

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-SPECIAL MEETING –May 24, 2011**  
9:00 am Constantia Town Hall

Present: Charles Gilkey – Supervisor  
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran, Frank Tomaino– Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk  
Others Present: Michael Parker - Barton & Loguidice  
Eric Pond - Barton & Loguidice

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 9:00 am Mr. Gilkey called the special meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

**BERNHARDS BAY WATER DISTRICT:**

The Rural Development application has been submitted, there was a June 1st deadline for 2012 fiscal funding. Their funding year is October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012. On May 13th application was submitted, e-mail on May 18th that application has been received, there will be more information needed.

Mr. Parker gave the board a copy of the interest mailing that will go out to the parcels that are in the proposed Bernhards Bay water district. Mr. Metzger would like to include verbiage about the extra cost to property owners to hook up from the water line to their house. It was agreed that this should be included, Mr. Parker will include the cost estimate to be anywhere from \$800.00 to \$2,000.00. It was also agreed that it should have a return by date which will be June 17th, so data can be gathered and presented to the board. At that point people who have not responded will be contacted again. The survey will go to State Route 49 parcels to the Cleveland Village line, all roads to the lake, Railroad Street and Simmons Drive. A total of 298 parcels are in this proposed district. Mr. Parker will make the proposed changes and return them to Mr. Gilkey for approval, hopefully the letters will be ready to be mailed by Tuesday, May 31st. Initial assessments have indicated typical user cost could be approximately \$685 per year of that the owner will see approximately \$403 on their tax bill.

At 9:20 Mr. Tomaino arrived

Mr. Pond told the board that Rural Development has found some discrepancies in the application. For example, the project area has changed, they need to get some final EDU numbers before they can consider this for funding. Mr. Parker has contacted Rural Development and has explained that the town board is sending out surveys. The report will be changed after the surveys have been returned. Once the boundaries are set then they can consider a funding package, it could be as early as this fall.

The Village of Cleveland has sent the town a letter stating that they unanimously disagree with the proposed SEQRA lead agency designation they received from the town of Constantia dated April 20, 2011. There was no reason in the letter as to why they do not want Constantia as lead agency. Mr. Metzger asked if it was critical that we get their approval. It is not necessary that we get their approval for the Bernhards Bay District. If at a later date it is needed the DEC would make a ruling.

Mr. Metzger asked how much has been spent to this point on the Bernhards Bay District. Over a three year period, about \$30,000.00 which will be reimbursed if the district is formed, if not it will be the responsibility of the town.

Mr. Metzger left the meeting.

Mr. Gilkey and Mr. Parker have drafted a letter back to the Village, Mr. Colesante reviewed and he disagrees with the wording of the letter and will not agree to send it out. He questioned why the OCWA interconnect is even in the SEQRA. Mr. Pond responded that it is necessary to put as much information in the SEQRA as possible even if it is something that will be funded at a later date. Mr. Colesante does not feel that the town needs to be the lead agency for the OCWA interconnect, if that ever comes about then the Village could be the lead agency. Mr. Pond responded that the OCWA interconnection has always been on the table as part of the project concept that is why they are putting in 16 inch mains down State Route 49. The Bernhards Bay water district would not need that size line if the district was not looking ahead to the possible OCWA interconnection. Lengthy discussion followed.

It was decided to try and set up a meeting with the Village board to discuss the project, to open dialog with the Village. Mr. Gilkey will contact the Village to set the meeting up.

**ADJOURN:**

At 11:22 am Mr. Moran made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

Carried: Tomaino - Yes Moran - Yes Colesante - Yes Gilkey - Yes