

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES –TOWN BOARD – August 17, 2021**  
7:30 pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Richard Colesante, John Metzger Thomas Moran, Frank Tomaino – Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk  
Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent  
Warren Bader - Town Attorney  
Roy Reehil – County Legislator  
Erin Zehr – Park and Recreation Chair  
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

Absent: Kenneth Mosley - Supervisor

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 7:30 pm Mr. Tomaino called the town board meeting to order. Mr. Tomaino will run the meeting with the absence of Supervisor Mosley.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**SEWER:**

**Constantia Sewer Project**

- Recent Work Completed
  - ✓ EFC has approved extension request and has formally extended WIIA and Hardship funding (Totaling \$25M) to December 31, 2021.
  - ✓ WQIP and CDBG Grant Applications were submitted in July for funding.
- Current Status:
  - B&L, Fiscal Advisors, and Town are preparing required documentation to close with EFC no later than October 1, 2021.
  - B&L are engaging survey, archaeological, and soil boring subcontractors to order respective services for the project area.
  - Announcement of grant awards through CFA program pending. Expected in November/December 2021.
  - We discussed possible County ARP money for the project with Dave Turner. Dave indicated we would need to submit to all other grant opportunities before they would consider using County ARP money.
- Future steps:
  - Submit EFC supporting documents for Finance Agreement no later than October 1, 2021
  - Subcontractors to continue survey work and soil borings through late summer early fall 2021.
  - Begin design of WWTP improvements and collection system fall 2021.
  - Close financing with EFC by end of the year.

Mr. Tomaino went to Rome to sit with a representative from U.S. Congresswomen Claudia Tenney's team. Mr. Tomaino pushed the need to help with the affordability gap. Really no answers, but they will supply letters of support to DEC for the upcoming grant cycle.

**WATER:**

**New Water Extension Area**

- B&L evaluating potential project areas based on current funding programs and need

**COUNTY LEGISLATOR:**

Mr. Reehil spoke to Mr. Turner about funding for the sewer district out of the ARP monies. Mr. Reehil is disappointed that the County will not be able to help out until all other grants opportunities are exhausted.

-The County is getting ready to hold the tax auction on September 7<sup>th</sup>. There are four properties in Constantia and one in Cleveland. There are currently two properties that are on hold until the County finds out the rules for the hold on evictions.

-COVID cases are going up in the County. It seems like a majority of the cases are in the 20-35 age group and multiple people in one family.

-Oswego County is participating in the National Rabies Vaccine Distribution Program for wildlife with aerial drops in August.

Mr. Tomaino asked Mr. Reehil if the County has spent their money from the ARP Funding. The County is currently conducting interviews and setting up meetings. Mr. Metzger asked if they County was participating in the restaurant program he believes it was 2 to 1 gift cards to help restaurants/bars. Mr. Reehil believes they did.

**PARK AND RECREATION:**

Mrs. Zehr told the board members that this week is the last week of the summer program. Today was the first time that they had to cancel due to rain. There were 183 total registered, this is a record number. 155 town residents and 28 from out of town that paid the \$50 registration fee. Fall soccer has been cancelled, hopefully the

league will start back up in the spring. Mr. Colesante asked if the tractor show was going to be held at the park this year, Mr. Condgen has cancelled the event this year.

#### **MINUTES:**

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the July 20<sup>th</sup> public hearing, July 20<sup>th</sup> town board meeting and August 2<sup>nd</sup> supervisor meeting, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

#### **VOUCHERS:**

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #8 Dated August 17, 2021:

General	253-291	\$ 22,008.71
Highway	134-162	\$347,707.31
Bernhards Bay	7	\$ 12,437.22
Sewer	10-11	\$ 1,744.36

Seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

#### **SUPERVISOR:**

Mr. Moran noted that in the July 31<sup>st</sup> Supervisor report indicated the Town received the first half of the expected ARPA- American Rescue Plan Act. \$209,962.65 was received, the additional \$209,962.65 is expected in 2022. As of yet there has been no indication as to how the funds can be spent.

Mr. Moran read the following into the minutes:

Referring to the budget transfer sheet #2 for August 17, 2021, General Fund Account A1620.13 Bldg & Grnds – Park, is over budget \$2,720.00. I therefore make a motion to transfer \$2,720.00 from Contingency Account A1990.4 to replenish the over budget Bldg & Grnds – Park account. This leaves \$83,692.00 in contingency.

Seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

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

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

#### **HIGHWAY:**

Mr. Woolridge reported:

-Paver is fixed, rental has been returned

-Doing shoulder work, driveway aprons and bus turnarounds

-Roads paved to date: Johnson, Le-Ville, Roosevelt, Tynan, Adrian Circle, Hillside Dr, N. Auringer, Grannis, Doris Park, 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, 26<sup>th</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> St.

-Paving for Village next week

-Continue to long arm and roadside mow

-At the Supervisor's meeting Mr. Woolridge indicated the resolution passed to budget modification was incorrect. After looking at the numbers the resolution should stand.

-Missed the cut off for CHIPS re-imburement this quarter, the last few years the State requires copies of cancelled checks. With the cut off being August 3<sup>rd</sup> there was just not enough time. The next date cut off is November 2<sup>nd</sup> for payout in December.

Mr. Metzger made the motion to approve the Highway Superintendent's report, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

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

- a. Code Enforcement - \$1,473.55
- b. Justice Pelon and Justice Simpson
- c. Town Clerk - \$4,494.55

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

#### **TUG HILL COMMISSION:**

Mr. Baxter submitted the following report:

The Tug Hill Commission continues to make all possible efforts toward being able to conduct a Local Government Conference in 2022. They recently conducted a survey of past attendees on a variety of topics on options on how to make the conference happen, and early results are in.

First, it should be noted that we are trying to make arrangements with Jefferson Community College for a late March 2022 conference. However, those arrangements are not in place at this point, and we are nearing the point in time where we need to know where the conference is to be held, so we know how many tracks of programming we will be able to offer. With that in mind, we have begun to identify possible alternate conference locations and dates, and we surveyed to get *your* input on what works for *you*, the local governments that this conference was created to serve.

Some of the key findings:

-- Respondents were strongly in favor of a conference that was held in-person, not via Zoom.

-- Respondents were willing to consider alternate locations for the conference.

-- Respondents were willing to consider a scaled-down conference if the available location did not accommodate the full scale of training conducted at Jefferson Community College

Respondents were willing to consider dates other than March. April was the most popular response, March was second, and May was third.

-- Most respondents would be willing to produce proof of vaccination if the facility required it

-- Most respondents were *not* interested in a second day of conference events

-- Most respondents were *not* interested in a conference held on a Saturday

All this depends on COVID-related requirements that would allow a group the size of the Local Government Conference to get together. Tug Hill will continue to stay in touch with out local governments as we continue to work on making an in-person 2022 Local Government Conference possible at a convenient location and at an affordable cost.

**PLANNING BOARD:**

Minutes from June 29<sup>th</sup> received.

**BOARD OF APPEALS:**

Minutes from June 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 28<sup>th</sup> received.

**BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENTS:**

-Call from a resident from Doris Park concerned they will be closing the road for a block party, Mr. Tomaino returned the call, no voice mail. The road can't be closed for this action. Mr. Schwartz was in attendance he is not in charge of the gathering, but wanted to note that the traffic can be re-routed down the side street.

**TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION**

**August 18, 2021**

**TOWN OF CONSTANTIA LOCAL LAW B OF 2021**

(“A Local Law Pursuant To Cannabis Law § 131 Opting Out of Licensing and Establishing Retail Cannabis Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Establishments Within the Town of Constantia”)

Councilor **Metzger** introduced proposed Local Law No. B-2021 regarding the opting out of licensing and establishing retail cannabis dispensaries and on-site consumption establishments within the Town of Constantia and made the following Resolution, which was seconded by Councilor **Moran**:

**WHEREAS**, proposed Local Law B-2021 has been introduced and will be considered for enactment pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

**WHEREAS**, Volume 6 N.Y.C.R.R., Section 617 of the Regulations relating to Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, requires that as early as possible after submission of a completed application, an involved agency shall make a determination whether a given action is subject to the aforementioned law; and

**WHEREAS**, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of a local law in the Town of Constantia, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQR”) with respect to the proposed enactment of said proposed Local Law, with the result that the Town Board shall act as lead agency in this matter; and

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of said Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of environmental review under SEQR; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has determined that a Short Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) shall be required in connection with this matter; and

**WHEREAS**, the said EAF has been prepared and has been reviewed by the Town Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has considered the adoption of said Local Law, has considered the criteria contained in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.7 and has compared the impacts which may be reasonably expected to result from the adoption of said Local Law against said criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, the enactment of said proposed Local Law B-2021 is subject to a permissive referendum pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law § 24 as set forth in Cannabis Law § 131.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED**, that the enactment of this proposed local law is an unlisted action under SEQR, that there are no other involved agencies and the Town Board shall act as lead agency; and it is further

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED**, that the Town Board has determined that this action shall have no significant adverse impact on the environment; that, accordingly, an environmental impact statement (EIS) shall not be required; and that this resolution shall constitute a negative declaration under SEQR; and it is further

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED**, that the Town Board shall conduct a public hearing as to the enactment of proposed Local Law B-2021 at the Town Hall located at 14 Frederick Street, Constantia, New York on September 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time all persons interested in the subject shall be heard; and it is further

**RESOLVED AND DETERMINED**, that notice of said public hearing shall be provided at least ten (10) days prior to the date of said public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the Town of Constantia and to any affected municipalities described above.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

<b>Richard Colesante</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>John Metzger</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Thomas Moran</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Frank Tomaino</b>	<b>Councilor</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Ken Mosley**

**Supervisor**

**Absent**

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

-Next Supervisor meeting is scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am

-Next Water Board meeting is scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am

**ADJOURN:**

At 8:32 pm Mr. Tomaino made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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