

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 25, 2018
7:00 P.M.

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

EXCUSED: Trustee Dove

Others:	Jason Gabak	Skaneateles PRESS
	Tara Lynn	Executive Director Skaneateles Chamber of Commerce
	John and Jean Vincent	68 East Lake Street
	Tom Ierardi	Finger Lakes on Tap
	Sandi Mulconry	3427 East Lake Road
	Frank Cavaiole	75 East Genesee Street
	Janice Miller	4357 Jordan Road

Minutes – Resolution #2018-14: On the motion of Trustee Eriksen, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2018, as presented.

Correspondence & Announcements –Mayor Hubbard reviewed the following:

- Email update from DMO Harty – Mayor Hubbard encouraged everyone to take a copy of the agenda as it includes a message from DMO Harty relative to her recent medical issue. Mayor Hubbard said we look forward to DMO Harty’s return to work after the next week. The statement reads as follows:

My neurologist has determined that I had a minor stroke on New Year’s Eve that left me with vertigo like symptoms (dizziness) and noise sensitivity. The stroke damage is minimal and I am recovering very quickly – thanks in very large part to the time off resting at home over the past 3 weeks! I am going to be out of work for two more weeks in order to ensure substantial recovery before I reintroduce work assignments to my daily activities. That said, I am planning on coming back to work on February 5th – with a keen focus on managing and maintaining a reasonable workload.

I truly appreciate all of the cards and messages of care and concern. I’m so grateful for my Village family and the patience and support through this challenge. I will be back and better than ever very soon!

- Email from NYCOM – 2018-2019 Executive Budget Released. Mayor Hubbard noted that the Executive Budget eliminates the \$1.8 million in additional per capita aid for villages.
- Letter from Becky Barker relative to her property at 41 Jordan Street
- Letter from Onondaga County Dept. of Finance relative to their eTax software and the savings that can be recognized by the Village opting to use the County’s new eTax software at no charge. Mayor Hubbard said Clerk Couch wrote a subsequent memo after she and DMO Harty talked to Don Weber, Director, Real Property Tax. To recognize the savings this year, the Village would merely have to check the “Yes, we intend to use the County’s eTax software” box, sign and return the letter. The Village will not have to actually use the eTax software this June – just indicate our intention to use it when it becomes available. Mayor Hubbard said the Village appreciates an opportunity to save the Village taxpayers money.
- Email from Village of E. Syracuse Mayor Robert Tackman – I-81 feedback survey. Relative to this email and the next, Mayor Hubbard asked the Trustees to provide input to Clerk Couch. When the emails were first forwarded to the Board, Atty. Pavlus reminded the Board of their December 8, 2016 resolution about I-81 that remains relevant. Mayor Hubbard said he appreciates Mayor Tackman’s initiative to gather information from everyone to take with him to Albany. He does a very good job.
- Email from Village of E. Syracuse Mayor Robert Tackman – NYCOM Lobby Day survey

- Letter from County of Onondaga Community Development Division – 2018 Community Development Funding. Mayor Hubbard said we hope to review this with DMO Harty when she returns.
- * **Other Matters That Have Come Before the Board since Posting the Agenda***
 - Email from NY Power Authority announcing their 2018 Tree Power Program that we can follow up on with the Tree Committee.
 - Email from NYCOM relative to their “If I Were Mayor, I Would...” essay contest. In response to Trustee Sennett, Mayor Hubbard said he will check with the school to find out if they know about this contest.
 - Letter from County Executive Mahoney relative to Sewer IMA Rates. Mayor Hubbard said this is not relative to the Village of Skaneateles as we are not in the County system.

Village Historian – Village Historian Batlle encouraged everyone to stop in the lobby and look at the new display about the history of banks in the Village. He read aloud the following Historic Moment.

Historians

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Law Section 57.07 requires a municipality to appoint a Historian. According to the State – the Historian’s primary responsibility is to collect and preserve materials relating to the history of the municipality for which they are appointed. The Historian makes an annual report on the years prior work to the head of the municipality and to the office of the State Historian. Here is a brief look at Skaneateles Town and Village Historians:

***Alzina Loveless** was appointed in 1968 by Town Supervisor Charlie Major. She held the office for 12 years until failing health led to her retirement in 1980. She was a teacher at the Peach Blow single room school on Hencoop Road. She wrote a paper called “How Syracuse Stole Skaneateles Water” and on “Glen Haven.” She was Chairman of the 1976 Bicentennial Commission. She helped to raise money for the proper preservation of the Barrow art collection.

***Catherine Barnes** was appointed Village Historian in 1980. In 1985 she resigned her position to devote her time to the recently formed Village Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission. She was their Chairman. She said in a news article “the preservation committee will review changes proposed in the Historic District on Genesee Street, and keep track of building permit applications to see that they comply with the regulations relating to the district.” She lived on upper Academy Street with her husband George, who founded Skaneateles Boat and Canoe Company. Catherine was a graduate of Syracuse University and had a Masters from Columbia University. She was a Charter member of the Skaneateles Historical Society. In 1989 Catherine was named Woman of the Year by the local branch of the American Associations of University Women.

***Helen Ionta** was appointed Town Historian in 1980. She was a graduate of Syracuse University, with a Master’s degree, a science teacher, and a reading specialist and counselor in the Syracuse School System. She was president of the Syracuse Federation of Teachers. Helen loved local history. She spent countless hours searching through the local newspapers. She was a stickler for accuracy with her phrase – “That’s Not Right.” She was a prolific writer with books on the Roosevelt family, the Sinclair Chair Factory and Around the Pond. She enjoyed giving Village ours to visitors and relating local history to elementary school students. She served as President of the Skaneateles Historical Society. Helen passed away in 2000 after a brief illness. She served in the Historian position for 20 years.

***Donald Stinson** was appointed Village Historian by Mayor Fisher in 1985 upon resignation of Catherine Barnes. Don was a graduate of Skaneateles High School in 1934 at the age of 15. He received a degree from Potsdam State Teacher College and a Master of Arts degree from Northwestern University and a PhD from New York University. He spent 4 years in the Army Air Force, and worked 30 years at Loyola University of Chicago as chairman of the communications department. During this time, he visited Skaneateles and helped on the local family owned Stinson Boat Lines. After retiring from teaching in 1976, he became active in community activities. He was a member of the Barrow Art Gallery Management Committee, President of the Skaneateles Historical Society, Secretary of the Skaneateles Men’s Club. He was co-chairman of the Sesquicentennial Committee and editor of the anniversary book produced for that celebration. He also was the author of two books – “Jack Feeney of Skaneateles”, and “The Burning of the Frontenac”.

***Pat Blackler** – appointed Village Historian by Mayor Don Price, in 1996, after the resignation, due to illness, of Don Stinson. She served the community for 16 years. She was a chemist by training working for Eastman Kodak. She said, “it was my 28 years selling real estate that made me fall in love with history. I’d been in all these houses and I loved them all and I thought being the Historian would be a great job.” Pat was instrumental in getting section markers for Lake View Cemetery and the familiar blue and yellow roadside markers for notable sites on Genesee and Onondaga Streets. She was the one who started the “Historic Moments” presentations at the Village Board meetings. A former Village Trustee said, “I thought it was really cool. She’d have a little essay about Skaneateles prepared and everybody really enjoyed it because it ended the night on a light note.”

***Beth Batlle** – after the death of Town Historian Helen Ionta, in 2000, Town Historian Helen Ionta, in 2000, Town Supervisor Bill Pavlus began searching for her replacement. Elizabeth (Beth) Batlle was one of the candidates, and was then selected. She was a Registered Nurse and a Lieutenant in the Navy Nurse Corps. She became interested in history when stationed overseas at Subic Bay in the Philippines, and in Yokohama in Japan. With all this history around her, such as the Pacific involvement in World War II, how could she not be interested in history. Returning home, she worked at Community General Hospital as charge nurse in the Labor and Delivery unit. In 1971 she met and married Syracuse firefighter Jorge Batlle. After moving to Skaneateles, she joined the Skaneateles Historical Society, served a term as President during the time of the Creamery renovation project of 1990. She also worked as a stringer, writing articles for The Skaneateles Press and the Auburn Citizen. She published several booklets on local history. She is now in her 18th year as Town Historian.

***Jorge Batlle** was appointed Village Historian November, 2012 to fill the vacancy left by retiring Pat Blackler. He is a graduate of Syracuse University School of Business Management. He joined the Syracuse Fire Department in 1965 and retired with the rank of Captain in 1987. The next day he started work for the Village as Building Inspector/Code Enforcement/and Clerk to various Boards. The with the Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission and his wife as Town Historian, kindled a deep interest in local history. He was President of the Skaneateles Historical Society during the continued renovations of the Creamery project. After working for the Village for over 20 years he retired, or sorts. Mayor Hubbard appointed him as Village Historian November 8, 2012. Humbled by the stature and activities of the previous Historians, he continued with the “Historic Moments”. They are now published in the Skaneateles Press. With the help of the Town Historian, they had the newspaper collection of the Skaneateles Historical Society digitized and placed on a dedicated computer system. Batlle’s annual report details the day-to-day activities of this office. He enjoys being a “history detective” of sorts helping people with their inquiries. As they say, “The rest is History.”

Status of NYSERDA Grant – Mayor Hubbard said this item will be discussed under New Business item #6.

Status of Franchise Renewals – Mayor Hubbard said the Public Hearing will take place at 7:30 PM tonight.

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

NEW BUSINESS

OPK’s Proposal for Additional LEED Services – Mayor Hubbard explained that in order to receive the remainder of the NYSERDA grant money, the Village has an obligation to seek LEED status and formalize commissioning. In response to the Village’s request, QPK submitted a Village of Skaneateles Renovation Proposal for Additional LEED Services. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said it will be nice to get this finished. Architect Connie Brace is very knowledgeable and has offered to help achieve Silver certification. Trustee Sennett said it is wonderful to have a plan to wrap up this item that has been on the agenda for a very long time. **Resolution #2018-15:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to accept QPK’s Renovation Proposal for Additional LEED Services as outlined in their letter of January 19, 2018 and

authorize Mayor Hubbard's execution accepting the proposal. Mayor Hubbard commented that this is a very good move.

Chamber of Commerce's 2018 Events – Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lynn distributed her letter with details for each event attached. She said there nothing really different other than they are brainstorming ideas for the 40th Anniversary of the Antique and Classic Boat Show and the 25th Annual Dickens Christmas. She said they had incredible weather for the 2017 Dickens Christmas and received very favorable comments – the Dickens characters were happy, as were the tourists, Chamber, merchants, etc. Director Lynn thanked Trustee Stokes-Cawley for the idea of free Christmas ornaments for the people who used the shuttle. Director Lynn went through the events noting that the Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 31 and they'd like the assistance of the DPW providing the orange saw horses set in the park the day before; everything is the same for the Duck Dash on Friday, June 15 other than the event is no longer occurring during the Curbstone Festival; relative to the Curbstone Festival, only Chamber Members are allowed to participate in the Curbstone Festival, extra police presence will be appreciated during the peak hours of the event, and merchants will be notified again that the Curbstone is a 3-day event and tents should be taken down on Saturday evening by 7 PM; regarding the 40th Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show, permission has been obtained from the City of Syracuse to hang the Boat Show Banners on the pier, signs remind boaters that the Chamber's docks will be closed, and while security has been hired to patrol the park from 9 pm to 6 am, a Police Crossing Guard is needed. Director Lynn said she has two short videos to show – one for the boat show and one of Dickens. She wasn't able to get the one for the boat show to work. Trustee Sennett said it is very helpful to have Director Lynn come in so early giving us time to review the events with the DPW, Police, etc. Trustee Sennett noted that details for the Curbstone Festival mention extra police. Janice Miller said the Finger Lakes Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society pays for an officer to be on the corner. Trustee Sennett asked Director Lynn to think through need to have versus nice to have. Director Lynn agreed that there is a difference. Trustee Sennett said she thinks a small group meeting would make sense. Relative to the Shop & Sip event, Trustee Stokes-Cawley suggested that it could be advertised more or the Chamber Merchants could do something that would give back to the residents more. Director Lynn said perhaps we could do more with it. She added that the merchants are incredible, but we could explore more options. The Chamber received very good feedback on the last Shop & Sip event. Noting the time, Mayor Hubbard said we have to get on with the Public Hearing that was advertised for 7:30 PM.

Public Hearing – Renewal of Time Warner Cable TV Franchise Agreement – Mayor Hubbard said we are very fortunate to have had Clerk to the Boards Dundon work on the renewal of the franchise agreement that has been reviewed and approved by Atty. Pavlus. Trustee Sennett commented that the synopsis that Clerk to the Boards Dundon put together was extremely helpful. In response to Trustee Sennett's question about the Village requiring placement of facilities underground, Mayor Hubbard said the cable company would have an obligation to do so, but there'd be a fee. He said Clerk to the Boards Dundon did an outstanding job. **Resolution #2018-16:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to open the Public Hearing at 7:39 PM. In response to Jorge Battle asking if the official franchise agreement is with Spectrum or Time Warner, it was clarified that it is between the Village of Skaneateles and Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC, locally known as Charter Communications. **Resolution #2018-17:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to close the Public Hearing at 7:40 PM. Trustee Sennett said she applauds Clerk to the Boards Dundon for increasing the number of Village locations to which free cable service may be provided – SAVES, the Creamery, school, etc. She said, "Kudos to Dennis Dundon." Trustee Eriksen agreed, adding that Dennis did a great job. It is very satisfying to turn the page on another item that has been on the agenda for such a very long time. Atty. Pavlus noted that there is a formal resolution provided by Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC that has to be signed and sent with the executed agreement. **Resolution #2018-18:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to renew the Cable Television Franchise with Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC, l/k/a Charter Communications as specified in the completed formal resolution.

Continuation of Chamber Events – Director Lynn played the Dickens video. Atty. Pavlus said any special events not in the outline would require that the Chamber come back to the Board for permission. Director Lynn said she understands, but clarified that they would not have to do so for events held on private property. Trustee Sennett reiterated that the Board would like to review the events with the DPW, Police, etc. She noted that Director Lynn talked about some different, special events for the 40th anniversary of the boat show. Director Lynn said she can confirm those with the Village when they are decided upon. She said both Dickens and the Boat show are solid events that work. The basic formats will be kept, but ideas are being brainstormed to enhance the significant milestones. Jorge Batlle asked that the Fire Department be included when reviewing the events. Trustee Sennett said that is a good idea.

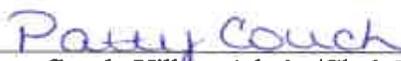
Public Comment – Trustee Stokes-Cawley said there is a proposal to put a trash incinerator at the Seneca Army Depot in Romulus, NY located between Cayuga and Seneca Lakes. The proposal has ramifications beyond the immediate Romulus Area including increased truck traffic, as the proposal would again bring waste from downstate to the Finger Lakes, as well as concerns about air pollution. She said she thinks it is worth discussing to decide if we want to make a statement. Both the Town and Village of Geneva are opposing it. Trustee Eriksen talked about some truck rollovers, air emissions, as well as other concerns and said it could be a big problem. Jorge Batlle recalled the garbage truck that overturned at the corner of Kane Ave. and Genesee Street some years ago. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said she'd like to do additional research and have the Village Board look into this proposal so that we can discuss whether we'd like to take a formal position on this proposal.

Approval of Bills – Trustee Sennett, thinking about quantity discounts, asked if we have thought about or do share salt with the Town of Skaneateles. It was noted that Light Department voucher #1135 for payment to the MEUA for safety training was not in the pile. **Resolution #2018-19:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) that bills from Abstract #16 be audited and paid as follows:

Abstract #16

General	Vouchers #0-35	Checks #20564-20598	\$ 53,920.97
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #1006-1016	Checks #5686-5696	\$ 5,253.18
Electric Fund	Vouchers #1131-1138	Checks #6499-6506	\$148,064.78
Water Fund	Vouchers #593-597	Checks #4325-4329	\$ 764.65

Adjournment – **Resolution #2018-20:** On the motion of Trustee Eriksen, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.


Patty Couch, Village Admin./Clerk-Treasurer

