

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA
MINUTES - TOWN BOARD-January 17, 2017
7:30 pm Constantia Town Hall

Present: Kenneth Mosley - Supervisor
Richard Colesante, Thomas Moran, John Metzger – Council Members
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk

Others Present: Wayne Woolridge - Highway Superintendent
Randy Blowers – Trustee, Village of Cleveland
Roy Reehil – County Legislator

Absent: Chad Whitney – Council Member
Warren Bader - Town Attorney
Paul Baxter - Tug Hill Commission

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

MINUTES:

Mr. Colesante made the motion to accept the minutes of the December 12th special meeting and the December 20th town board meeting, Seconded by Mr. Moran.

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

VOUCHERS:

Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the following vouchers as listed on Abstract #1, Dated January 19, 2017:

General Fund	1-35	\$ 14,604.00
Highway Fund	1-18	\$ 94,965.16
North Shore Water District	1	\$ 6,666.08

Seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

Mr. Moran made the motion approve general budget transfer #2 dated December 31, 2016,

<u>Over Budget Accounts:</u>	<u>Amounts over:</u>
A1110.14 Justice Clk #2 P.S.	\$1,145.55
A1310.5 Payroll Service C.E.	\$ 170.49
A1620.12 Cleaner	\$ 89.11
A9030.82 Medicare	\$ 40.37
Total Over:	\$1,445.52

Funds to cover over budget accounts:

A1990.4 Contingency Balance	\$ 57,952.71
	<u>\$ -1,445.52</u>
Balance of Contingency:	\$ 56,507.19

And, highway budget transfer #2 dated December 31, 2016,

<u>Over Budget Accounts:</u>	<u>Amounts over:</u>
DB5142.1 Snow Removal P.S.	\$17,687.99
DB5148.4 Svc Other Gov P.D.	\$ 1,751.08
DB9030.81 Soc Sec	<u>\$ 499.74</u>
Total Over:	\$19,938.81

Funds to cover over budget accounts:

DB9060.8 Medical Ins. Balance	\$ 23,917.84
	<u>\$-19,938.81</u>
Balance of Medical Ins. Acct:	\$ 3,979.13

Seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

SUPERVISOR:

Mr. Moran made the motion to approve the Supervisor's report dated December 31, 2016, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Woolridge reported to the town board that there was a problem with the 2012 snow plow truck, it had a major transmission problem, it is back up and running. Mr. Woolridge will be contacting MAC to see if the town can be reimbursed for some of cost.

They continue to work on the old 1991 gradall, Mr. Woolridge would like to put a grapple on it to use on downed trees. One was found online for \$7500.00 would like authorization to purchase. Discussion continued to the purchase on the 2014 gradall, after sending the lease agreement to Mr. John Langey from Costello, Cooney & Fearon PLLC. Mr. Langey needs us to put the piece of equipment out to bid. Mr. Langey understands from his conversation with Mr. Woolridge that there are no other used gradalls available, but he will be signing a document that we have adhered to the NYS Purchasing Policy. With this in mind, Mr. Metzger made the following motion:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Authorize the Bidding for

A 2014 Gradall XL3100 Highway Wheeled Excavator

WHEREAS, the Town of Constantia Highway Department has advised it has analyzed the use of equipment, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Constantia Highway Department has advised it desires to replace the 1991 Gradall; and

WHEREAS, funds have been budgeted for such equipment replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, after due deliberation, has determined that the replacement of such equipment would be in the best interest of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has ascertained that such equipment may be available through the public bidding process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board that the Town of Constantia Highway Superintendent be and hereby is authorized to openly bid for the purchase of one used Gradall, as follows:

One used 2014 Gradall XL3100 Highway Wheeled Excavator, with less than 600 hours

Seconded by Councilman: Colesante

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

-Received notification from Oswego Hospital that The Town of Constantia is a member of the DOT Consortium.

-Received letter from DOT on the request for lower speed on County Route 17, request was denied, the board requested Mr. Mosley contact Mr. Edick, Head of Transportation for the Central Square School District to notify him of the decision.

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

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

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Mrs. Haynes has received the tax warrant from Oswego County directing Mrs. Haynes to collect the following:

To County Treasurer \$2,868,722.48

To Town Supervisor \$1,952,005.77

Total Warrant: \$4,820,728.25

To date Mrs. Haynes has collected \$812,478.40 which is 17% of the total warrant. Taxes will be collected without penalty until February 2, 2017.

Mrs. Haynes reported that the total receipts and disbursements for the month of December were \$1,248.60. Mr.

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

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

ASSESSOR:

Mr. Wheeler submitted the following report:

Exemption renewal is in full swing. We have already received 222 renewal applications. All renewal forms have been mailed to property owners, along with the green post cards for those tax payers that have signed up for the income verification program. The deadline for all renewals is March 1, 2017.

Communication from Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF) has recently come to a screeching halt. There have not been any STAR teleconferences since before Thanksgiving, and according to a DTF spokesperson there are none scheduled in the immediate future. They are tabling all communications until the next Real Property Tax Administration Committee (RPTAC) meeting in February which I will be attending.

Here is all we know about the STAR check program according to the tax.ny.gov website:

We have issued more than 2 million property tax freeze, property tax relief, and STAR checks, and we continue to mail checks daily. Due to very high call volumes, there are long wait times to reach a representative.

*If you are expecting a STAR Credit check, please review your 2016 school tax bill. If you received the STAR Exemption on your bill, then you are **not** eligible for the STAR Check.*

For eligibility information, see property tax freeze credit, property tax relief and STAR property tax relief.

Apparently they are continuing to have a difficult time administering a program that was recently adopted during the 2016 budget process to save money. And one more piece of information, according to a recent article from whec.com, the cost to print the checks is on average \$3 per check, and according to DTF, they have already sent out 2 million, with more expected. Anyone can do the math and see if there are any savings being had. So any property owners with questions pertaining to the rebate checks; must contact DTF directly.

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 Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley - Yes

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mr. Harrington, Deputy Code Enforcement Office submitted the following report.

Things have slowed down as expected due to the winter months. I have cut my hours down to 12 hours a week in the office but am still working with the fire department on fire calls on 24 hour call.

Last week I had my final walk through of the Nice and Easy. They were issued their certificate of occupancy. They still have some outside site work to do and will address it at the earliest convenience. They are closing down the old store on the 31st of January and opening the new store on the 1st of February. I asked what was going to happen to the old store and they don't know because it is owned by Fast Trac.

I am still working on violators of our local laws. With progress being made with all of them and have written more violators up around the town.

Which brings me to the next topic of my report. I strongly suggest that you look at and rework the local law on living in campers in the town. It now reads you can live in them for 120 days not necessarily in succession on a vacant lot. I now have 2 campers on properties of dilapidated or burned out houses, technically that isn't a vacant lot.

I have just had another one set up on a property with a livable house on it. My understanding is they are going to tear down the house and build new. Now it will be a vacant lot and doubt it will be done in 120 days.

My suggestion is you put a duration of time for example, May 15 to September 15, that way we still accommodate the vacationers who enjoy our fine community in the summer months.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this subject.

After discussion on the camper issue that Mr. Harrington brought up in his report the board would like to set a meeting with both code enforcement officers to meet on this issue. Mr. Moran made the motion to accept the Code Officer's report as presented, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

JUSTICE:

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

Carried: Moran – Yes Colesane – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley - Yes

DOG CONTROL:

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

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

PLANNING BOARD:

Ms. Rita Petkash, Planning Board Chair gave the board a new phone number list for the planning board. Mr. Charles Williams has not given a resignation letter for the board but it is the understanding that he wished to resign. Mr. Mosley will contact Mr. Williams to speak to him on this matter.

REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Sue LaVigne gave the board a calendar of events for 2017, Mr. Colesante and Mr. Metzger have spoken to Mrs. LaVigne and added some events to the list, once the calendar is finalized it would be nice to get them printed with pictures. More information to follow.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Northshore Ambulance – Monthly report
- Scriba Park Improvement – Grant not awarded

TUG HILL COMMISSION:

Paul Baxter reported:

I am coming to Constantia prior to the January monthly meeting so that I can see you in person and deliver this report before attending another meeting I must attend tonight.

- The Tug Hill Commission will hold its first meeting for 2017 at the Constantia Town Hall on Monday, January 23 starting at 10:00 a.m. and running until about noon. The commission meetings are open to the public, so you and any interested members of the public are very welcome to join us. There is usually a segment on the agenda for public comment if there are any issues, problems, or concerns that you'd like to bring to the attention of the commission in person. (Such matters are always welcome at any time.)
- I have set up a workshop for two weeks from tonight on Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) basics. This workshop will be held at the Amboy Town Hall, 822 State Route 69, Amboy, New York on Tuesday, January 31 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and will be conducted by Phil Street of the Tug Hill Commission. While this workshop is intended for zoning board of appeals members, both experienced members and those new to their board, it is also open to planning board members and town and village board members interested in learning more about how a ZBA functions, This workshop will be good for two hours training credits toward the four hour annual training requirement.
- The town web site has been updated with all available minutes and current notices posted. I received November and December minutes today and will post them tomorrow.

It's about time for another North Shore Council of Governments meeting, and I will be in further touch with Supervisor Mosley and NorCOG Chairman Rip Colesante about available dates.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR:

Legislator Reehil reported:

-January 21, 2017 there will be a spaghetti dinner at the American Legion in Cleveland, they will be selling the new History of Oswego County Books.

- Poverty Task Force should have their report ready for spring.
- Mr. Reehil will notify the town board when properties are going to be auctioned, town might be able to utilize the County's new Land Bank.
- Mr. Woolridge asked about the rack track in Brewerton, he has no new information.

BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENT:

Mr. Colesante is resigning as Chair for the Park and Recreation Committee, he will still be a committee member. With his resignation the town board would like to appoint Erin Zehr as Chairperson. Mr. Metzger made the motion to appoint Erin Zehr as Chairperson for the Park and Recreation Committee, seconded by Mr. Moran.
Carried: Moran – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Mosley - Yes

The board then reviewed the estimates for the renovations at the town hall which will be to construct a kitchen area and update the restroom. Mr. Metzger authorized the spending of not more than \$10,000.00 on this project, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:42 pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to close the town board meeting to go into executive session to discuss an employee matter, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

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

At 9:17 pm Mr. Metzger made the motion to close the executive session, no action was taken, and reopen the town board meeting, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

HIGHWAY:

Earlier in the meeting Mr. Woolridge mentioned the purchase of a grapple with a rotator for the 1991 Gradall and would like a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Metzger made the motion to authorize Mr. Woolridge to purchase the grapple for the 1991 Gradall with rotator for \$7,500.00 following the 2017 Procurement Policy, seconded by Mr. Colesante.

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

ADJOURN:

At 9:20 pm Mr. Colesante made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Moran.

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