

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES –TOWN BOARD MEETING– April 21, 2026
6:00 pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Ronald Chapman Jr. - Supervisor
Michael Donegan, Cory Monroe, Thomas Moran, Daniel Poné, – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk
Warren Bader – Town Attorney
E. John Whitney –Highway Superintendent
Dillon Kinsey – Deputy Highway Superintendent
Christene Kieffer – Historian
Rod Campbell – Tug Hill Commission

CALL TO ORDER:

At 6:00 pm Mr. Chapman called the town board meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

WASTEWATER:

Mr. Powers from Barton & Loguidice submitted the following report:

CONSTANTIA NORTH SHORE SEWER PROJECT

A. Constantia Sewer Project Progress:

- ✓ Funding agencies have indicated that SOCRIS must have funding and be underway before Constantia’s project will be eligible for funding.
- ✓ Project Score on the NYSEFC 2026 Intended Use Plan (IUP) – 126 points.
- ✓ Income Surveys door-to-door complete. G&G finalizing report.
- DEC cannot extend 2022 WQIP Award. New application will be submitted this year for \$10M.
- \$1.75M STAG Grant – Procurement Flexibility Request sent 11/14/25
 - Approx. \$300k spent to-date appears to be eligible for reimbursement by the grant
 - Remainder of grant can go towards finishing out design

Upcoming items:

- EPA Procurement Flexibility Request went to review 2/12. Town will execute agreement once approved to begin and draw on \$1.75M STAG grant previously awarded.
- DEC Sanitary Survey requires water sampling this year be eligible for WQIP grant.

B. SOCRIS Progress:

- ✓ IMA approved
- ✓ Application to NYSEFC for IMG Grant submitted September 12, 2025 - \$30M Max. Project scored 121 points! No awards were made to SOCRIS project in 2025 round.
- ✓ County developing the Treatment Agreement with the City of Fulton.
- ✓ Meetings with ESD, Governor’s office, Senator Ryan, Assemblyman Barclay, DEC and EFC. SOCRIS creates a significant opportunity for Economic Development in the region.
- ✓ Oswego County Water Agency has been formed and held it’s first meeting.
- \$12M included in the preliminary FY26-27 NYS budget resolution for SOCRIS project! Not yet final, but incredible inclusion at this stage of State budget process.

Upcoming items:

- Continue progress on County / City of Fulton Treatment Agreement
- Ongoing project promotion
 - Project is eligible for up to 25% of net project costs up to \$25M
 - Applications due late summer/ early fall 2026 (Date TBD)

C. Target Funding Opportunities:

- NYSEFC Base WIIA:
- NYSEFC Base Additional Subsidy:
 - Eligible communities can receive up to 25% of net project costs up to an additional \$2M
- NYSDEC WQIP Grant:
 - Project is eligible for grant up to \$10M
 - Applications due summer 2026 (Date TBD)
- Other Grant Opportunities:
 - USDA RD Grant
 - NBRC Grant
 - ESD Grant
 - CDBG Grant
 - STAG/CPF Grant
 - Micron

D. NEXT STEPS:

- Close Grant Agreement with EPA, determine use of grant funds
- Update PER with results of 2026 income survey. Complete EFC PLUS update for 2026 IUP

The Constantia Sewer District was previously awarded a \$4.6M WQIP (Water Quality Improvement Program) grant as with many grants, the project must use the grant within 5 years, as the project has yet to start it was advised that the Town rescind the grant. By rescinding the grant, the Town can now re-apply using the updated possible grant amount of \$10M.

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Whitney reported the following:

- The Town’s newest employee Mr. Currier will be starting on Monday along with the part-time employees.
- New pressure washer was delivered and has been a great help
- Starting to turn trucks over for summer work
- Ad placed in the paper for a new outdoor boiler, bids expected for the May town board meeting
- Renovations are mostly completed at the garage, all garage doors have been fixed
- Roads swept, potholes are filled, Leaf vacuum has gone around town, please call the garage if you need leaves picked up, that goes for lakeshore debris
- State budget has not been passed have to wait to see what the CHIPs funding will be

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Mr. Campbell gave his monthly report for the North Shore & Salmon Rivers Council of Governments report, please go to www.norcog.org for more information.

HISTORIAN:

Mrs. Kieffer told the board that the three historical markers that honor the revolutionary war veterans have all been approved. Mrs. Kieffer helped with the grant process, for West Monroe, the other two are for Constantia. They will be situated in North Constantia and the village of Cleveland. The markers should be delivered in the next 8 weeks, hopefully the highway department will help install them. Mrs. Kieffer will be having a dedication sometime in July in coordination with the park and recreation program.

Mrs. Kieffer again is encouraging the Town and residents to preserve history. Mrs. Kieffer is frustrated that the Town does not have minutes (for example) before 1946.

Lakeside Cemetery is having a cleanup day on May 9th at 10am, please come and help.

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Donegan made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #4 Dated April 21,2026:

▪ General	112-154	\$55,350.65	Sewer	1	\$12,558.47
▪ Highway	46-61	\$89,926.98	Trust & Agency	4	\$16,637.00

Seconded by Mr. Monroe.

Carried: Ayes: Moran, Monroe, Poné, Donegan, Chapman

BUDGET MODIFICATION:

COUNCILMAN: **Moran**

Introduced the following and moved its adoption:

Budget Modification 2026 General Fund, this budget modification is necessary as energy prices have increased. The following modification is needed to avoid monthly budget transfers.

A5182.4 Street Lighting:

Current Budget \$17,000.00 increase by \$5,000.00

New Budget Amount \$22,000.00

Withdraw From: A1990.4 Contingency

Current Balance: \$45,550.00

Decrease by: \$5,000.00

New Budget Amount \$40,550.00

Seconded by Councilman: **Poné**

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

Ronald Chapman	Voted	Yes
Michael Donegan	Voted	Yes
Cory Monroe	Voted	Yes
Thomas Moran	Voted	Yes
Daniel Poné	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the March 31st supervisor’s report as received, seconded by Mr. Donegan.

Carried: Ayes: Moran, Monroe, Poné, Donegan, Chapman

Mr. Chapman told the board that on April 8th, Mrs. Butler completed and submitted the Annual Financial Report for Constantia.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND BOARD MINUTES:

Mr. Donegan made a motion to accept the following reports and minutes as received:

Code Enforcement, Justice Simpson, Town Clerk, Tax Collector

March 17th town board meeting

seconded by Mr. Moran.

Carried: Ayes: Moran, Monroe, Poné, Donegan, Chapman

MINUTES RECEIVED:

March 24th planning and zoning minutes

BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials as received, seconded by Mr. Donegan.

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

Ronald Chapman	Voted	Yes
Michael Donegan	Voted	Yes
Cory Monroe	Voted	Yes
Thomas Moran	Voted	Yes
Daniel Poné	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
(full copy of resolution at the end of this document)

Recently a FOIL (Freedom of Information Law) request was received and the Town responded, the originator was not happy with the response, he sent an appeal. To respond to the appeal the Town needs to appoint an appeal officer, this officer is usually the Town Supervisor. With no discussion, Mr. Poné made the motion to appoint Town Supervisor Chapman as FOIL Appeals Officer, seconded by Mr. Moran.

Carried: Ayes: Moran, Monroe, Poné, Donegan, Chapman

Dumpster days are the first weekend in May again this year. May 1st-3rd 7:30-4pm at the highway garage location, 60 Railroad St, Bernhards Bay.

Mrs. Haynes received information for our residents to be able to use on-line tax collection program for payment. During the latest tax collection residents asked why this is not an option. The cost to the Town for the first year is \$2,500, for implementation, the yearly charge will be \$1,500. Mr. Poné asked if there was a way for the town to charge individuals that use the system, Mrs. Haynes replied there is not, the company that handles the payment does charge the user a fee. Mr. Poné understands this might help some but is concerned with the cost. After a short discussion it was decided to hold off until next meeting.

ADJOURN:

At 6:38 pm Mr. Monroe made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Moran.

Carried: Ayes: Moran, Monroe, Poné, Donegan, Chapman

Respectfully submitted:

Clare Haynes
Town Clerk