

Minutes of the April 7, 2009 Special Meeting for the Constantia Town Board
7pm held in the Constantia Town Hall.

Present: Andrew Kelsey – Supervisor
Daniel Buck, Richard Colesante, John Metzger,
Frank Tomaino – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk
Others Present: Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent
Chuck Gilkey – Planning Board Chair

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this special meeting is to set the trend for the upcoming assessment roll.

ASSESSOR:

Mr. Kelsey read the letter submitted by Mr. Wheeler in regards to the 2009 Assessment Roll.

Mr. Wheeler is now proposing two options that the board can take:

1. Trend vacant and only vacant property by 5%. This is the least amount of trending we can do that will guarantee our rations remain statistically acceptable to stay in the annual program, and receive state aid.
2. Trend vacant, as mentioned **and** trend the one neighborhood by 2% that was not trended last year. By trending this neighborhood this year, it will eliminate a second year going by without being “looked at”.

The town would like to keep its total assessment low, by doing this less tax money will be going to the school district and the county. By trending the vacant property only, it affects the least amount of owners, only about 600 parcels. These parcels were not trended last year.

Mr. Colesante made the motion to trend only vacant property at 5% for the Town of Constantia 2009 assessment roll, seconded by Mr. Buck.

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

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Woolridge would like to take two trucks to the National Grid auction in Rome. He would like to sell the 1970 Oshgosh and a 1966 Walters, this is a no reserve auction. Mr. Metzger made the motion to have Mr. Woolridge proceed to put both trucks into the National Grid auction, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Elliot Wood is happy the board decided to go with the lowest increase, he is concerned about rising assessments on vacant property. Timber prices are declining all the time and it makes it difficult to maintain large parcels of land. Vacant land at this point is very attractive to investors that break up the parcels and sell them at an inflated rate, this does affect all vacant property owners. Mr. Colesante assured Mr. Wood that they will be mindful and will watch next year’s trend and try to keep all assessments on the low side.

ADJOURN:

At 7:40pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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