

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES – SUPERVISOR’S MEETING – February 4, 2019
9:00 am Constantia Town Hall

Present: Kenneth Mosley - Supervisor
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran, Frank Tomaino – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk
Wayne Woolridge - Highway Superintendent

Others Present: Lyle Robbins – Operations Director for North Shore Ambulance
Kathleen LaVigne – North Shore Ambulance

Absent: Warren Bader - Town Attorney

CALL TO ORDER:

At 9:00 am Mr. Mosley called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

AMBULANCE:

Mr. Colesante opened by explaining to both Mrs. LaVigne and Mr. Robbins that the board has had concerns with the continuing cost of North Shore Ambulance. The board as a whole is not doing their jobs if they do not look for ways to reduce costs to the taxpayers. With this in mind, members of the board met with Mr. Mentor, owner of Mentor Ambulance. Mr. Mentor had nothing but great things to say about North Shore Ambulance. This meeting was just to have some questions answered. Three items that the board would like to speak about:

1. Write off policy – people who get paid directly from insurance company and then do not pay their bill
2. Size of ambulances
3. Town of Amboy

Mr. Robbins would like to discuss the size of ambulance first, when they are ready to replace an ambulance they will be going to the mid-size ambulance. Mr. Robbins would never suggest a van type because the primary coverage area is County and Town roads, also because of location, patients are in the ambulance for a longer time which makes van usage not as desirable.

Mr. Metzger told Mr. Robbins that the Town Board would like to have input when there is a big purchase. Mr. Robbins responded that they are “stand alone” and are the professionals and should be able to make their own decisions. Mrs. LaVigne does not see an issue of notifying the board of their intentions.

Mr. Robbins does understand that there is a trust issue with the recent theft, but the ambulance was bonded and did get the money back. The ambulance did have 3 different audits and have put into place the recommendations put forth by the agencies. Mr. Metzger would like to see the audits, Mrs. LaVigne will get copies to Mr. Metzger.

Mr. Mosley asked why the ambulance is being questioned when the fire departments are not questioned. Mr. Metzger responded that the fire departments are regulated by the Constantia Fire Commissioners and the Village of Cleveland’s board acts as Commissioners for the Cleveland Fire Department. Each of these boards are elected officials that have to be responsive to their constituents.

Amboy – The Town of Amboy did reach out to North Shore for an estimate of coverage costs, Amboy is about the size of Vienna which contracts for \$69,000, Amboy’s immediate response was they could not afford that. Recovery money from patients is the big question, have to speculate that they are not that good.

Write off policy - Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements need to be addressed, they only reimburse 40% of the bill. The reminder will be the responsibility of the patient, this is a difficult balance, don’t want to send an older person to collections for fear they will not call when an ambulance is needed.

North Shore Ambulance holds their meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month 7pm.

At 10:20am both Mrs. LaVigne and Mr. Robbins left the meeting.

OTHER TOPICS:

Mr. Haynes, CEO was in to ask the board for permission to utilize Ms. Cottet for secretarial as needed in his office. There were no objections from the board members.

Mr. Mosley told the board he has signed paperwork from B & L for a change in the scope of services. The reason for the change was:

- A. The actual amount of Construction Phase Services provided to date exceeded the previous amount authorized and additional Construction Phase Services remain.
- B. The actual amount of Subcontracted Services provided was less than the previously amount authorized.

Discussion turned to the joint sewer meeting being held on February 5th, Mr. Mosley called Mr. Clark to verify that a map, plan and report will be ready for the meeting. Mr. Clark indicated that the map, plan and report is being worked on but it will not be at the meeting, a summary and breakdown of the projects will be available.

Mrs. Haynes told the board that the Town was awarded the JCap grant which includes new seating for the court room. The board will need to decide what to do with the old chairs currently in use, Mr. Mosley will reach out to Mr. Confer who has said in the past that they belong to the Masons.

ADJOURN:

At 1:48 pm the meeting adjourned.