

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES –TOWN BOARD – February 16, 2021**  
7:30 pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Kenneth Mosley - Supervisor  
Richard Colesante, John Metzger Thomas Moran, Frank Tomaino – Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk  
Warren Bader - Town Attorney-Via Zoom  
Dustin Clark and David Powers – Barton & Logudice – Via Zoom  
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission -Via Zoom

Absent: Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 7:30 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. Mr. Metzger was joining the meeting via Zoom.

**SEWER:**

Mr. Clark emailed the board members a standard engineering agreement to the Town for approval, the document is quite long, Mr. Bader has not completed review as of this meeting. The Town also received the agreement from Costello, Fearon and Cooney for legal services, at this point the Town is waiting on agreements from Fiscal Advisors and Bond Council. All agreements need to be ready for approval at the Supervisor’s meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> to continue with the process to accept the financing offers for the sewer district.

**WATER:**

Mr. Powers updated the map from the interest survey previously received. County Route 23 does have a lot of interest, but quite a few with no responses, the board members requested Mrs. Haynes resend surveys to properties that did not respond.

**MINUTES:**

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the January 19<sup>th</sup> town board and February 8<sup>th</sup> supervisor meeting, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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

**VOUCHERS:**

Mr. Tomaino made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #2 Dated February 16, 2021:

General Fund	33-66	\$ 17,421.84
Highway Fund	18-35	\$ 22,421.78
North Shore Water District	2	\$352,111.00
Sewer	2	\$ 120.00

Seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

**SUPERVISOR:**

Mr. Moran made the motion to approve the Supervisor’s report dated January 31, 2021, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

**APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Mr. Tomaino made the motion to accept the following reports as received for January, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

- a. Code Enforcement received \$1,347.25
- b. Justice Pelon and Justice Simpson
- c. Town Clerk received \$1,862.25
- d. Tax Collector has collected to date \$4,063,532.58. On February 9, 2021 \$2,196,190.92 was turned over to the Constantia Town Supervisor, satisfying the total warrant for the Town.

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

**HIGHWAY:**

With Mr. Woolridge out sanding the roads, Mr. Mosley discussed the LED upgrade for the highway garage. The out of pocket investment for the Town is \$957.54, payback time is 13 months. Mr. Mosley has spoken to Mr. Woolridge, Amboy highway garage was recently upgraded, they are happy with the lighting. Mr. Colesante made the motion to authorize Supervisor Mosley sign the LED upgrade proposal, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

Mr. Mosley also updated the board that two highway employees are out of work at the present time, Mr. Woolridge has contacted Mr. Riggs and Mr. Cottet they have both agreed to sub in if needed.

**TUG HILL COMMISSION:**

Mr. Baxter submitted the following report:

- 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. 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 February 26, 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 New York State Committee on Open Government held virtual FOIL (Freedom of Information Law) training on February 11, 2021. The link for the recording of that webinar is on their web site, <https://www.dos.ny.gov/coog/>
- I attended a webinar by NYMIR recently on employee issues associated with COVID-19. By now, it should be posted on the NYMIR web site.
- Several Tug Hill staff have been and are participating in helping staff the statewide coronavirus inoculation effort in Potsdam and Syracuse.
- A question you don't have to make a decision on immediately – when I started help maintain the web site for the town of Constantia, I created a new domain name, [www.townofconstantia-ny.us](http://www.townofconstantia-ny.us), for uniformity among the North Shore towns I work with. The town also had an existing domain name, townconstantia.org, which we discontinued use of back then. If you type it in, it just redirects you to the current name.

The North Shore Council of Governments (NorCOG) has continued to pay for townconstantia.org in order to prevent it being misused in the future in a way that would not reflect well on the town. After discussion at the most recent NorCOG meeting, the group decided that they did not wish to continue to pay for townconstantia.org.

NorCOG *would* be perfectly happy to transfer the townconstantia.org domain name to the ownership of the town of Constantia to continue to maintain should the town so wish to prevent its malicious misuse. If the town does not wish to do that, when NorCOG discontinues renewing its ownership, it then becomes for anyone to buy and anyone to use for any purpose they wish.

Domain name renewal comes up in May, so we do still have time for you to think about it and make a decision to take over ownership and maintenance of that domain name.

After discussion it was decided that the Town would want to keep control over the domain name. Mr. Baxter will get the necessary information to the Town.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

-Letter received from Bousquet Holstein PLLC, Attorney Werbeck requesting the Town waive the 30-day waiting period for a liquor license for 276 State Route 49. Mr. Mosley, Mr. Haynes and Ms. Petkash has spoken to the owner, they will not be needing the waiver, they are still in the process of finalizing all that is needed to open their restaurant. Mr. Colesante stated this is not unusual for businesses to request this from the Town, the Town does not usually comply. When reviewing the liquor license sent with the letter, board members would like Mr. Mosley to reach out to the planning board members so they are aware that the new business might be offering outdoor music which should be discussed at their meeting.

-Letter received from Mr. Sciacca's attorney, Mr. Hoffmann regarding the violations at 52 Shacksbush Rd. After discussion, all board members agreed to move forward with the legal proceeding with the exception of Mr. Tomaino.

#### **BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENT:**

-IMA with West Monroe is on hold until Ms. Lathan from Fiscal Advisors can fully review the document.

-Mr. Macari, Chairman of the board of appeals requested Mrs. Foster, Secretary for the board be appointed as an alternate on the board, will help to get a quorum. Mr. Bader will verify if this is legal.

-Moratorium on container buildings, Mr. Bader will get the Local Law together.

-Discussion on the Public Employer Mandatory Emergency policy that needs to be approved by the Town by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Haynes has made the changes suggested by Mr. Moran at the last meeting indicating that Oswego County Department of Health (OCDOH) is the health department the document refers to. The major question was did the board consider code enforcement essential. After discussion it was decided that code enforcement is essential for inspections. Mrs. Haynes will make the necessary changes for possible approval at the supervisor's meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **ADJOURN:**

At 8:18 pm Mr. Tomaino made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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