

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES – SUPERVISOR’S MEETING – August 7, 2023**  
9:00 am Constantia Town Hall

Present: Frank Tomaino – Town Supervisor  
Ronald Chapman, Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran – Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk  
Warren Bader – Town Attorney  
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

Others Present: Nicholas Capozza and John Mura

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 9:00 am Mr. Tomaino called the town board meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Mr. Tomaino has an issue with roof and siding permits issued by code enforcement. Mr. Dolan, CEO indicated that because we follow NYS Code the residents must get permits for roofing and siding. Recently a permit was issued for a new roof for \$925. Mr. Tomaino thinks it would be better to have a flat price or even not have a permit if there are no structural issues. Mr. Moran reminded the board that the Town does have home rule authority and can waive the need for a permit. After discussion, Mr. Tomaino will speak to both CEO officers and report back to the board. Mr. Metzger would like to have fees reviewed and approved at the organizational meeting annually, Mrs. Haynes will put it on the agenda for the organizational meeting.

**WASTEWATER:**

Continued discussion on the North Shore Sewer District as it relates to the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the new system. The O&M charges are a big concern for the board members as this could put the user charges much higher than expected, not to mention the fact that the District as it stands now is still short \$18M.

Mr. Capozza and Mr. Mura having knowledge with working with sewer districts and sewer treatment plants are also concerned, they both feel it might be time to step back and take another look at the project. Mr. Tomaino is concerned about the project and with an abundance of caution believes it is necessary to bring someone in to act as a liaison between the board members and Barton & Loguidice. Mr. Capozza and Mr. Mura will work together to get a proposal to be the liaisons for the board. Board members do not want to saddle residents with a charge that is too high.

Mr. Colesante would like Mr. Bader to discuss this situation with his firm and bring the appropriate people to the table to speak on what the board should be doing and what direction they should be leading the District., is it possible to stop the district at this point. The District has spent over \$2.5M to date these funds will need to be paid back by residents in the District. Mr. Capozza and Mr. Mura believe there might be a possibility of loan forgiveness, but it is too early to speak on that. Mr. Colesante can’t believe this District is the only one that has been in this situation. Mr. Bader will get a few dates together for a meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 10:23 am Mr. Moran made the motion to go into executive session to discuss purchase of a property, seconded by Mr. Chapman.

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

At 10:55 am Mr. Chapman made the motion to reopen the supervisor’s meeting, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

After discussion during executive session, Mr. Chapman made the motion to submit a purchase offer on 1667 State Route 49, Constantia, NY. This building is being considered for purchase to be used for a town hall, seconded by Mr. Moran.

Carried: Moran – Yes Chapman – Yes Colesante – Abstain Metzger – Recuse Tomaino – Yes

Mr. Colesante wanted it noted that he is abstaining as he does not believe this is the right time to purchase property for the Town.

**ADJOURN:**

At 11:05 am Mr. Chapman made the motion to adjourn the town board meeting, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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