

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-September 15, 2015
7:30 pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Kenneth Mosley - 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
Paul Baxter - Tug Hill Commission
Roy Reehil – County Legislator

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. Kline thanked Mr. Woolridge for filling in the pot hole on Gale Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Woods from the Panther Lake Association were in to get an update on the property in Panther Lake that they have complained on in the past. They have not seen any progress and were wondering what was status. Mr. Mosley and CEO Mr. Hall have been in contact with the property owner, they have seen progress. Understand that it is hard for the property owners but this is not something that will change overnight.

Mrs. Meixell –Winona Park Drive is happy that the town oil and stoned her road, big improvement.

WATER:

See public hearing minutes.

SEWER:

An amendment to the PER submitted with updated modeling with the Hastings – Central Square alternative revisited. Cost estimate 20M over funding limit for hardship financing. The size of the service area needs to be reduced to get under the funding limit. The question for the board, do you still want to include connection or do you want the home owner to pay, the board still wants the connection to be included. Mr. Parker will do the revision will get the revised information to the board.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR:

Legislator Reehil:

- 3 properties in the Town have sold in the County tax foreclosure auction and another was conveyed to a neighboring land owner and combined into one deed, so all will be back on the tax rolls.
- County has created a Task Force to look into creating a County Land Bank, which would offer the County and the Town more options when it comes to properties nearing the end of their useful life.
- distributed a flyer explaining a Residential Property Tax Exemption that the County recently passed. This County tax exemption is for non-maintenance improvements to residential property of between \$5,000 and \$80,000 dollars for any improvement that would raise the property's assessed value. The exemption starts at 100% of the increase in value and gradually declines over an 8 year schedule. There is also a similar commercial exemption on the books at the county. This exemption is for County tax only, but may be adopted into law by towns, villages and school districts. The legislature is promoting the use of these exemptions to promote building upgrades in the County.
- Closing the Fitzpatrick Nuclear Plant in Scriba is under consideration. Mr. Reehil said that the County was in negotiations concerning the assessed value of the plant, but that he had no actual news to report about whether the plant would close or not. That decision is expected later in the year.
- Legislator Reehil has been appointed to two additional committee assignments: The Upstate Revitalization Special Committee and the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board.

Current Committee Assignments:

Chairman, Community Health and Poverty Reduction Task Force
Economic Development and Planning Committee
Government, Courts and Consumer Affairs Committee
Special Committee on Tax Exemptions
Upstate Revitalization Special Committee
Oswego County Tourism Advisory Council
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENTS:

Town of Mexico has sent an Agreement of Municipal Cooperation, Mr. Bader has reviewed. Mr. Bader is not comfortable with the wording of one section. Mr. Mosley asked Mr. Bader to create one for the town that way we can send it to the other towns that we work with. Need to formalize to show New York State that we are sharing services.

MINUTES:

Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the minutes of the August 11 and 27th special meetings and the August 18th town board meeting, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #9, Dated September 15, 2015:

General Fund	276-311	\$161,273.44
Highway Fund	162-178*	\$ 27,661.11
NorthShore Water District	6	\$ 5,621.53

Seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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

*Voucher #163 was removed, invoice paid in August discovered on September 16th when authorizing checks.

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

Mr. Moran made the motion to approve the following budget transfer:

OVER BUDGET ACCOUNTS

<u>ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>AMOUNT OVER</u>
DB5112.2 Road	\$259,000	\$8,091.0
Improv	.00	8
DB5142.4 Snow	\$40,000.	\$13,389.
C.E.	00	69
TOTAL OVER		\$21,480.
BUDGET		77

BUDGET TRANSFER ACCOUNT

<u>ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
DB9950.9 Capitol	\$25,000.	\$25,000.
Reser	00	00
Minus Over		<u>(\$21,480.</u>
Budget Amt		<u>77)</u>
BALANCE OF		\$3,519.2
DB9950.9		3

Seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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

Mr. Woolridge wanted to explain that the Road Improvement line is reading as over, in reality we have a surplus. New York State gives the town reimbursement in CHIPs money, this year with the hard winter the state will reimburse the town an additional \$20,000 (approx.) in Winter Recovery money to be used on the roads. This overage is offset by this additional revenue. This money will be received by the end of the year.

SUPERVISOR:

The Supervisor’s report for July was missing two pages, they have been printed and submitted to the board. Mr. Metzger made the motion to approve the Supervisor’s report for July dated: July 31, 2015, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

Mr. Metzger made the motion to approve the Supervisor’s report for August dated August 31, 2015, seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Woolridge reported:

- Currently using the long arm mower on some town roads, it does make a mess but pushes the trees way back. In a few weeks things will look better.
- Culvert on Martin Rd completed
- Screening sand
- Cutting back Cook Rd
- Grade dirt roads before winter

Mr. Whitney made the motion to accept the Highway Superintendent report, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Mrs. Haynes reported that the total receipts and disbursements for the month of August were \$3,992.54. Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's report as presented, seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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

ASSESSOR:

After the filing of the Final Roll in July, we have had two Small Claims Assessment Review (SCAR) hearings on September 4, 2015. Both cases are currently being deliberated, and a decision should be reached soon.

Sometime in October, we will be mailing out the renewal notices for the Senior Citizen and Enhanced STAR exemptions. Typically, we have mailed those out by the second week of October to give applicants plenty of time to file by the March 1, 2016 deadline.

Our office hours will be changing in October as well. Lynn will be returning to work the week of October 5, 2015. I will be out of the office Tuesday, October 6, 2015 while I attend the fall conference. On a side note, I will be installed as the Second Vice President of New York State Assessors' Association; I am informing you of this simply because if things progress as planned, I will be installed as the President in 2017.

Should you have any further questions, do not hesitate to ask.

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Assessor's report as read, seconded by Mr. Metzger.
Carried: Moran – Yes Whitney – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley – Yes

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mr. Mosley asked the board their opinion about the property in Panther Lake that the town has been getting complaints on. Where does the board want to go from here, should citations be given to the property owner. The board does agree it is time to move forward, it has been over a year that the complaints have been given to the Code Enforcement Office. The citations should be done in conjunction with Mr. Bader.

Mr. Woolridge asked how it is working that the CEO is not working consistent hours. The Blair brothers were in attendance did get frustrated, they were unfortunate enough to have missed Mr. Hall a few times. They have since met with him and are moving forward to opening their new restaurant.

Mr. Metzger made the motion to accept the Code Officer's report as presented with total receipts for the month of August in the amount of \$1,920.54, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

JUSTICE:

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

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

DOG CONTROL:

Mr. Metzger made the motion to approve the Dog Control Officer's report as presented, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

PLANNING BOARD:

July 28, 2015 minutes received.

BOARD OF APPEALS:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

-Report received from Northshore Volunteer Ambulance

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Moran would like to thank Mr. Doug Riggs from the highway department for fixing the cast iron frame for the school bell that was removed from the tower at the town hall. Mr. Moran is going to build a 4 x 4 frame so the bell can be displayed at the town hall.

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Paul Baxter reported:

- Budget process workshop in Boonville September 21st and in Adams September 24th
- Tug Hill Commission meeting in Amboy Monday, September 21st at 4pm at the Amboy Town Hall
- Tug Hill Legislative summit with NYS Senators and Assemblymen representing the Tug Hill region, Thursday Oct 1st at 7pm at the Redfield Fire Station.
- Tug Hill executive director application period ends today, evaluation of applicants and scheduling of interviews to follow.
- Assisted bookkeeper with setting up 2016 budget template
- Web site has current legal notices and August town board minutes
- Thursday October 8th planning boards and board of appeals members can attend a class in Constantia on administrative procedures

BUDGET MEETING:

Mr. Whitney will not be able to attend the budget meeting on Thursday, September 24th at 7:00 pm. That is open house night for his school he must attend. The board decided to move the meeting to 9:00 am.

ADJOURN:

At 9:07 pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Whitney.

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