

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES - TOWN BOARD - November 20, 2012**  
7:30pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Charles Gilkey – Supervisor  
Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran– 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  
Ron Sakonyi - County Legislator

Absent: Frank Tomaino – Council Member

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 7:30 pm the regular meeting of the Constantia town board was called to order with the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**WATER:**

**Constantia & Toad Harbor Water Districts Construction**

- Contract No. 1 (Water Mains – NYS Route 49) – Change Order No. 5 (Over/under quantity adjustments) has been sent to North Country Contractors for signature. Upon receipt of the signed Change Order No. 5, recommendation for final payment will be forwarded to the Town Board.
- Contract No. 4 (Pump Station) – All work under this Contract has been completed. Status unchanged for Contract No. 4A bonding/payment issues.
- Contract No. 5 (Water Mains – Extensions) – A preconstruction meeting was held on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Notice to Proceed (NTP) will be issued on November 26, 2012. The NTP was being held until NYSDEC determined the Joint Application for Permit for work in the Town of West Monroe was complete. The Notice of Complete Application was received today.

**Proposed Bernhards Bay Water District**

- The petition process continues. Currently, 56.1% of the total assessed value and 57.6% of resident assessed value have signed the petition.
- A second petition mailer was sent to property owners that had not responded on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Thirteen (13) property owners have responded to the mailer indicating that they want to sign the petition, but require another copy.
- The DWSRF Final 2013 Intended Use Plan (IUP) has been published. The joint water project scored 115 points and the subsidized funding line increased to 145 points; therefore, the project will not be eligible for DWSRF Hardship financing in fiscal year 2013 (October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013).

To date there have been 349 water hook ups for Constantia and 102 for West Monroe.

We did not get the funding as stated above for the Bernhards Bay Water District, but will attempt for hardship funding before March 1, 2013. After March 1st, you must use the new census numbers which are less favorable. Mr. Gilkey has met with representatives from both Congressmen Owens and Congresswomen Hanna's office to apply for a Federal Grant in the amount of 2 million thru the EPA. The Rural Development money is still on the table so this additional money would help with the figures, but will leave out the village of Cleveland.

**COUNTY LEGISLATOR:**

Mr. Sakonyi reported:

- December 6th is the orientation meeting for future foster and adoptive parents.
- Oswego County Health Department - offering flu shots on a walk in basis, Monday - Friday 9-11 and 1-3 in Oswego, and the first and third Tuesday's from 9-11 in Pulaski.  
Call 1-800-596-3200 ext 3547 for information.
- Office of the Aging is warning seniors to be aware of phone scams where they are asked to wire money to a relative who is "in trouble".
- The county continues to work on the budget, state push down mandates continues to be a problem. They will over ride the 2% tax cap.
- The county is discussing closing all transfer stations for 2014, these transfer stations lose 1million a year. Mr. Colesante would like Mr. Sakonyi find out what the impact would be for each household in the county. Contact the haulers to find out how much this is going to cost them and how much they will be in turn charging their customers. This is a decision that will affect every taxpayer in the county, the legislator's should think long and hard on this decision. Mr. Mays questioned how it

could be losing money, there is a line whenever he goes there. Only 6 - 8% of the residents use the transfer stations. Mr. Sakonyi does not know how many people that is, he will try to get some answers.

Mr. Colesante asked about Workmen's Comp, first they took highway employees off the county's health insurance, then they dropped the village from the county's Workmen's Comp, and now they are dropping the ambulance members. Will the town employees be next? And will the county give the town advance notice. When you drop these people from these programs, the town has to pick up the cost. The county is doing the same thing that they are complaining that the state is doing.

**MINUTES:**

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 11th budget meeting, October 16th town board meeting, October 18th budget meeting and the October 30th public hearing, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

**VOUCHERS:**

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #11, Dated November 20, 2012:

General Fund	325-356	\$ 50,630.91
Highway Fund	164-186	\$ 82,420.38
Northshore Water District	44-46	\$ 116,158.23

Seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

**SUPERVISOR:**

Mr. Moran thanked Ms. Butler for cleaning up some information on the supervisor's report. Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Supervisor's report for October, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

**HIGHWAY:**

Mr. Woolridge gave the board members copies of the town of Constantia employee's handbook with suggestions that he would like to see made as they pertain to the highway department. If the board could review, for discussion at the December town board meeting, he understands that there is other information that needs to be updated, but would like the information for the highway department if acceptable to the board approved for 2013.

Mr. Woolridge would like to advertise extra tires and a 2002 Chevy pickup with plow on the Auctions International website to sell. Mr. Mays wondered why this is not put to the residents first. Auctions International attracts more people and hopefully more money. Mr. Metzger made the motion to have Mr. Woolridge put approximately 20 tires and the 2002 Chevy pickup on Auctions International for sale, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

The leaf vacuum truck is broken, it is getting it fixed. In the meantime they have been borrowing from Central Square. Mr. Woolridge feels the program has been very successful. They gotten a lot more calls this year. Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Highway Superintendent's report, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

**TOWN CLERK:**

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's report, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

**ASSESSOR:**

The County is looking to upgrade the system for which our information is transported between our computers and the County's computers. Currently our system uses the methodology known as *replication*. Although it is a vast improvement over previous methods, there has always been a concern about the process as it pertains to maintaining multiple databases. That is why the County is trying to implement a *virtual* system that will be maintained solely at the County level. This new system would be considered a live file, directly linked via the internet, to a virtual database at the County. The County has a test system in place, and the initial results are positive. There are still a few bugs that will need to be worked out, but the County is hoping for a tentative release in the early part of next year. This new system should eliminate the issues that can arise from the multiple data bases; where sometimes information gets lost in the transmission from one computer system to the other. I will keep the Board informed as more information is given to me.

We sent out over 300 renewal applications for STAR and Senior Citizen, and to this date have received and begun processing over 100 of them. These notices are not due back into our office until March 1, 2013. Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Assessor's report, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Mr. Hall was here to speak about his property on 1314 County Route 17, Bernhards Bay. He has pictures of what he has done to the building, which includes boarding up the front bay doors and windows so people can't get in. He has also shored up the block walls with 2 x 6 bracing boards. He understands there are cracks in the walls and they will need to be addressed before any major construction can happen. His idea is to salvage as many of the blocks as he can that is why he has not hired anyone to just push the walls down. Mr. Metzger would like a timeline on and what actions are going to take place. What has been done is a start and improvement, but must keep moving forward. Mr. Hall is trying to keep it looking like a building under construction, to keep it from deteriorating any further. When asked if he has liability insurance, Mr. Hall was unsure and would check with his insurance carrier, Ellis Insurance. Mr. Colesante would like to have someone say that what he has done has made the building safe, that is why Mr. Illingworth wanted a stamped letter from an architect or engineer certifying its safety. If Mr. Hall could give the board a letter from an architect or engineer saying what he has done is sufficient to make the walls safe plus a liability insurance binder, then the board would be happy. It was requested that Mr. Hall give an insurance binder to Mr. Illingworth for the property as soon as possible. By the January 15, 2013 town board meeting the board wants to see an engineering report indicating what he has done has made the building safe. The board thanked Mr. Hall for working with them, but this issue needs to be addressed and needs to have forward motion.

**DOG CONTROL:**

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

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

**PLANNING BOARD:**

Next meeting set for November 27th at 7pm for a public hearing on the Abass property, State Route 49.

**BOARD OF APPEALS:**

None

**JUSTICE:**

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept Justice Pelon's and Justice Simpson's report for October, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**TUG HILL COMMISSION:**

Mr. Baxter:

- Assisted Ms. Butler in finalizing the 2013 town budget
- Fire Department Grant was not approved, this is not unusual, will look at the scoring and then reapply
- November 2012-March 2013 Winter in Oswego County brochures were given to the board, brochures are in the town hall.
- Thanked the board for being the host for the Tug Hill meeting which will take place on Wednesday, November 21st in the town hall.
- Conference date will be March 28, 2013 - should get postcard in December.

**BOARD COMMENT:**

Cleveland Fire Department report received.

**BUDGET:**

Mr. Colesante made the motion to adopt the 2013 town of Constantia Budget, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

**WATER BOARD:**

Mr. Herzberg the new owner of a vacant parcel 311.06-01-03.1 on State Route 49 is asking for relief of the debt service for this piece of property. He is at the vacant charge now which is consistent with properties that size in the district. Mr. Moran made the motion to deny the request for relief of the debt service for parcel number 311.06-01-03.1, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

**ADJOURN:**

At 9:17 pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Moran.

Carried: Moran - Yes Colesante - Yes Metzger - Yes Gilkey - Yes