

TOWN OF CONSTANTIA  
**MINUTES – SUPERVISOR MEETING - TOWN BOARD – March 6, 2023**  
9:00 am Constantia Town Hall

Present: Frank Tomaino - Supervisor  
Ronald Chapman, Richard Colesante, John Metzger, Thomas Moran – Council Members  
Clare Haynes – Town Clerk  
Wayne Woolridge – Highway Superintendent  
Warren Bader – Town Attorney  
Laureen Tackman – Mayor, Village of Cleveland  
Dustin Clark, David Powers – Barton & Loguidice  
Paul Baxter – Tug Hill Commission

**CALL TO ORDER:**

At 9:00 am Mr. Tomaino called the supervisor's meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

**WASTEWATER:**

Mr. Clark told the board they are submitting applications for the Congressional Delegated Spending; these grants are run under a few different names but only one application is needed. Both the senate and congress representatives can nominate projects in their areas. This is the third year they have opened this grant process, they do not give much time, only a week to get the applications submitted. Senate has \$1M cap, Congress has \$4M. Mr. Powers requested letters of support for the project, Mr. Tomaino was able to get some letters signed over the weekend, Mr. Tomaino will get them to Mr. Powers.

Mr. Bader's office has been getting the title searches done, they will start home inspections again as soon as the weather breaks. Letters will be sent to the remaining residents in the district, 2nd letters to the residents that did not respond. Out of the 400 original letters sent 100 did not respond.

A request for re-imburement must be sent for CDBG funding by May, Mr. Clark believes they will be using the administration line for the work that Kelly Lathen of Fiscal Advisors has done for the first payment. Mr. Tomaino asked what the first draw will need to be, Mr. Clark stated there is not a percentage required.

Still waiting on the WQIP Grant announcement.

Mr. Tomaino asked about the bond agency, Mr. Clark indicated there is a conference call this afternoon with Mr. Bader's office to begin the discussion.

Ms. Tackman asked if there will be a SPEEDIES permit for the pump stations, no SPEEDIES permits are just for the treatment plant at the point of discharge.

Ms. Tackman asked who will be handling the pump stations, the Town will be handling everything from this side of the treatment plant. Mr. Woolridge asked if a license will be needed for the work at the pump stations, the answer is no. The pump stations will need a daily visual check, and the pump stations will have alarms. Mr. Tomaino asked if that means 7 days, Mr. Clark responded that usually 5 days is enough because of the alarm systems.

Rural Development - CDBG will be overseeing the Federal Pooling Money, this is money that has been returned to the agency. This is another opportunity for funding, Mr. Clark will be reaching out to Rural Development.

Discussion on what will happen if the WQIP Grant does not come thru, they will re-apply along with the other grants discussed above. Mr. Tomaino asked if the project can still go to bid, yes but no contracts can be signed until the additional funding that is needed is received as there will be no way to pay for it. If for some reason the bids come in lower than expected like with the Bernhards Bay Water District then they can move forward. At the current time, the project is still on track, if additional grants are not awarded by the end of the year then there will be delays.

Mr. Bader asked what the target is, if \$4M is granted the district will still be short, yes that is true but there are still 4 other sources to apply for the funding needed. \$6.2M is what the project needs with inflation.

Ms. Tackman asked if Micron will be a help, Mr. Clark believes it will they put Micron in every application.

Mr. Brill, who is in the sewer district, commented it is hard to pay when there is no connection. Mr. Chapman stated there is progress, the most comments he hears is questioning when they will be able to hook up.

Mr. Clark wanted to verify that the "Constantia 13" all will be getting new infrastructure, yes the board decided that these properties will be upgraded as the main goes past their properties. Ms. Tackman does not understand this decision why replace the system they have as it is working. Mr. Chapman responded that some of their grinder pumps are quite old as the district is being installed this is the time to upgrade their system to put them at the same level as the rest of the district. Mr. Colesante wants to make sure this information is sent in the letter to these residents when the 2nd letter goes out. Ms. Tackman would like a copy of the letter because she is sure they will be getting questions when the letter is received.

\*10:07 Mr. Clark and Mr. Powers left the meeting.

**ARPA FUNDS:**

Mr. Woolridge has been getting quotes as requested by the board for a few of the projects they would like to use ARPA funds for. One of the projects is the fuel pump for the highway garage. Mr. Woolridge brought with him the quote from Fluid Secure this is the company that supplied the pump and the program for the town of Amboy. The quote is \$4933. the problem with this system is there is no way for it to be hard wired. There is a yearly \$1,460 charge for an average 2 hose system which includes the software and CLOUD hosting along with \$1,975 for the extended warranty for the pedestal. Mr. Woolridge would rather a hard-wired system, he is still getting quotes; waiting to hear from S and W. Ms. Tackman told the Board they purchased theirs from Glider Oil, Mr. Woolridge is also waiting for the quote from them.

Mr. Woolridge found a 8,000 gallon enclosed tank on Marketplace, the tank in in New Hampshire. Mr. Woolridge contacted Milton Trucking, the cost to move the tank is \$4,500. Mr. Woolridge would like permission to purchase the tank and have it hauled to Constantia. The new tank will be for diesel. After further discussion, Mr. Chapman made the motion to authorize Mr. Woolridge to purchase the 8,000 gallon diesel fuel tank and hire Milton to deliver the tank for a total of \$12,500, this will be charged to ARPA Funds. Seconded by Mr. Moran. Carried: Moran – Yes Chapman – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Tomaino – Yes

The fence quote from Atlas fence is \$14,000, this is the only quote that has been received. A legal notice was put in the newspaper all bids must be received by March 16<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Woolridge has received a few calls from fence companies hopefully more bids will be coming in. The quote is to take down a portion of the fence for paving, then to replace with new. The park and recreation meeting is this Wednesday, Mr. Woolridge plans on attending.

Discussion on the pickleball court, Mr. Moran would like to see Mrs. Zehr apply for a Shineman Grant to cover part of this upgrade.

Ms. Tackman told the board that the Village will not be having a summer program this year, they just don't get enough children attending.

Mill Street – waiting on approval from the State, 60 day waiting period. Mr. Tomaino spoke to Mr. Bardoun, he can get out to survey at the end of the month.

Sprinklers – Mr. Tomaino stated that he believes the sprinklers for the highway garage are a no go for now. Mr. Woolridge did reach out to the town of Albion, they had a fire in the past and have a dry sprinkler system as they do not have adequate water supply. Mr. Woolridge is hoping to get more information.

Generator – Mr. Woolridge spoke to Mr. Main of 4Green Power Systems LLC he will be submitting a quote.

Vac Truck – The vac truck on Auctions International the Town was the highest bidder but the bid was declined. Mr. Woolridge spoke to the owner they wat \$65,000 there was no minimum bid listed, Mr. Woolridge increased the bid to \$50,000 waiting to hear back from the owner.

Mr. Colesante would like to have an informational meeting under the pole barn for residents to offer suggestions on spending the ARPA Funds.

**BOARD INITIATIVES AND COMMENTS:**

There is a Micron meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm at the Tailwater. \$44 a plate if anyone is interested in going let Mr. Tomaino know RSVP's are due this week.

Mr. Metzger brought up the Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Members Tax Exemption, Mr. Metzger would like Mr. Bader to review the information for the Local Law, if a Local Law is needed then the Town will need to set the public hearing at the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Mr. Metzger is unsure if the County and the School District will be passing the Local Law as well. If all parties do not pass the law then it is not a benefit for the volunteer. More information to follow.

On March 21<sup>st</sup> Mr. Tomaino will not be at the town board meeting, Mr. Tomaino asked if Mr. Moran would run the meeting, Mr. Moran accepted.

Discussion on short term rentals, Mr. Moran would like to start discussing what can be done. Mr. Colesante would like to see what happens in other communities, he is concerned with cottages that are being rented. Maybe distinguish between onsite owners and others. Mr. Bader does not know if that is possible but have to start a discussion somewhere. These properties can be listed as a commercial enterprise that could establish the framework for fire inspections. More discussion to follow.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURN:**

At 11:03am Mr. Chapman made the motion to go into executive session for an employee issue, seconded by Mr. Metzger.

Carried: Moran – Yes Chapman – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Tomaino – Yes

At 12:05 pm with no decisions made Mr. Tomaino made the motion to return from executive session and adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Colesante. Carried: Moran – Yes Chapman – Yes Colesante – Yes Metzger – Yes Tomaino – Yes