

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-SPECIAL MEETING-MARCH 26, 2014**  
9:30 am Constantia Town Hall

Present: Charles Gilkey – Supervisor  
Richard Colesante, John Metzger – Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk

Others Present: Warren Bader - Town Attorney  
Kathy LaVigne - Director - North Shore Volunteer Ambulance  
Mike Montgomery - Director of Operations - SOVAC

Absent: Thomas Moran, Chad Whitney - Council Members

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 9:30 am Mr. Gilkey called the special meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

**AMBULANCE:**

The board wanted to meet with Mrs. LaVigne about the hiring of a Director for the North Shore Volunteer Ambulance squad. Mrs. LaVigne currently is the volunteer Director, for North Shore. This requires many meetings monthly and would like to take a step back from this position.

The position advertised will have a salary of \$52,000. The board is concerned at how North Shore will be paying for this position, with the 2% or less tax cap this additional cost is a concern. North Shore Ambulance is significant portion of the Town's budget. Mrs. LaVigne did not have the numbers for this meeting, tried to contact Mr. Demma but he was unavailable. Mrs. LaVigne believes that North Shore should be able to maintain their current budget. There are some budget lines that have not been used, so these funds would be redirected to the salary of the new Director along with past encumbered funds. Ten applications received, but have been narrowed down to 4 that will be interviewed.

North Shore and SOVAC have been working together, to support each other. Transition from a volunteer organization to a business is always difficult, Mr. Montgomery stated that historically you will go thru a few directors before things settle into place.

The town of Vienna also contracts with North Shore, their contract is a concern also.

As of right now Mr. Demma, Assistant Director a volunteer position will still be on board to do the training. The new director will be able to get some certifications within a year to 18 months. The County can also do the training, but there are some questions as to who will be able to do that with Mr. Jones resigning and some questions as to if that position will be filled at the County level.

A new ambulance will be purchased towards the end of this year for North Shore. They have enough money to pay for the ambulance. Mr. Gilkey asked what about a smaller ambulance, Mrs. LaVigne thinks it could work but current belief is she would get out voted.

Mr. Gilkey asked if Mrs. LaVigne and Mr. Montgomery have spoken about consolidation, they both think eventually it will happen, just does not happen overnight. There are contracts to consider and a merger would have to be approved by both Board of Directors. The first step is to get North Shore to act like a business, and that would be to hire a Director.

For the future North Shore is looking into a computer based system to help fill out forms, the more the forms are filled out the higher percentage that MultiMed pays back. The percentage that they are getting back from MultiMed seems to be up from last year.

All in attendance thanked Mrs. LaVigne for all her help and for all she does and has done for North Shore and thanked Mr. Montgomery for coming to the meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

At 11:15 am the meeting adjourned.