

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES – SUPERVISOR MEETING - TOWN BOARD – April 3, 2023
9:00 am Constantia Town Hall

Present: Frank Tomaino - Supervisor
Ronald Chapman, Richard Colesante, Thomas Moran – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk
Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent
Warren Bader – Town Attorney
Vern Sundet – Supervisor, Town of West Monroe
Laureen Tackman – Mayor, Village of Cleveland
Shawn House – DPW Superintendent, Village of Cleveland
Dustin Clark, David Powers – Barton & Loguidice
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

Absent: John Metzger – Council Member

CALL TO ORDER:

At 9:00 am Mr. Tomaino called the supervisor’s meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY:

Mr. Colesante and Mr. Sundet have been working together to create an economic development study for both Constantia and West Monroe. Discussion originally started at a NORCOG meeting, originally the Village of Central Square and the Town of Hastings were part of the study, but there does not seem to be interest with either municipality.

Recently the MRB Group, engineers out of Syracuse put on a presentation for municipalities at the Tailwater in Altmar on the impact of Micron to adjacent communities. Mr. Sundet was at meeting, a major point of the meeting was to be prepared or be run over. With that in mind, Mr. Colesante and Mr. Sundet agree it is a worthwhile effort to get an economic study in place. The major focus of the study would be tourism and Oneida Lake. MRB Group did an economic study for Carthage, the study cost \$20,000 and when reviewed was similar to what both Towns are looking for. Ms. Tackman who was also at the Mircon meeting agreed this will be a worthwhile adventure and believes the Village would be willing to go in on the project.

Mr. Tomaino is unsure if that many people are going to make it to this part of the County, as there are 4 surrounding counties to absorb the influx of people. As part of the presentation MRB Group indicated that the higher paid people are willing to travel farther from their workplace.

Mr. Moran liked the study that was done for Carthage, it identified the money that each area would need to achieve each portion of the development. Most important would be to keep the character of the Towns and Village. Doubling the population of the Town is not something anyone wants but an increase in the tax base would be nice.

After continued discussion, all board members present would like to move forward with the study, Mr. Colesante and Mr. Sundet will act as liaisons.

WASTEWATER:

Mr. Clark told the board the newest development is Jason Denno is now part of the project, Mr. Denno is a big asset for the District and B&L, Mr. Denno worked for the funding agencies as it related to grants, he will be a great mediator for the District.

Spring is when funding applications are being prepared – CFA/WQIP/EFC/WIIA and Rural Development. B&L will be reapplying for any and all funding opportunities. Currently the District has \$44M but needs north of \$50M.

The \$1.25M that was originally awarded from CDBG has to be rescinded, the project will not meet the necessary time frame. Hopefully it can be restructured to meet their guidelines in the future.

Mr. Powers told Mr. Tomaino they will need to schedule a meeting with Congresswoman Tenney hopefully this can take place late summer.

Letters have gone out to residents that have not responded to mailings sent in the fall, this letter came from the Town so hopefully residents will call to schedule appointments. The remaining residents of the District will be receiving their first letters this week.

Mr. House asked if November is still the time frame for the 60% completion of the treatment plant plans, as the Village would like to invite a representative from Rural Water to attend the meeting. Mr. Clark told Mr. House there is an internal set they could review.

Mr. House asked if they will be ready to break ground in September, that will not happen as funding is still an issue. Must have all funding in place before any construction bids can be awarded.

The "Constantia 13" letter has been approved, Mr. Tomaino will sign and scan to Mr. Powers. Ms. Tackman would like a copy of the letter incase any residents contact the Village.

*9:48 Mr. Clark, Mr. Powers, Ms. Tackman, and Mr. House left the meeting.

ARPA BIDS:

As discussed at the March town board meeting the following bids were received:

Two generator bids were received:

4 Green Power Systems LLC	\$18,595.70
Scriba Electric Inc.	\$29,700.00

One fence bid received, Mr. Woolridge did meet with Butler Fence and called Arrow Fence but no additional bids were received:

Atlas Fence	\$14,485.00
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Two bids for fuel island:

S&W Services, Inc.	\$21,208.95
Fluid Secure	\$ 4,933.00*

*Fluid Secure has a yearly service charge of \$3,435 for warranties and annual hosting as it is a web-based system.

After discussion the following resolutions were offered:

COUNCILMAN: **Chapman**

Introduced the following and moved its adoption:

The Town Board is authorizing the expenditure of \$14,845.00 (Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Five) dollars of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to Atlas Fence to fix the chain link fence at the David C. Webb Memorial Park at Taft Bay as per quotation dated March 1, 2023.

Seconded by Councilman: **Colesante**

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

Frank Tomaino	Voted	Yes
Richard Colesante	Voted	Yes
John Metzger	Absent	
Tom Moran	Voted	Yes
Ronald Chapman	Voted	Yes

The forgoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

COUNCILMAN: **Chapman**

Introduced the following and moved its adoption:

The Town Board is authorizing the expenditure of \$18,595.70 (Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Five dollars and Seventy cents) dollars of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to 4 Green Power Systems LLC to install a propane generator at the Constantia Highway Department. The installation will include upgrades to the electrical panel as per proposal dated 3/16/2023.

Seconded by Councilman: **Moran**

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

Frank Tomaino	Voted	Yes
Richard Colesante	Voted	Yes
John Metzger	Absent	
Tom Moran	Voted	Yes
Ronald Chapman	Voted	Yes

The forgoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

COUNCILMAN: **Chapman**

Introduced the following and moved its adoption:

The Town Board is authorizing the expenditure of \$21,208.95 (Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Five) dollars of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to S&W Services, Inc. to supply and install a fuel island at the Constantia Highway Department as per Quote 7833 dated 3/20/2023.

Seconded by Councilman: **Moran**

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

Frank Tomaino	Voted	Yes
Richard Colesante	Voted	Yes

John Metzger	Absent	
Tom Moran	Voted	Yes
Ronald Chapman	Voted	Yes

The forgoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Mr. Woolridge would like to make sure all are in agreement that a fire suppression system for the highway garage is on hold – all agreed.

BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENTS:

-First set of banners have been ordered, Mr. Woolridge hopes to have them up by Memorial Day.

-2022 Audits are scheduled on April 12th

-Dumpsters will be available at the Town Hall and the Highway Department May 5th-7th

-Mr. Tomaino received the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds pursuant to the provision of Section 284 of the Highway Law – Board Members in attendance signed the agreement.

-Gateway Sign was hit by a car, Mr. Tomaino reached out to Design Shop Signs who originally made the sign. Mr. Tomaino is getting a quote for a bigger sign, more information to follow.

Sewer Jet – Constantia was the highest bidder on Auctions International, the bid was for \$50,000 but it was declined. Mr. Woolridge has been in talks with the owner, they will accept \$55,000. After discussion the following resolution was offered:

COUNCILMAN: **Chapman**

Introduced the following and moved its adoption:

The Town Board is authorizing the expenditure of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand) dollars of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and \$5,000 (Five Thousand) dollars to be charged to DB5130.2 for a total of \$55,000.00 for a 1999 International 2554 Vac Truck.

Seconded by Councilman: **Moran**

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

Frank Tomaino	Voted	Yes
Richard Colesante	Voted	Yes
John Metzger	Absent	
Tom Moran	Voted	Yes
Ronald Chapman	Voted	Yes

The forgoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

-Mr. Tomaino and Ms. Butler have had a meeting with a new health insurance carrier. The Town currently uses The Empire Plan thru NYSHIP, this plan is very difficult to work with, which is the reason Mr. Tomaino and Ms. Butler reached out to Brown and Brown Insurance. The new policy that was quoted mirrors The Empire Plan, there is a \$30,000 cost savings for the Town not to mention the employees will have vision and dental. Mr. Tomaino is in hopes that if all goes well the Town might even pick up a higher percentage for the employees. Mr. Tomaino will be setting up a meeting at the highway garage for employees to ask questions.

-Mr. Tomaino brought up the subject that Mr. Whitney is driving his personal truck while pulling the Town's lawn mower. Mr. Tomaino asked if there was a Town truck that Mr. Whitney could drive, it is not a good policy for an employee to use their own vehicle. Maybe this is a good time to purchase a regular truck for this use.

-Mr. Baxter gave the Board Members a letter to be sent to Senator Mannion and Minority Leader Barclay the letter is requesting the State pay property taxes on the property they own in the Town of Constantia. Mr. Tomaino will sign the letter and send.

ADJOURN:

At 10:48 am Mr. Tomaino closed the meeting.