

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES – BUDGET MEETING – October 1, 2020**  
4:00 pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Kenneth Mosley - Supervisor  
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran, Frank Tomaino – Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk  
Ms. Butler- Bookkeeper  
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 4:10 pm Mr. Mosley called the town board meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance. As per recommended procedures during COVID-19 all persons in attendance were seated 6ft apart.

**DISCUSSION:**

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Constantia Tentative Budget for 2021. All board members have received a copy of the budget, only changes that have been made from 2020 is to the highway fund as Ms. Butler and Mr. Woolridge have met and made the changes as Mr. Woolridge requested.

Before reviewing the budget, Mr. Colesante would like to have talking points for the upcoming budget meetings.

1. Possible raises to cover the increase in health insurance if there is one for 2021, paperwork will be received from the Empire Plan later in the budget process.
2. Add an additional benefit for long term employees to bridge the gap from retirement to 65 years of age. Additional information will be needed before a decision can be made, and parameters will need to be set for this incentive can be offered. After discussion, Ms. Butler was asked to run the numbers to see if this is even possible for the Town to offer. Ms. Butler was asked to create a schedule to cover both single and family. At the current time employees pay 25%, run the number with that figure, this is one of the variables that might have to change. More discussion when the schedule is available.

-Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department submitted their budget with a 2% increase, contributing factor is the increase in cost to the personal protection equipment (PPE) and the need to start replacing portable radios. Mr. Metzger is working on the budget for the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department and Constantia District #1, the budgets should be submitted shortly. Mr. Tomaino asked if there was FEMA money for the additional PPE, there was, but in materials not monetary.

-North Shore Volunteer Emergency Squad, Inc. submitted a budget with a 3% increase. Mr. Mosley will ask Mr. Robbins to attend the next meeting to discuss their request.

-SEWER – Mr. Clark from Barton & Loguidice submitted a budget proposal for \$10,000 to \$20,000. Mr. Mosley will reach out to Mr. Clark to see if he has any outstanding bills for 2020 to verify if some of the billing needs to be held until 2021 if that is the case, then \$20,000 might not be enough. Mr. Mosley will need to speak to Mr. Bader, Town Attorney to ask for their projected costs as it pertains to sewers.

-Lighting Districts – Mr. Moran would like to decrease street lighting as follows:

SL-5182.4 from \$4,000 to \$3,500  
SL-5182.4 from \$13,000 to \$11,500  
All board members agreed

Ms. Butler suggested the following changes to State Retirement:

A9010.8 from \$35,300 increase to \$37,000  
DB9010.8 from \$43,695 increase to \$46,000  
All board members agreed

As revenues are of a concern this year with the pandemic, each line was reviewed and changed as indicated below:

A1091 Other Payments in Lieu of Taxes from \$5,901 to \$5,703  
A1255 Clerk Fees from \$500 to \$400  
A2025 Pavilion Rental from \$2,500 to \$0  
A2401 Interest & Earnings increase from \$500 to \$1,000  
A2450 Commissions Cable TV from \$9,800 to \$7,300 Due to franchise fees no longer reimbursed by the County.  
A2544 Dog Licenses from \$4,000 to \$3,500  
A2610 Fines and Forfeited Bail from \$15,000 to \$5,000  
A3820 Youth Programs from \$400 to \$0

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next budget meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

**ADJOURN:**

At 5:35 pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

Carried: Moran – Yes Tomaino – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley - Yes