

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES – Town Board Meeting – December 15, 2020
7:30 pm Town of Constantia – Via ZOOM

Present: Kenneth Mosley - Supervisor
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran, Frank Tomaino – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk
Warren Bader – Town Attorney
Roy Reehil – County Legislator

Others Present: Erin Zehr – Commissioner, Park and Recreation
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

Absent: Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:30 pm Mr. Mosley called the town board meeting to order, VIA Zoom.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR:

Mr. Metzger asked if the number to call to make an appointment for DMV was a local number. Mr. Reehil did indicate the number that Mr. Metzger was calling was an exchange for Oswego, Mr. Metzger commented it did not seem to be working very well as he has been on the phone a few times for an extended wait time. Mr. Reehil was unsure as to the policy.

Mr. Reehil told the board the budget for 2021 has been passed. In 2020 the rate was \$7.69 per thousand, for 2021 the rate is down to \$7.48 per thousand. Currently the County is on a hiring freeze and a purchasing freeze for a full year. Sales tax was actually good, same as last year. The County is in good shape with very little debt, the County tends to be conservative which has worked out good for these times.

As expected the health department has been busy. The County is now using the State’s COVID figures, because of this there will be a jump in the number of deaths by 13, many of these deaths had underling issues but still a sad figure.

PARK AND RECREATION:

Discussion on accepting the bid for installing the playground at park. Previous to the meeting Mrs. Haynes sent to all board members copies of the bids received, they are as follows:

CW Site Development LLC - \$50,000 – complete site work and installation of playground
Titan Development Inc. - \$27,300 – installation only, no site work
Kapper Landscaping, Inc. - \$54,360 – complete site work and installation of playground

Mr. Metzger questioned the bid from Titan Development as it had hand written figures indicating additional charges, Mr. Metzger does not think that could be considered a legal bid. After discussion Mr. Tomaino made the motion to accept the bid from CW Site Development LLC for \$50,000 contingent on receiving the Richard S. Shineman Foundation grant for \$30,000, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

When Mrs. Zehr came into the meeting, the board told her the bid from CW Site Development was accepted. Mrs. Zehr was reminded that CW Site Development needed to supply a certificate of insurance and if anything needed to be signed accepting the bid, please bring to Mr. Mosley for authorization.

SEWER:

Mr. Mosley spoke to Mr. Clark earlier in the day there is no update, all grants are on hold until 2021.

MINUTES:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the November 17th town board and the December 7th supervisor meeting, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #12 Dated December 15, 2020:

General Fund	365-401	\$18,949.96
Highway Fund	223-238	\$48,986.66
Sewer	15	\$ 550.00
Bernhards Bay Water	9	\$ 160.00

Seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

At this time Mr. Oram from Martin Rd joined the ZOOM meeting. Mr. Mosley asked Mr. Oram if he would like to speak at this time, Mr. Oram was in the meeting to discuss the property on Martin Rd that many years ago was going to be considered for a cell tower. Mr. Oram is against the cell tower as it will be right in his back yard, also the Village of Cleveland has recently installed a tower. Mr. Mosley told Mr. Oram he is not aware of a new cell

tower on Martin Rd and for a cell tower to be considered, it will need to go before the planning board. Once the planning board approves, it will then need to be approved by the Town Board. Mrs. Haynes was asked if she was aware of cell tower discussion before the planning board, she was not. Mrs. Haynes did say that Mr. Solomon did reach out to Mr. Haynes CEO about putting a tower up on the property on Martin Rd. Mr. Haynes did tell Mr. Solomon that he will approve a cell tower once the proper steps are completed. Mr. Mosley will follow up with Ms. Petkash, Chairman of the planning board to verify if she has had discussions with Mr. Solomon. Mr. Oram wants to keep on top of the situation.

*At 8:02pm Mr. Oram left the meeting.

BUDGET TRANSFER:

Mr. Moran offered the following motion:

Referring to general fund budget transfer #4 for November 2020, Account A1420.4 Attorney CE is over budget \$1,947.50. I therefore make a motion to transfer \$1,947.50 from Contingency Account A1990.4 to replenish the aforementioned account. This leaves \$81,751.04 balance in contingency. Seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Mosley told the board that today the Town received AIM Funding \$36,713 which was not expected, it was taken out of the 2020 budget when the Town was told this program was no long going to be funded. Also, the mortgage tax check was received from the County, this check was for \$54,643 making the total received for 2020 \$78,488. This is substantially more than the \$35,000 that was budgeted. The Town is in good shape, hopefully this will continue for 2021.

Mr. Moran made the motion to approve the Supervisor's report dated November 30, 2020, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Woolridge could not get signed in, Mr. Mosley spoke to Mr. Avery earlier in the day, they have been plowing/salting early mornings.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the following reports as received for November, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

- a. Code Enforcement received \$898.20
- b. Justice Pelon and Justice Simpson
- c. Town Clerk received \$1,527.20

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

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Mr. Baxter reported:

- The Tug Hill Commission offices are still operating at a 50% occupancy level, with a schedule with Watertown-based staff where at any given time, half of the staff is in the Watertown office is in the office, and the rest are still working from home. Actual occupancy may be lower depending on need, as Tug Hill staff operate to minimize spread of COVID-19 during this period of transmission and infection on the upswing with colder weather. Commission staff continue to be available for meetings with your municipality.
- The Governor's executive order allowing remote meetings and public hearings (via means such as Zoom) has been extended through January 1, 2021. If you have any upcoming meetings where that may be a help to you. I can facilitate a Zoom meeting with a little advance notice. Advance notice will also help with figuring out the logistics of notification and how to conduct the meeting via Zoom, either completely or with Zoom as an additional method of attendance and participation.
- The North Shore Council of Governments meeting met on Friday, November 13 at 3:30 p.m. at the Constantia town hall, 14 Frederick Street, Constantia. Thank you to everyone who attended. If you have any suggestions for the next meeting, on date/time/location or subjects which would increase your opportunity or interest in attending, please let us know. As things stand, our next meeting will be in early 2021, which may change depending on circumstances.
- We are in the process of implementing a contractor to assist in meeting coverage in the North Shore area, so if you have anyone in mind who might be able and interested in serving this function, we'd be happy to hear of potential candidates.
- The subject of public employer health emergency plans came up in a neighboring town board meeting, and these plans have deadlines starting in early 2021. I have for you tonight a copy of the Tug Hill Times article of October 23, 2020, and a print of the plan template mentioned in the article. I will forward to you any additional information I receive on the subject, and I would be happy to be of any help I can to the town in developing a plan.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Minutes received from Planning Board for November.

2021 Foreclosure List from County

Sewer District PE Letter dated 12/2/2020

BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENT:

Emergency Operations Plan as required by NYS - Mr. Metzger has been working on one received from Costello, Cooney and Fearon. Mr. Metzger will review the one sent by Mr. Baxter from the Tug Hill Commission.

End of year meeting set for December 31st at 9 am and organizational meeting will be January 5th at 6 pm.

Mrs. Files, cleaner for the Town Hall has put in for her retirement, the Town will need to look for a replacement.

Mr. Moran brought up equalization of charges for the Northshore Water District vs the Bernhards Bay Water District. This will need to be done for the 2022 budget season. Mr. Moran did give the board members a letter explaining how he believes it needs to be done, the board will need to review and memorialize a document for future use in charging each district. Mr. Moran believes this should be done at a water board meeting, water board meetings are usually held in August.

At a previous meeting, Mr. Langey indicated that the intermunicipal agreement that was written between the Town of Constantia and West Monroe needs to be clarified. Mr. Bader believes Mr. Langey has reached out to West Monroe with a new agreement they are just waiting for a response.

ADJOURN:

At 8:36 pm Mr. Tomaino made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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