

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD - December 18, 2012
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
Paul Baxter - Tug Hill Commission
Ron Sakonyi - County Legislator

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) – Scriba Road and Johnson Road (north and south) with the exception of the NYS Rte. 49 crossing at Johnson Road have been completed. Installation of water main on Simmons Drive commenced today. Syracuse will move to West Monroe later this week.

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.
- Petitions were sent to the thirteen (13) property owners that responded to the second mailer indicating that they wanted to sign, but needed another copy. To date no executed copies have been received.
- We met with a constituent liaison for Representative Bill Owens in an attempt to secure an EPA grant for the North Shore Water System (i.e., Bernhards Bay Water District, Village of Cleveland Water System Improvements and OCWA Interconnect) and have been directed to Representative Richard Hanna's office. It is anticipated that we will meet with Hanna's office once we takes over as representative for Constantia in January.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR:

Mr. Sakonyi reported:

- As of the end of September there has been over 700 investigations into welfare fraud
- DSS offices at 100 Spring St. Mexico are closed they are temporally located at 806 W. Broadway St. Fulton
- Volunteer ambulance employees were added back into the County's Self-Insurance Plan for workers compensation
- United Wire Technologies, Inc. is expanding its operation in Constantia, 6 new jobs while retaining the 8 they have.
- Air One was added into the 2013 budget for \$10,000. approx 139 rescues last year
- Resolution passed to impose a dog quarantine in the county until April 30, 2013
- Legislature approved a 3% bed tax, lowest among the counties in the state
- 2013 County budget has passed, total budget \$41,793,731.
- 83% of the budget is mandated by the state, 58% of the tax levy is Medicaid.
- Airport, if eliminated we would have to pay back all the grant money received
- Transfer stations have always been subsidized by the county. Out of approx 45,000 households, 7,400 use the 5 transfer stations. There has been a 4% decrease in tipping fees and recyclables went from \$54 a ton to \$20 per ton. Total waste collected is down 4%. The Hasting transfer station lost the most revenue, sold 250 stickers, and tonnage is down. The thought for 2014 is to leave Bristol Hill open, close the rest
- Health Department vaccinated over 1,000 people

Mr. Colesante would like to know how much grant money would need to be paid back if the airport were to close. He would like a true analysis of the airport, cost vs. revenue. It might be in the long run better to close that airport and repay the grants than to close the transfer stations that

would affect every resident in the county. Mr. Moran asked Mr. Sakonyi to lobby for the continued operation of the Hastings Transfer Station.

MINUTES:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the November 20th town board meeting, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #12, Dated December 18, 2012:

General Fund	357-404	\$19,689.57 *
Highway Fund	187-198	\$11,643.26
Northshore Water District	47-48	\$35,542.25

Seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

***Voucher number 370 has been removed, please see December 18, 2012 town board minutes.**

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Supervisor's report for November, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

HIGHWAY:

Tree trimming on Dutcherville Road between Salt and Kibbie Lake, the intent is to pave that section next year. Maintenance is being done on mowing tractors and sign repair. Mr. Woolridge would like a motion from the board to allow him to sign a purchase order for a State bid, Ford 250 4 wheel drive pickup. Mr. Moran made the motion to authorize Mr. Woolridge to sign the purchase order for a Ford 250 4 wheel drive pickup truck under State bid thru Van Bortel Ford with the approx value of \$21,400.00, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

Mr. Moran 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:

Mrs. Haynes gave the board a memo with information that will need to be covered at the organizational meeting for review. Our new Violence in the Workplace policy should also be on the listing, please add this. New information from a training session is for the board to approve payment in advance of audit at the organizational meeting, this information is included in the memo. The town clerk's office will be closed on Christmas Eve. Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's report, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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

ASSESSOR:

Yesterday at the Oswego County Assessor's Association meeting, the County has informed us that they are hopeful to be installing the new 'virtual' system by February 2013; in the meantime, testing will continue.

There was an announcement from Albany this morning that indicates that the Governor will be establishing a task force to go after those tax payers that are receiving the STAR exemption on more than their primary residence. The article goes on to state that local officials will be notified of the new policy in January; again, as more information becomes available, we will be sharing that with everyone.

Next year is also the time when all appointed assessors seek reappointment for another term. While the term does not expire until September 30, 2013; reappointment can occur anytime during the year before the expiration date. I am respectfully asking to be reappointed to another term as the Town of Constantia's Assessor.

I would once again like to take this opportunity to wish everyone and their families a wonderful holiday season and happy new year. Since Christmas and New Year's fall on Tuesdays this month, I will be out of the office until January 8, 2013.

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. Illingworth gave the board a memo with a final list of recommended changes to the Land Development Law. Please review and let Mr. Illingworth know if there are any questions or concerns. The Hall property at 1314 County Route 17, Bernhards Bay, new pictures have been taken there has been no new progress. Mr. Hall has not had any contact with Mr. Illingworth, no insurance binder has been received. The board would like Mr. Illingworth to send him a letter telling him that they want him at the January 15, 2013 town board meeting, unless he gives Mr. Illingworth an engineer report before then, if

not he needs to be at the meeting. Mr. Moran made the motion to approve the Code Enforcement 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:

- Site plan for Tyler's moving forward he would like to display used cars at 276 St. Rt. 49
- Site plan for United Wire to install signage by the road
- 2 lot subdivision for Macari - approved

BOARD OF APPEALS:

None

JUSTICE:

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept Justice Simpson's report for November, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Mr. Baxter:

- Thanked the board for allowing the Tug Hill Commission to hold a meeting at the town hall
- Website has been updated with post office phone numbers and minutes
- Tug Hill Conference on March 28, 2013

BOARD COMMENT:

There have been some changes to the employee handbook that were given out at the last meeting. Mr. Colesante, Mr. Metzger and Mr. Woolridge had a meeting to discuss some of the changes that are important to the highway employees. Most notable would be the use of cell phone. Discussion followed about the wording that is suggested. Mr. Bader felt the wording is too broad. The policy that Oswego County now has in place was read, Mr. Bader will review and get back to the board for possible approval at the December 31, 2012 end of year meeting.

Mr. Gilkey said there was a committee set up early last year for revision of the employee handbook and one member was not present for this meeting. If there are going to be meetings, all people should be asked to attend. It was decided by the board to review the employee handbook, the first meeting for this will be February 14, 2013 at 9am, all are welcome to attend. Mr. Colesante asked that Ms. Lewis get a copy for review.

Next town board meeting is December 31st at 9am, end of year meeting, and the organizational meeting is January 3, 2013 at 6pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:48pm Mr. Metzger made the motion to go into executive session to discuss a lawsuit, seconded by Mr. Moran. Ms. Haynes did not attend the executive session.

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

At 9:10pm Mr. Metzger made the motion to close the executive session where no action was taken and to reopen the regular meeting of the town board, seconded by Mr. Tomaino.

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

A letter was received and given to the town board by Ms. Victoria Biela, letter was read, full copy on file at the town clerk's office. Mr. Gilkey will put this letter into the Bernhards Bay water file to give to Representative Hanna at their meeting in January.

ADJOURN:

At 9:15 pm Mr. Metzger made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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