

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD –February 15, 2011
7:30pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Charles Gilkey – Supervisor
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran and Frank Tomaino – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk

Others Present: Warren Bader – Town Attorney
Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent
Nancy Butler – Supervisor’s Clerk
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission
Robert McNamara – Planning Board Chair
Ronald Sakonyi – County Legislator

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:30pm Mr. Gilkey called the regular meeting of the Constantia Town Board to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments at this time.

WATER:

Constantia & Toad Harbor Water Districts Construction:

-Contract No. 2 (Water Mains - County, Town & Private Roads) has installed approximately 107,900 linear feet of ductile iron water main and appurtenances (98%). Approximately 1,600 linear feet along Doris Park Drive and Smith Point Road remaining. Approximately 264 services have been installed (45%).
-Contract No. 3 (Tank) plans to mobilize erection crew to site in mid March.
-Contract No. 4A (Pump Station – General Construction) has enclosed the building (i.e., block work, roof, louvers, windows and doors complete with the exception of overhead door, which is boarded up) and are finishing interior (i.e., installation of insulation, FRP board, etc.).

Water Service Connections:

-The Contract No. 1 water mains (NYS Route 49) have been approved for connection. To date, 24 people have connected.
-As indicated above, Contract No. 2 has installed approximately 264 services. It is anticipated that these water mains will be approved for connection after a walk-thru is completed with OCWA in the spring.

Proposed Bernhards Bay Water District:

Draft copies of the NYS SEQR long form EAF and MP&R for the formation of the proposed water district, were provided to the Town Board at the January Town Board Meeting.

- Questions/Comments on NYS long form EAF or MP&R
 - o **Delete Marsden Road/County Route 17 Loop?** Will survey the area to get a better idea of need/want.
 - o **Add roads that were discussed as possible extensions to the Constantia Water District?** They are Simmons Drive, Auringer Road, County Route 23 and Salt Road, they will all need to be surveyed again.
 - o **Residents along NYS Route 49 served by the Village of Cleveland?** Mr. Parker and Mr. Gilkey will set up a meeting with these residents, being part of a district has benefits to them.
- Schedule Public Info Meeting. A tentative public information session set for March 24, 2011 at 7pm at the Cleveland Elementary School.

There has been some talk about the trailer parks on County Route 11 in West Monroe being part of this district, as of right now one of the parks is having a water problem. Mr. Parker does not think that this problem will give enough points to our score to make it to the point range that is needed for the DWSRF funding.

Map for the proposed district is flexible until the board accepts the report, this report can be approved anytime now, survey the property owners first and have the public information session and then vote on the map.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR:

Mr. Sakonyi reported that he attended the NYS Association of Counties Conference in Albany. The focus was on the Governor’s budget which projects a \$10 billion gap for 2011-2012. He proposes to close it with a 2.85 billion in School Aid reductions and 2.85 billion in Medicaid cuts but the budget doesn’t outline any specific proposals in Medicaid to achieve savings. The remaining 3.25 billion cuts will be in State Agency reductions and a variety of other actions.

There is no significant mandate relief in the Governor's budget. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 4 Governor Cuomo has established the Spending and Government Efficiency (SAGE) Commission to review every agency of State government for the elimination of its inefficient and outdated State government.

The Tug Hill Commission has been removed from all funding from the State. When local governments already have to provide the same or more services with little or no ability to increase revenues, the cost effective services that the Tug Hill Commission provide to the towns and villages within Oswego County and the County itself, the Commission will become even more essential.

MINUTES:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the January 11th Town Board meeting and the February 8th work session, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #2, Dated February 15, 2011:

General Fund	43-75	\$ 13,523.37
Highway Fund	20-39	\$ 37,598.27
Northshore Water District	10-19	\$371,717.66

seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the Supervisor's Report, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

HIGHWAY:

The highway boys have been busy plowing snow, everything is running smooth. Mr. Tomaino asked when he was going to put the weight limit on the roads. Mr. Woolridge will continue to look at the weather and make the decision when necessary, could be very shortly. Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the Highway Superintendent's report, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Mrs. Haynes gave her report, for the month of December we had 11 new dog licenses. Total taxes collected to date is \$2,965,029.47, of that \$1,733,211.99 was turned over to the Supervisor on February 3, 2011. 68% of the total warrant has been collected, it looks like we are right on target compared to last year. A motion was made by Mr. Metzger to approve the Town Clerk's Report, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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

ASSESSOR:

One particular item that Mr. Wheeler would like to bring to the Board's attention, as well as Constantia Property Owners. Apparently, Senator Ritchie has sent out some letters to property owners in her district that seemed to have caused some confusion. Although I do not know to which property owners were contacted, it would appear as though she may have sent letters to everyone. Most of the property owners that have contacted our office, already have filed their necessary STAR paperwork. Should you run into any property owners questioning whether or not they need to do anything, should just contact us directly, so that we may verify whether or not their application is on file. The deadline for all applications, as always, is March 1, 2011. Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the Assessor's Report, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mr. Colesante asked if they could have a update on the issues that were given to Mr. Illingworth. Mr. Gilkey stated that one has been worked on and is either almost completed or almost completed. They will work on the next easiest one and keep going from there. Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Code Officer's Report, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

DOG CONTROL:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Dog Control Officer's report, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

PLANNING BOARD:

Mr. McNamara thanked the Board members for coming to their last month's meeting, a lot of progress is being made on the proposed changes to the Land Development Law. They do have one sketch conference set for the February meeting after that they will be again discussing possible changes. Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Planning Boards Report, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

BOARD OF APPEALS:

No new business.

JUSTICE COURT:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Justice Report's, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

AUDIT:

Ms. Butler has completed the Annual Fiscal Report and it has been electronically filed, a full copy is on file at the Town Clerk's Office. It is also time for the Town Board to do their annual audits of the Town Clerk's Office, Supervisor's Office and both Judges. Mr. Moran will get with Ms. Butler to see if he will be comfortable doing all audits, he will report back at the March meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from the Tug Hill Commission in regards to the elimination of the Tug Hill Commission by Gov. Cuomo in the 2011-2012 budget. Mr. Baxter from the Tug Hill Commission was in attendance to ask the board to consider passing a resolution supporting the Tug Hill Commission. Mr. Metzger made the motion to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution Supporting the New York State Tug Hill Commission

WHEREAS, The New York State Tug Hill Commission was created by the request of the citizens, local governments and private organizations of the Tug Hill Region through Article 37 of the New York State Executive Law, and

WHEREAS, It has been the mission of the Tug Hill Commission for the past 38 years to help Citizens, local governments and private organizations shape the future of the Tug Hill region through technical assistance in community planning, economic development, and natural resource management, and

WHEREAS, The Commission emphasizes cooperation and partnership to achieve meaningful outcomes that provide savings and efficiency without confrontation and regulation, and

WHEREAS, The Commission provides critical staffing and support for locally organized Council's of Government which represent grass-roots multi-town forums for providing program guidance and local technical assistance, and

WHEREAS, The Commission staff serves as an extension of municipal staff to perform the grant writing, land-use code updates, comprehensive plan development, and other basic governmental services that we cannot, and will not, otherwise afford, and

WHEREAS, The Commission's mission is well aligned with and has been consistently used in support of Governor Andrew Cuomo's emphasis on advancing "innovative approaches to managing State government," and

WHEREAS, In 2008, over 80% of the respondents in the Tug Hill Local Leaders survey indicated that the Tug Hill Commission programs were important or essential to the future of the Tug Hill region,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Executive Order No. 4 Governor Andrew Cuomo has established the Spending and Government Efficiency (SAGE) Commission to review every agency of State government (including commissions) for the elimination of its inefficient and outdated State government structure including the elimination or more efficient organization of duplicative, outdated, unnecessary and ineffective agencies and authorities, and

WHEREAS, In this time of property tax caps and little to no mandate relief, when local governments will already have to provide the same or more services with limited ability to increase revenues, the cost-effective services that the Tug Hill Commission provides the Town of Constantia will become even more essential, be it

RESOLVED, That the Constantia Town Board urges Governor Andrew Cuomo to restore the New York State Tug Hill Commission to the 2011-12 New York State Budget, subject to a 10% reduction of its 2010-11 appropriation as recommended for most all State agencies, so that it may undergo the deliberative and transparent review of the SAGE Commission wherein its future may be decided via due process review of all State agencies, commissions, task forces, etc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo and New York State Senator's Griffo, Ritchie and Valesky, Assembly Members Barclay, Blankenbush, Destito, and Tenney, Oswego County Legislature Chairman Barry Leeman and Legislator Ronald Sakonyi.

Seconded by Mr. Colesanete.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None at this time.

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Mr. Baxter told the board that he will be working with Ms. Butler to get the Annual Report on the website, this is a State requirement along with the Town's Budget. The Local Government Conference will be held on March 31, 2011 and he will be setting up training for the Planning Board and Board of Appeals to help them reach their required yearly credits.

BOARD COMMENT:

-Mr. Illingworth suggested that a humidifier be put on the furnace at the town hall, will help with heating and cooling of the building. Mr. Gilkey will get a few prices and give the board the information.

-Smart Watt contract has been signed

-Mr. Illingworth did give a letter informing the board of his budget deduction of \$624.00

-Reschedule March 2nd meeting to March 9th at 10:00am

-Proposed changes to the subdivision law still has an issue with Article 1 Section 135 waiver, wording changed to CEO makes recommendation for the procedural waiver to the planning board that way the planning board is making the actual decision. Mr. Colesante made the motion to approve the Subdivision Law with the modification that the Code Enforcement Officer makes the recommendation and planning board approves, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

-Fee schedule from the Code Enforcement Office - many of the Board members had questions about the fees and what they were for, ie; residential alterations, they need better definitions before approval. Mr. Tomaino thinks some of the fees are high. Mr. Gilkey will ask Mr. Illingworth to attend the March 9th meeting to answer any questions.

-NYMER meeting- they will be getting a proposal together to provide insurance for the water tower and pump station. They should be insured, the Water District owns them until the loan is paid off.

ADJOURN:

At 9:46pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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