

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 24, 2019
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Hubbard, Trustees Dove, Eriksen, Sennett and Stokes-Cawley, Deputy DMO (DDMO) Robinson, Codes Enforcement Officer Crompt, Village Historian Battle, Village Attorney Pavlus

Others:	Jason Gabak	Skaneateles PRESS
	Candy Searing	1513 Coon Hill Road (Chamber)
	Jason Cottrill	1869 Rte. 174
	Jean Vincent	68 East Lake Street (Chamber)
	Sandi Mulconry	3427 East Lake Road (Chamber)
	Hilary Fenner	67 W. Genesee Street (Chamber)
	Sarah Panzarella	Imagine 38 East Genesee Street

Minutes – Resolution #2018-15: On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 10, 2019 and the Operations Meeting of January 17, 2019, as presented.

Correspondence & Announcements – Mayor Hubbard noted the following:

- Receipt of Glens Falls National Bank LOSAP Statement for December 2018.
- Receipt of January 11, 2019 letter with NYSEG's Emergency Contact Numbers.
- Receipt of January 9, 2019 letter from NYSDOT relative to Skaneateles Signs Route 20.
- Receipt of January 8, 2019 letter from NYSDOT regarding roadway conditions on NYS Route 20 through the village.
- Receipt of January 14, 2019 email from Penflex about their staffing changes with the departure of Director of Operations, Tony Hill, who is leaving Penflex to pursue another opportunity.
- Receipt of emails from NYCOM: Proposed Elimination of AIM Funding; Statement on Legislative Consideration of a Permanent Tax Cap.
- Receipt of email from Senator Antonacci – Providing Real Solutions for NY's Taxpayers and Families.
- Receipt of letter from temporary CSEA Labor Relations Specialist Joann Mastronardi requesting to begin negotiations for successor agreement.
- Receipt of Jan. 18, 2019 email from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County – Road Salts Guide.
- Onondaga County Planning Federation 31st Annual Planning Symposium March 7, 2019, Marriott Syracuse Downtown. In response to Trustee Sennett asking if we ever send anyone from Zoning and Planning, Mayor Hubbard said they were copied. Clerk-Treasurer Couch said she can register anyone wanting to attend – they just need to provide her with the sessions they'd like to attend.

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

- Receipt of letter from Board of Elections advising that the Primary Election date will now be the last Tuesday in June instead of the September date.
- Receipt of email-Media Release County Exec. McMahon Applauds Syracuse Common Council for Extending Historic Sales Tax Agreement.

Codes Enforcement – Mayor Hubbard recognized receipt of Code Enforcement Officer Crompt's report for January 24, 2019 that records the following: 3 Footer Inspections; 3 Framing Inspections; 2 Insulation Inspections; 6 Final Inspections; 1 Certificate of Completion; 1 Temporary Certificate of Occupancy; 1 Sign Permit; 5 Building Permits; 2 Stop Work Orders; 13 Fire Inspections; 1 B&B Inspection; 2 B&B/Lodging Licenses; 1 Fire Investigation; 3 Complaint Investigations; 2 FOIL Requests; 1 Permit Closed; 3 Meetings with Counsel; 2 Meetings with Architects; 1 Meeting with Engineer; and 3 Meetings

with Tenants/Property Owners. In response to Mayor Hubbard asking if there's anything further to report, CEO Crompt said Deputy Zoning Inspector O'Sullivan is enrolled in local classes for 3 days in each month of January, February, and March to become a Building and Safety Inspector. As a certified Building Inspector, she will be able to help with fire inspections.

Director of Municipal Operations – DDMO Robinson reported that the City of Syracuse will be doing re-habilitation work on their dam. In response to Trustee Dove, DDMO Robinson said it will be a three-week project. The drop in the creek level will be pretty significant – from 200 mgd down to 5-6 mgd.

Village Historian – With DDMO Robinson displaying photographs on the overhead screen, Village Historian Battle presented his Historic Moment as follows:

HISTORIC MOMENT – January 2019

TROLLEY CARS

Today, the buzz words are electric cars and light rail systems. These ideas started back in the 1880s when Frank Sprague worked with Thomas Edison to develop motors and mechanisms to power a tram. These drove the former horse pulled cars five times faster than horse teams. Sprague became known as "The Father of Electric Traction."

In the 1890s trolley car systems swept the country. They were an economic boon, affording people an easy way to get to the job. It boosted social life, made shopping simpler, and made getting to parks and recreational areas easier.

Locally, the first franchise was sold to the Auburn City Railroad Company in 1898. This line ran from Auburn along Franklin Street. Construction of the right-of-way hit a few snags due to the lack of finances and rising cost of materials. By September of 1900 the line was finished. The company purchased land where today's Cayuga County Community College is located for car shed. In November they had a few trial runs. The trolley ran from Auburn to Root's Corners - what is now West Genesee Street and Fuller Street. The trip took 20 minutes.

January 1, 1901 the line officially opened, with the trolley running from Auburn to the bridge over the outlet of Skaneateles Lake. It cost 15 cents one-way and 25 cents round trip. A second trolley car was put into service the following week. January 4, 1901 a free ride to Auburn was offered to anyone wanting to purchase clothes at Marshall's Clothing Store. January 16th the Auburn Interurban Railway Company got permission to extend the line to the eastern limits of the Village. In April of 1901 the bridge over the out let was strengthened by adding additional girders. This extension was completed November 20th, with the trolley stopping in front of Legg Hall.

It was thought that the trolley lines were competitors with the railroads. Statistics show that the average number of passengers on the railroad between Skaneateles and Auburn was 15 per day. The daily average riders on the new trolleys was about 300 per day.

December of 1901, plans to extend the service to Marcellus were held up a law suit by the New York Central Railroad Company and a local, Frederick Roosevelt. February 1902, the suit was dismissed. Work started on the line to Marcellus on March 18, 1902. 60 men constructed two small bridges with spans of 50 and 60 feet and a long iron trestle bridge 622 feet in length to span Nine Mile Creek and the Martisco Railroad. By December the line was finished and the first car to Marcellus began operation. Today's Lee-Mulroy Road was the route it took from Route 20 toward Marcellus. The trolley company filed a notice for extension of the line into Syracuse.

October of 1902, contracts were let for two power substations. One between Skaneateles and Marcellus, and the other between Marcellus and Syracuse. These stations converted alternating current to direct current used by the trolley car's motors. Also, in 1902, the line was completed to Syracuse through Howlett Hill and the Split Rock gorge onto Syracuse. This route was billed as "The Scenic Route." The Auburn and Syracuse Electric Railroad operated the steamboat Glen Haven and advertised 'searchlight' cruises on Skaneateles Lake aboard the steamer The City of Syracuse, which included dinner and dancing.

With trolleys running to Marcellus, and on to Syracuse, cars made fewer stops in the Village. It was originally at all streets off of Genesee Street, Legg Block, Episcopal Church, about where Chestnut Circle is today, and East Lake Street. The ticket office, waiting room and freight depot was in the Eckett Block at Genesee & Jordan. Cars now stopped only there and at Root's Corners (Genesee & Fuller) and East Lake Street. At each stop a wooden hexagonal stop or station was built. These stops were named after the family owning the property, such as Dando, Williams, and Seymour. The station at East Lake Street was close to the front of 181 East Genesee. The family there had many people knocking at their door asking for information.

In 1907 work was completed on a second track to Marcellus. The track remained single over the 622-foot-long bridge over Nine Mile Creek. Cars often had to wait for another car to clear the bridge.

Snow did not seem to bother operations of the cars. When the snow was really bad, the railroad company hired anyone available to shovel. In March of 1920 it was reported that the drifts were ten feet high and the railroad company brought it their big plow to clear the tracks.

The trolley line had its share of serious mishaps. In the Village, a child lost his life when sliding down a hill, his sled went in front of an on-coming trolley. The Motorman and Conductor were killed in a head-on collision in January of 1918 on the single track on Franklin Street at the Soule Cemetery. Also, in 1918 a trolley collided with a railroad car in Split Rock. 54 passengers were injured including thirteen Skaneateles residents. Mr. Lewis of Skaneateles died when the stove in the smoker area tipped over on to him. There were numerous derailments, some involving utility poles.

As time went on, the popularity of cars and busses became the method of transportation. This resulted in trolley lines losing business. A notice in the April 13, 1930 Auburn newspaper stated *the last trolley car between Syracuse and Auburn will be run into the barns in Auburn, at 1230 o'clock Tuesday afternoon (April 15) after a trip from Syracuse. When Gordon Winters, motorman, and Hiram Titus, conductor, the latter the oldest employee in point of service, leave it, their departure will signify the end of operations for all time.*

Old Business

Status of NYSEERDA Grant – Mayor Hubbard said an email was received – Payment Advice that the \$44,214.43 payment was processed.

Status of New Seawall Grant / Clift Park Improvements – Mayor Hubbard said there is no update.

Status of Water Main Project – DDMO Robinson said submittals are going back and forth between GHD and the contractor.

Status of Light Dept. Action Plan – No news.

New Business

2019 Chamber Events – Chamber and Foundation Executive Director Fenner thanked the Board for including her on the agenda. She said while she is fairly new to the Chamber with about 4 months under her belt, the 2019 events are the same as 2018. Ms. Fenner also thanked the Board for their review of the 2019 events that she emailed. She said she did receive a call from Trustee Sennett who inquired about the asterisk under the boat show. Ms. Fenner explained that 10:00 a.m. is a tentative time for the Syracuse Model Boat Club unloading so was asterisked. Trustee Sennett said she saw the asterisk, but no key to its meaning, so called Hilary. She noted that using the template from the previous year speaks to the fact that no new events were added to the calendar. Trustee Sennett noted that the requests for the DPW are the same and asked Trustee Stokes-Cawley if she saw any problems. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said she did not see any problems. Trustee Eriksen noted that the dates for the Fall Fest are to be determined and asked if Ms. Fenner has any idea what weekend it will be. Ms. Fenner said it is being organized with another gal

and will possibly be the first or second weekend in October – they will get that figured out. **Resolution #2019-16:** On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to authorize the Chamber and Foundation 2019 Annual Events as listed in Executive Directors Fenner's January 17, 2019 detail.

Schedule Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2019 - With DDMO Robinson displaying a power point on the overhead screen, Trustee Stokes-Cawley explained that as we went through the sidewalk repair/replace program in 2017-2018, we received requests to add new sidewalks. Our policy at the time didn't allow for new sidewalks, so she's been working with Trustee Sennett, the rest of the Board and Atty. Pavlus on a new sidewalk policy. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said the initiative is "To create a pleasant and safe network of pedestrian walkways for the use, benefit and enjoyment of ALL citizens of the community, including children, the elderly and those with limited mobility." Trustee Sennett said it is key to keep in mind that sidewalks are a community resource – it's a new way to think about it. She said she lives on Goodspeed Place where there are no sidewalks. She has walked all over the village streets, but won't ever have to pay. This way, everyone pays equally for the sidewalks that are a community resource. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said this will allow us to put in new sidewalks, as well as repairing existing sidewalks. With the SMTC's Study Area map on the overhead screen, Trustee Sennett recognized that there are a number of thru streets without sidewalks. Trustee Stokes-Cawley read aloud the Policy Elements as follows:

- All tax parcels will be charged an annual sidewalk assessment of \$75 on their village tax bill.
- Sidewalks will become a Village asset and will be inventoried, tracked and maintained by the Department of Public Works.
- All property owners that had new sidewalks installed as part of the 2017/2018 repair program will be exempt from paying the assessment for 3 years following the adoption of the proposed sidewalk local law. Trustee Sennett explained that property owners who had sidewalks repaired have a 3-year payment plan, so they won't be charged this assessment for 3 years.
- The Director of Municipal Operations will submit a priority list of sidewalks for repair and installation annually to the Village Board for the Board's approval.
- The property owner abutting any sidewalk continues to maintain the responsibility and liability for keeping sidewalks free and clear of snow, ice and all other obstructions. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said it is a courtesy that the Village has the sidewalk plow go through.
- This policy does not alter the requirements in State and Village Law regarding prior written notice of defects.

Trustee Stokes-Cawley said the next step is to consider scheduling a Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2019 on February 28, 2019. In response to Trustee Stokes-Cawley asking if he had anything to add, Atty. Pavlus said the basis for the Local Law is under the Municipal Home Rule Law that allows the Village to adopt a local law authorizing benefit assessments. It will be equal for all lots because all walks in the Village are one continuous linked pedestrian pathway. Trustee Sennett commented that when we initially came up with this, our Village Clerk/Treasurer remarked that since she started with the village in 1991, we've not had any new sidewalks. Trustee Sennett said it's been a long time without new sidewalks. Trustee Stokes-Cawley noted that we looked to the City of Ithaca for inspiration – it's the only city in the state that's done this. **Resolution #2019-17:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to authorize scheduling a Public Hearing on Local Law #1 of 2019 – Sidewalks on Thursday, February 28, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall. Mayor Hubbard thanked Trustees Stokes-Cawley and Sennett for all the work they did on this local law coming together. He said we want public input and understanding and hopes that we get support for this. The Board stated that the draft local law will be available on the Village's website.

Appoint Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Trustee Sennett said this position came about because long-time employee Roben Shappell, who has been with us for 30 years, is retiring. Therefore, we've been looking for her replacement. Tracie Noda has an accounting degree from LeMoyne, is currently an internal auditor

at Solvay Bank, and has municipal experience having worked for the Towns of Camillus and Marcellus. Trustee Dove added that she also was Treasurer / Budget Committee Chairperson of the Skaneateles Chamber of Commerce and Skaneateles Foundation. Trustee Dove said we interviewed quite a few candidates and Tracie rose to the top – the cream of the crop. She will be an asset, is a Skaneateles resident and wants to be involved in the Skaneateles community. **Resolution #2019-18:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to appoint Tracie E. Noda as full-time Deputy Clerk/Treasurer commencing February 6, 2019, at an hourly rate of \$27.04, contingent on the Village of Skaneateles Police Department doing a background check, a pre-employment drug and alcohol test, and the Village doing reference checks. In discussing the resolution, Trustee Dove said she worked with Tracie as Treasurer of the Foundation, but feels we should do other reference checks too. A full compensation package detailing everything we typically do for full-time employees was reviewed by Tracie. Mayor Hubbard thanked Trustees Dove and Sennett for their efforts - the Village has been well served with their taking on extra duties and doing due diligence.

2019 SCS Commencement – Mayor Hubbard said commencement in the park is an annual event and there doesn't appear to be anything out of the ordinary. **Resolution #2019-19:** On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the Skaneateles High School's request to hold their 2019 Commencement exercises in Clift and Shotwell Park on Sunday, June 23, 2019.

Public Comment – Village Historian Batlle advised that there is a new display in the Village Hall lobby featuring S.A.V.E.S. ambulance.

Change Order – DDMO Robinson reminded the Board that, prior to approving the bills, they need to approve the Change Order for Ballard, per DMO Harty's email of January 23, 2019. **Resolution #2019-20:** On the motion of Trustee Eriksen, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the final Change Order to close out Ballard's 2017 Sidewalk Program. In discussing the resolution, Trustee Dove noted that the change order was a result of Ballard performing needed work in a few extra areas.

Approval of Bills – In response to Trustee Sennett asking about the purchase of air mattresses, Clerk-Treasurer Couch said she heard that the firefighters were manning the station on Saturday and Sunday because of the storm that was forecast. Jorge Batlle confirmed that and said firefighters were on duty Saturday, January 19 and Sunday, January 20. Trustee Sennett said she did see an email from SVFD Chief Evans and thinks that is outstanding. Trustee Dove asked Jorge how many calls there were. Jorge replied, "None." Trustee Sennett asked about the Malone Trucking & Excavating bill. DDMO Robinson said there was a large water leak on E. Genesee Street at the Lynn property and we had to call in help. Trustee Sennett asked DDMO Robinson if she said that none of the guys came in. DDMO Robinson said the Water Department guy, but we needed an excavator. Trustee Dove asked about the percentages of HSA allocated from the Electric Department. Clerk/Treasurer Couch said some employees' salaries are allocated from more than one department. Trustee Sennett said, and therefore other things are as well, such as the HSA contribution. **Resolution #2019-21:** On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Sennett, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) that bills from Abstract #16 be audited and paid as follows:

Abstract #16

General Fund	Vouchers #1051-1091	Checks #21635-21674	\$189,174.15
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #1292-1301	Checks #5982-5991	\$ 4,147.70
Electric Fund	Vouchers #1430-1445	Checks #6803-6815	\$136,941.41
Water Fund	Vouchers #791-799	Checks #4523-4531	\$ 5,662.06

Budget Amendment – Relative to the damaged speed signs, **Resolution #2019-22:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to authorize a Budget Amendment to increase A3120.2 Police Department New Equipment \$2,145.00 and decrease A2680 Insurance Recovery \$2,145.00.

Executive Session – **Resolution #2019-23:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to enter into an Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss a Personnel Matter. Everyone but the Village Board and Atty. Pavlus left the meeting. As reported by Atty. Pavlus, **Resolution #2019-24:** On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Eriksen, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to move out of Executive Session and immediately adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.



Patty Couch, Vil. Admin./Clerk-Treasurer