to state that the transfer of Austin Park is an unlisted action, declare the Village Board as the lead agency, and make a negative

declaration regarding environment impact. Mayor Hubbard said now the Board can look at the resolution; Atty. Pavlus advised that while reading the resolution aloud is not required, it is a significant resolution. Trustee Sennett added that it is historic.

RESOLUTION #2017-214 OF THE VILLAGE TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES: On the motion of and read aloud by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor)

WHEREAS, in a last will and testament executed on July 10 1922, Clarence M. Austin bequeathed property to the Village of Skaneateles (the "Village") to be held as a public park for the use and good of the people, and

WHEREAS, the property was conveyed to the Village after the death of Clarence M. Austin in 1927, and

WHEREAS, the property is known as Austin Park and has been a public park for the use and good of the people as intended by Clarence M. Austin; and

WHEREAS, since 1980, Austin Park has been leased to the Town of Skaneateles (the "Town"), who has maintained responsibility for municipal recreation programs and maintenance of the park grounds and buildings in the park; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2016, the Village Board of Trustees passed a resolution requesting that the New York State Legislature enact a parkland alienation bill authorizing the transfer of ownership of Austin Park from the Village to the Town; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2016, the Village Board of Trustees passed a resolution approving the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly parkland alienation bills and completed home rule request forms for said bills; and

WHEREAS, the parkland alienation bill authorized the transfer of Austin Park from the Village to the Town and further stated "provided that the town of Skaneateles continue to use the property for park and recreational purposes"; and

WHEREAS, the parkland alienation bill was passed by both the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the parkland alienation bill was signed into law by Governor Andrew Cuomo on July 21, 2016; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, the Village and the Town sought approval for the transfer of Austin Park from the Village to the Town pursuant to the New York Estate Powers and Trusts Law; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2016, the Office of the New York State Attorney General consented to the transfer of Austin Park from the Village to the Town, "on the condition that any uses of Austin Park must be limited to non-profits whose objectives are for the benefit of the Skaneateles community and the public"; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2017, the Village filed a petition with the office of the Onondaga County Clerk seeking an order from a New York State Supreme Court Justice to transfer Austin Park from the Village to the Town pursuant to the New York Estate Powers and Trusts Law; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2017, the Village Attorney and Town Attorney appeared before Supreme Court Justice Donald A. Greenwood in support of the relief sought in the petition; and

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2017, Supreme Court Justice Donald A. Greenwood signed an order authorizing the transfer of Austin Park from the Village to the Town; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2017, the Village Board of Trustees held a public hearing regarding the transfer of Austin Park from the Village to the Town; now therefore it is

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees is in favor of transferring ownership of Austin Park from the Village to the Town, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Village Mayor is authorized to execute the documents necessary to transfer ownership of Austin Park from the Village to the Town.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted this 14th day of December, 2017.


Patricia Couch, Clerk/Treasurer

The attendees applauded and Ms. Brace recognized the amount of work involved to bring the transfer to fruition.

Minutes – Resolution #2017-218: On the motion of Trustee Eriksen, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 21, 2017, and the Minutes of the December 5, 2017 Operations Meeting, as presented.

Correspondence & Announcements – Mayor Hubbard noted the following:

- Receipt of Treasurer's Reports for November 30, 2017
- Receipt of Email from Onondaga County Legislature Deputy Clerk French regarding the Mortgage Tax Apportionment
- Receipt of Email from NYCOM – an Update on Federal Tax Reform
- Letter from Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency in anticipation of the upcoming 2020 Decennial Census. In response to Trustee Sennett, Codes Enforcement Officer Crompt said he will be okay with the census information / material he's been receiving.
- Receipt of letter from SVFD President Perkins relative to the department's 2018 events
- Email from Assistant Director for GIS Services Don Jordan relative to Pictometry Online Shut Down
- Receipt of letter from the NYS Department of Public Service regarding their winter outreach and education Campaign Reminder – Town Newsletter deadline is the end of December
- Receipt of Onondaga County Health Department letter regarding the 2017 Public Water Supply Inspection
- Receipt of Glens Falls National Bank LOSAP Statement for November 2017

*** Other Matters That Have Come Before the Board since Posting the Agenda ***

- Email from Iron Girl Syracuse Event Director Ken Hammond asking if the Village of Skaneateles is interested in hosting Iron Girl Syracuse in 2018. Trustee Dove said she and Trustee Sennett were approached some time ago; Mayor Hubbard said that had the initial email been sent to the Village it would have been circulated sooner. Trustee Dove recognized that the event would have an economic impact on the community, but it seems like people don't want the other additional impacts that come with an event this size. She said Labor Day weekend was suggested, but noted that with the SVFD Labor Day Field Days, there'd be an even greater need for volunteers who are sometimes difficult to find. Trustee Sennett said if we were to support another event, we'd want all profits to go back to the Skaneateles community as profits from the triathlon (SkanRaces / Skinny Man Triathlon) did. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said she talked to Candy Searing who said her husband, Dick, thought the triathlon was allowed because it benefitted this community. Chief Coon expressed concern about the number of participants, volunteers, and spectators that such an event would add to a village that some residents feel is already beyond the saturation point on summer weekends. Trustee Sennett recognized that SkanRaces spread that number (600+) of people over a number of days and events. The Board considered whether or not to respond formally. Trustee Sennett said she talked to Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tara Lynn who is ambivalent – there does not seem to be enthusiasm for the event in 2018. Trustee Dove concluded that while we are flattered to be

asked, but we are not looking to add events, especially not ones that don't specifically benefit the community. Clerk/Treasurer Couch offered to email Mr. Hammond.

Police Department – Police Chief Coon verified that the Board is in receipt of the Police monthly report for November that recorded activity as follows: 179 Calls for Service; **Incident Types: Criminal:** 1 Larceny; 1 Identity Theft; 0 Forgery; 0 Burglary; 0 Robbery; 1 Criminal Mischief; 2 Domestic; 0 Harassment; 0 Sex Offence; **Non-Criminal:** 0 Vehicle Lockout; 1071 Property Check; 15 Ambulance Calls; 2 Fire Calls; 9 Alarm; 2 Recovered/Found Property; **Traffic:** 59 Total Traffic Stops; 23 Traffic Tickets Issued; 106 Total Parking Tickets; 181 Courtesy Cards; **Motor Vehicle Accidents:** 2 Property Damage; 2 Personal Injury; **Arrests:** 0 Felonies; 4 Misdemeanors; 1 Violations; 0 DWI. Chief Coon said Dickens is going smoothly and we've received positive response to having an extra Police Officer on foot patrol on the weekends.

Director of Municipal Operations (DMO) – Mayor Hubbard said DMO Harty will give her monthly report at the next Village Board Meeting.

Codes Enforcement – Mayor Hubbard said CEO Crompt provided the Board with copies of his report that records activity as follows: 0 Sign Permit; 2 Building Permits; 0 Certificate of Occupancy; 0 Demolition Permit; 2 Footer Inspections; 5 Framing Inspections; 3 Insulation Inspections; 2 Final Inspections; 1 Foundation Inspection; 1 Air Seal Inspection; 0 Temp. Cert. of Occupancy; 0 Fire Inspections; 1 Fire Calls; 0 Certificate of Compliance; 2 Complaint Investigations; 0 Bed/Breakfast Inspections; 4 Meetings with Contractors; 2 Meetings with Residents; 0 Fire Code Violation. CEO Crompt said he has no additions to his report.

Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department – 2nd Assistant Chief Pickering read aloud the SVFD report for November 2017 as follows:

Calls for the month:

- 25 Total calls; 1 Structure Fires; 0 Vehicle Fires; 1 Vegetation Fires; 0 Acres Burned; 10 EMS; 0 Rescue; 2 MVA; 0 Extrication; 2 Hazardous Condition; 1 Service Call; 2 Good Intent Calls; 5 False Alarm; 1 Cancelled Enroute; 0 Other; 6 Mutual Aid Given; 8 Mutual Aid Received; 10.64 Average Personnel; 1.5 Average Enroute Time; 4.78 Average Onscene Time; 0 Firefighter Injuries; 0 Firefighter Deaths. 5 Meetings; 6 Drills; 2 Training; 1 Miscellaneous; 2 Stand-by.

Upcoming trainings: 12/11 – Annual OSHA & Bail-out (make-up) – 19:30; 12/18 – Movie Night – 19:00

Meetings for the month: Officers – 1/4/18 @19:30; Truck – TBD; Trustees/Board of Directors – 1/4/18 @ 19:00

Other business:

- Active firematic members are receiving their annual physical examinations to maintain their firefighting status. Interior firefighters have also completed their annual "bail-out" training to maintain their ability to wear SCBA and to be considered an interior firefighter.
- Tickets are now available for the High Stakes Money Drawing. Thus far, 235 tickets have been sold and tickets are available from any firefighter or online at www.skaneatelesvfd.com. The winner of the "\$500 Early Bird Drawing" held on December 4, 2017 was ticket #541. Mark your calendars now for the 6th Annual Casino Night and High Stakes Money Drawing scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2018 at Skaneateles Station #1.

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

Status of Renewal of Franchise Agreements – Mayor Hubbard said Clerk to the Boards Dundon gave the small operations group which meets on Wednesday mornings an update – he is on the ball. Atty. Pavlus said it is a long frustrating process, but we are getting there.

Status of New Seawall Grant / Clift Park Improvements – Mayor Hubbard said there is nothing new to report.

New Business

Operations Meeting – Mayor Hubbard said we talked about scheduling an Operations Meeting in early January, but we have another meeting in two weeks so can consider a date then if the Board would prefer. The Trustees recognized that Trustee Sennett will not be at the next Regular Board Meeting, but given that everyone else is available, decided to keep the next meeting on December 28, 2017. An Operations Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 5:30 PM. Trustee Dove asked that DMO Harty provide detail on the parking fund for the Operations Meeting.

Five Star Occ Med – Atty. Pavlus confirmed for Mayor Hubbard that there are no appreciable changes. **Resolution #2017-219:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to authorize Mayor Hubbard's execution of the Substance-Free Workplace Testing Renewal Agreement.

Consider Scheduling Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2018 – Mayor Hubbard noted that we are now in receipt of the modified Village zoning map from GHD which was the pre-requisite to the local law that would enact the A2/A3 zone change. **Resolution #2017-220:** On the motion of Mayor Hubbard, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to schedule a Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2018 – Zoning District and Zoning Map Modifications for Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:30 PM.

Consider Scheduling Public Hearing for Local Law #2 of 2018 – Mayor Hubbard recognized that Atty. Pavlus provided the Trustees with a synopsis. Trustee Eriksen said the idea came from the Planning Board – the genesis being that the Village is running out of 10-acre parcels. The local law would give the Planning Board discretion to apply the open space subdivision and cluster housing provisions in the Village zoning code to parcels of land that are less than 10 acres. Atty. Pavlus said Trustee Eriksen did a good job of explaining it. He added that there are four criteria that the Planning Board would look at. This local law would give the Planning Board flexibility with developments that are less than 10 acres, but for which the open space subdivision and cluster housing requirements would still be beneficial. We can probably count on one hand the number of parcels that are 10 acres, so this modification seems to make sense from a practical perspective. Trustee Eriksen said this upholds good planning principals for a walkable community – it keeps up with the Comprehensive Plan. Atty. Pavlus said without the local law, this part of the Village zoning code could become obsolete if we run out of 10-acre parcels. In response to Trustee Stokes-Cawley, Trustee Eriksen confirmed that we wouldn't be allowing more impermeable area. Trustee Sennett commented that she thinks that is the goal. Trustee Dove said we could look at that on each application. Atty. Pavlus noted that we could have cluster housing, but maintain open space. Mayor Hubbard said we could invite members of the Planning Board to be here for the public hearing to answer any questions that may arise. Trustee Eriksen said he doesn't think the public hearing on the first local law will take too long. **Resolution #2017-221:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to schedule a Public Hearing on Local Law #2 of 2018 – Open Space Subdivisions and Cluster Housing Modifications for Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 8:00 PM.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Approval of Bills – Trustee Sennett asked about the bacteria purchase from Maryland Biochemical – is 100 pounds for the year, how often do we purchase it, and how much do we typically buy? Without DMO Harty, no one knew the answers. Trustee Dove asked if we are working on the Masonic Temple lease. She thinks it is a twenty-year lease with lease adjustments according to the CPI, but her recollection may be

incorrect. Clerk-Treasurer Couch said she will see if the lease is in LaserFiche. Mayor Hubbard said we can discuss this again at our meeting on December 28 and meet with the Town and the Masons after the first of the year. **Resolution #2017-222:** 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 #13 be audited and paid as follows:

General Fund	Vouchers #4156-4216	Checks #	\$70,234.45
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #963-983	Checks #	\$14,056.68
Electric Fund	Vouchers #1095-1109	Checks #	\$13,123.50
Water Fund	Vouchers #576-583	Checks #	\$ 831.37

Adjournment – **Resolution #2017-223:** On the motion of Trustee Eriksen, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m.


Patty Couch, Vl. Admin./Clerk-Treasurer