

Minutes of the Town of Constantia Town Board meeting held on February 17, 2009 at 7:00pm in the Constantia Town Hall.

Present: Andrew Kelsey – Supervisor
Daniel Buck, Richard Colesante, John Metzger,
Frank Tomaino – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk
Warren Bader – Town Attorney

Others Present: Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent
Ken Macri – Board of Appeals Chair
Michael Marr – Water Committee Chair
Malchoff Davis – Mayor, Village of Cleveland
Warren Wheeler- Assessor
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

MINUTES:

Mr. Tomaino made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2009 town board, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

ASSESSOR:

Mr. Wheeler was in attendance to answer questions from the town board in regards to trending. The board will need to make a decision soon, April at the latest. The three options are as listed:

1. Trend our vacant property by the overall trend of 8%
2. Trend our vacant property by 8% and neighborhood 26005 by 2-3%
3. Trend the vacant property and area 26005, and trend the waterfront area 4%

Mr. Wheeler's suggestion is to stay in the program and trend the vacant property, this will not maintain our goal of 100% but will keep us at 97% which is still acceptable to the state. Our market is still doing okay, it is not regressing as seen in other areas. He feels the least amount of impact on the people might be the best in these uncertain times. Mr. Colesante asked if the percentage could be spread across the whole town and the answer is no, you must trend in the areas that have seen a change. Mr. Buck questioned if we should still stay in the program and keep 100% assessments. Mr. Wheeler still thinks this is the best way to go, if we drop our rating, then if the state does mandate that all towns be assessed at 100%, we will have to go thru the whole process again.

The Assessors have gotten together to try to push thru a cycle bill thru Albany. This bill will have uniform levels of assessments and everyone in the state will be re-valued at the same time. New York State is one of only a few states that assessments are done on a town by town basis, the cycle bill would be a way to correct that and make assessments fair and equitable to all. Right now there has been no progress from Albany. Mr. Metzger made a motion to accept the Assessor's Report, seconded by Mr. Buck.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Metzger made motion to accept General Fund Vouchers numbered 23 thru 54 in the amount of \$18,017.44 and Highway Fund Vouchers numbered 16 thru 35 in the amount of \$32,418.22, as listed on Abstract #2 dated February 17, 2009, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Buck made the motion to accept the Supervisor's Report as read, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

TOWN CLERK:

Mrs. Haynes told the board that tax collection is going well. To date the town has collected \$2,539,518.28, of that \$1,203,866.82 has been turned over to the town to satisfy our portion of the tax warrant.

A map of the two lighting districts for the Town of Constantia was given to the board members. Mrs. Haynes cannot find any legal description of either district in the town's

files. It was suggested that we should contact the State Comptroller's Office, they might have a copy on file. A legal description is needed to clear up some errors on the map.

A motion was made by Mr. Metzger to approve the Town Clerk's Report, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

CORRESPONDENCE:

- T-4 Events would like to hold a Triathlon/Biathlon series in Constantia. The board feels that this will be best handled by the Park and Recreation Commission.
- Letter sent to Mr. Hastings re: labeling of fire districts on tax bills.
- Mr. Illingworth re: code office fees and Land Development Law changes

Mr. Buck would like to review the information that was given to him from Mr. Illingworth in regards to the changes, Mr. Colesante made the motion to schedule a work session on February 25, 2009 at 7pm in the Constantia Town Hall. The work session will be for the proposed changes to the Land Development Law. Seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

PARK AND RECREATION:

Mr. Kelsey read the letter received from Mr. Bader with respect to a Veterans' Memorial. With this information in mind the board feels it would be best to appoint 3 members to a Veterans' Advisory Committee. Mr. Colesante made the motion to form a Veterans' Advisory Committee for the Veterans' Memorial at David C. Webb Park at Taft Bay, seconded by Mr. Buck. The three members will be Wayne Woolridge, Wayne Confer and George Gigon.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

Mr. Metzger made the motion to authorize Mr. Woolridge to change the light bulbs to a lower wattage at the Veteran's Memorial as suggested by Mr. Confer, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

A motion was made by Mr. Buck to appoint Jeannine Hamlin and Darlene Baker to the Park and Recreation Commission, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Abstain Metzger- Yes Kelsey – Yes

PLANNING BOARD:

Mr. Macri told the board that no new business was heard at the last Planning Board meeting. Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Planning Board Report, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Abstain Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

Mr. Kelsey read a letter received from Mr. Bader with the answer to the boards' question in regards to decreasing the number of Town Planning Board members from seven to five. For this to happen, there must be a change to the local law. Mr. Buck made the motion to change the Planning Board to five members, seconded by Mr. Kelsey.

Vote: Tomaino – No Buck – Yes Colesante – No Metzger – No Kelsey – Yes

A motion was made by Mr. Tomaino to reappoint Chuck Gilkey to the Planning Board, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – No Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – No

Mr. Tomaino made the motion to appoint Curt Schwalbe to the seat he vacated on 12/31/2007, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

Mr. Metzger made the motion to appoint George Scriba to the Planning Board, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

BOARD OF APPEALS:

Mr. Buck made the motion to reappoint Paul Auringer to the Board of Appeals, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW:

A motion was made by Mr. Metzger to reappoint Paul Heins and appoint Eric Mayes to the Board of Assessment Review, seconded by Mr. Buck.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

WATER:

A motion was made by Mr. Colesante to authorize Supervisor Kelsey to hire an appraiser for cost determination for the water town site and pump site parcels, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

Mr. Pond updated the board on the Bernhard's Bay Water Study. This district does not have the numbers to qualify at this time for a no interest loan. USDA Rural Development has a Grant that this district will qualify for, the interest rate is 3.25% making the total annual charge for EDU at \$723.00. At this time the board thinks that is too much to ask the residents to pay, Mr. Pond is going to follow up with USDA Rural Development to see if they can work the numbers to get the EDU down to an acceptable level.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:11pm Mr. Metzger made the motion to go into executive session to discuss possible water tower sites, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey – Yes

At 10:40pm the board returned from executive session.

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Mr. Baxter gave the board information on the ZBA Basics class that is being held at the West Monroe Town Hall on Thursday, February 26, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Mr. Baxter has given Mr. Kelsey a copy of the Land Development Law on diskette for the town to use. March 6, 2009 is the deadline for the Local Government Conference.

ADJOURN:

At 10:43pm Mr. Metzger made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino – Yes Buck – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Kelsey - Yes