

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-June 17, 2014
7:30 pm Constantia Town Hall

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

Others Present: Wayne Woolridge - Highway Superintendent
Warren Bader - Town Attorney
Roy Reehil - County Legislator

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:30 pm Mr. Gilkey called the town board meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Patrick Nichols, Employee Benefits Consultant from Brown & Brown Empire State was in attendance to give a presentation on employee health insurance. He gave the town board members a cost comparison between the town's current plan and Excellus. The board thanked Mr. Nichols for coming and giving the presentation. After Mr. Nichols left discussion continued, the plan suggested is cheaper, but need more information. A line by line comparison will be needed before a decision can be made. With health care cost rising, it is good to speak to other companies to see if money can be saved.

WATER/SEWER:

Working on the surveys for Johnson, Lower, West Roads along with Saunders Dr they should be completed by the July 15th town board meeting. Nothing new on sewers.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR:

Mr. Reehil reported:

-County auction is set for August 2, 2014 Oswego High School. Properties for sale should be up shortly on the web site.
-Oswego County Fair is July 2nd - 6th
-Congressman Richard Hanna was in town on Friday, June 6th
-Transfer station report is available in PDF format, first 18 pages were given to the board for review. On Wednesday, June 18, 2014 there will be a caucus on this issue. Right now the report states that both Hastings and Hannibal will be closing in December 2014 to be followed up with two more in 2015. Mr. Gilkey told the board that 157 residents in Constantia have dump stickers, even more have punch cards. Mr. Reehil would encourage the town to get bids for town trash pickup. Mr. Moran asked what is the town going to get for the closing, is the county going to give the town some of the saving to set up the trash pickup? The county does not give the taxpayers much for their taxes, transfer stations and some police, and now you are thinking of closing the transfer stations. Mr. Gilkey has a letter from the Oswego County Supervisors Association, they had a meeting with Mr. Gardner, Mr. Vissor and Mr. Church on this issue. There was not one town in favor of closing the transfer stations, in fact there are two towns that presently have town pickup and they would like to be able to cancel it. Mr. Gilkey has received a general resolution from the Oswego County Town Supervisor Association, Mr. Bader has reviewed it for the board to consider. After discussion:

COUNCILMAN: **Moran**

Introduced the following and moved its adoption:

**TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
OPPOSING THE CLOSURE OF THE OSWEGO COUNTY
TRANSFER STATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Oswego County legislature is currently investigating the closure of all transfer stations within Oswego County, except the Bristol Hill station located in the Town of Volney, claiming that the five transfer stations are operating at a loss; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is concerned with the implications and unintended consequences of closing even one transfer station and the impact of such a closure on the Town of Constantia and its residents and businesses that rely on safely disposing garbage at the transfer stations including, but not limited to:

1. The encouragement of road-side dumping of garbage by those who cannot afford to haul their garbage to Bristol Hill;
2. The inordinate delays caused by having only one transfer station available to utilize, particularly when lines to use Bristol Hill and Richland are already long on Saturdays; and
3. The creation of an unfunded mandate by the County on the Towns to tax its residence through the use of a municipal trash hauler.

WHEREAS, the residents of the Town of Constantia overwhelmingly support keeping the transfer stations open to serve the public, and encourage the County to find other ways to curtail costs for what many believe to be an essential service that should be provided by the County to assist in protecting the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of Oswego County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, upon a motion made and seconded and after due deliberation, it is and shall hereby be

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Constantia strongly opposes the closure of any of the four transfer stations within the County of Oswego, and urges the Oswego County Legislature to continue seeking alternate solutions to disposing garbage in Oswego County; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to send a letter to the Chairman of the County Legislature stating the Town Board's opposition to closure, with a copy to the County Legislator representing the Town of Constantia.

Seconded by Councilman: **Metzger**

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Charles Gilkey, Supervisor	Voted	Yes
Richard Colesante	Voted	Yes
John Metzger	Voted	Yes
Tom Moran	Voted	Yes
Chad Whitney	Voted	Yes

MINUTES:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the minutes of the May 15th special meeting, and the May 20th town board meeting, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #6, Dated June 17, 2014:

General Fund	177-206	\$ 20,005.23
Highway Fund	91-105	\$ 26,567.39
Northshore Water District	7	\$ 445.30

Seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Supervisor's report as presented dated April 30, 2014, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Woolridge reported that they are mowing roadsides, they will be mowing the county roads again this year. Continuing work on Reservoir Rd, cutting road back for better distance in another week they will hopefully be oil and stoning this road. They have been oil and stoning some intersections and doing strips on roads where there are cracks. This helps keep the roads in good shape.

Mr. Woolridge would like to get some pricing on pouring of the garage floor 60 x 40 the cold storage area. We would buy the concrete so the bid would be for forming and pouring only. The board agreed, just please get more than one bid. Mr. Woolridge would also like when time allows to start the excavating for the addition on the west side of the garage. He would be doing this on his own time, won't be starting it right away.

Mr. Moran would like to talk about the culvert on Holly Hole Rd, Mr. Woolridge is meeting with the engineer on Friday at 3pm, Mr. Franz from Bailey Engineering. After this meeting Mr. Woolridge will know how they will be proceeding. Mr. Franz can say that it will be good until the spring, will not know until after the meeting on Friday. Mr. Woolridge has been in contact with the DEC so they know we are working on the problem. Mr. Moran is concerned that we should be setting monies aside for projects like this. We do, this was just unexpected will use some of the CHIPS money to fix and also have money in capital reserve that can be used.

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Highway Superintendent's report, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

TOWN CLERK:

Total receipts for the month of May were \$3,360.95. Mr. Whitney made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's report as presented, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

ASSESSOR:

Mr. Wheeler's report as given:

Grievance Day was May 28, 2014. We had a total of 15 filed grievances that the Board of Assessment Review heard as follows:

- 1 Stipulation
- 2 Corrections to the Tentative Roll (RP-552)
- 7 Grievances that were changed
- 5 Grievances that were not changed.

All property owners have been notified of the Board of Assessment Review decisions, and anyone seeking further remedy, will need to file the Small Claims paper work by July 31, 2014.

The final roll will be filed on July 1, 2014, and our equalization rate will once again be 100%.

I will be attending the Summer Seminar on Appraising at Cornell from July 14 – 18, 2014, and therefore will be out of the office; but as always, I can be reached via email at wjwheeler@nyassessor.com.

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Assessor's Report as given, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mr. Colesante would like the board at the next meeting to consider signing a resolution as it pertains to the outdoor storage law. He would like to see the town take a more proactive roll in cleaning up the town. We have been working on the complaint list for at least 5 years and would like to move forward with the properties on the list. Mr. Colesante read a draft resolution that he will email to board members so they can review before the next meeting. Mr. Colesante would also like to form a committee to help with this, maybe a beautification committee people who have ideas to help the town look better. Mr. Bader, Mr. Illingworth and Mr. Gilkey have been reviewing the list of complaints to set about a plan, that is why on the Code Officer's report it lists under complaints working on new list.

A letter from Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher was received thanking Mr. Illingworth for his help with their addition.

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Code Officer's report as received with total receipts for the month of May in the amount of \$1,811.95, seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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

DOG CONTROL:

Ms. Ashley reported that she is receiving general complaints, went to a call from State Police a dog fight on Kibbie Lake Rd, worse fight she has ever seen. Ms. Ashley would like to bring to the board attention her frustration when writing dog tickets. If a dog is unlicensed she issues a ticket, if the people get the license before court date the judge throws out the ticket. It is frustrating because she writes the ticket and the additional documents needed and then no fine is given. Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Dog Control Officer's report as received, seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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

PLANNING BOARD:

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 26th.

BOARD OF APPEALS:

No report.

JUSTICE:

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

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

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Mr. Baxter reported:

- Presented 1st 18 pages of county proposal to close solid waste transfer stations, and reported on closure alternates.
- Fiscal oversight/red flags for fraud workshop was Monday, June 16, 2014. Mr. Baxter will have an electronic version of the handout soon. Thanks to Supervisor Gilkey and Councilman Moran for attending.
- Presented Make Way for Wildlife brochure on options for land development in rural areas.
- County Tourism Advisory Council meeting was Monday, June 16, 2014 in Cleveland; next meeting is Tuesday, July 15th in Altmar at Tailwater Lodge, the conversion of the former Altmar Elementary School.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Scott Duggleby wanted to let the board know that he is now a member of the Central Square School Board of Education. With the recent school board vote to close Cleveland Elementary he understands that the Constantia Town Board did present a resolution to the CSSD Board of Education in opposing this action. There is a belief among the CSSD Board Members that this board was strong armed into signing that resolution. Mr. Colesante told Mr. Duggleby that four members of the board did address that concern to Mr. Menard with an e-mail. Mr. Duggleby, as a regular tax payer wanted to let the board know that there are a number of things going on, there is an appeal on the vote because a district employee told election inspectors not to count votes for a candidate. On Saturday, June 21st there will be Cleveland Pride Day, the village has put this together to help raise funds for various efforts.

BOARD COMMENT:

-Kibbie Lake dam replacement, after speaking with Mr. Miller from the DEC Mr. Gilkey was in hopes of having a copy of plans for the dam. He has not received them yet. Mr. Colesante asked at the original meeting what options were given.

1. Rebuild and then the town takes over maintenance and operation
2. Remove it, but then the DEC will have to put it back to original state

If the town takes it over, we will have to manage it, do annual inspections which could require the town to hire an engineer. The board agreed that the entire board should be there for a meeting, the DEC can make a presentation then. Mr. Gilkey will contact Mr. Miller.

-North Shore Ambulance - would like another meeting, EMS Director has been hired would like to get a 5 year plan from them as to how they will be paying for this new position.

-Mr. Colesante as the Chair for the Park and Recreation Commission has been contacted by the soccer program that has been displaced by the closing of Cleveland Elementary. They would like to move their program to The David C. Webb Part at Taft Bay. Most of the fields will be on the property owned by the Town. The program runs for about 6 weeks in the fall and 6 weeks in the spring. Wanted to be sure if the town board members were okay with the idea before approving, they will be supplying their own certificate of insurance. Mr. Bader stated that the Town should also be checking with their insurance to make sure everything is covered.

ADJOURN:

At 10:05 pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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