Village of Constableville

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 5, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Constableville, a Municipality, was held on November 5, 2024, at 6:00 pm, at the Village Library on Main St., Constableville, NY.

Trustees Present: Mark Sullivan, Stephen Ward, Sonia Wendt, Cody McDonald

Others present: Christina Healt, Tug Hill Counsel
Mary Wilton, Water Plant Operator (In training)
Jen Marrachion

Call to Order: Mayor Samantha Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum of trustees was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Approval of Minutes: Clerk Failing presented to the Board the minutes of the October 2024, monthly meeting. Trustee Wendt made a motion to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Trustee Ward, all in favor, motion carried.

Financial Review: Clerk Failing presented a comprehensive update of the Village's financial status. The Board reviewed the Financial Reports for October 2024. Trustee Sullivan made a motion to approve the financial report as presented, seconded by Trustee McDonald, all in favor, motion carried.

Water Plant Operator's Report:

Water Plant Operator Mary Wilton reported on the following:

- The usage has been up to 50,000 most days recently, It has been around 40,000 since she started. Trustee Sullivan asked her if she thinks it is seasonal or if she thinks we have a problem. She said she wasn't sure. Trustee Wendt asked if she could look back at last year around this time. Trustee McDonald commented that the only thing new is the Sullivan project. Joe Santamore's new house was brought up, however the resident just moved in and it is just one single male.
- She didn't hear back from Claude regarding cleaning clear well #3. She said Tom told her he wished she would have talked to him before contacting Claude, and he thinks we should just ignore the stuff in it, drain, get the light fixed and fill it back up. She personally feels that we can't just let it go. She suggested we get the light fixed, fill it part way and flush it out. Trustee Wendt suggested that she contact Tom Smith and get clarification as to what he recommends. Mary W. asked Mayor Brown to text him and ask him. His reply was to do nothing, ignore it, don't fix the light, just leave it as is until the DOH tells us to do it.
- She reported that she turned off the Raw Water Line (12" Potable Line) to see how fast it would go down, and nothing happened overnight. Mark said there is a lot of water in that tank, and it will take a while. There is 260,000 gallons between the two. He also said that as the water sits, the chlorine will dissipate, so to keep an eye on that.
- She gave Clerk Failing copies of all reports for the month.

Clerk Failing reported that the lead service line inventory was been submitted before the deadline. She met with Scott Goodhines and Steve Freeman one afternoon and he and Scott changed some of the line materials on the list. The next step is to send letters to the 60 that possibly have lead pipes. She has templates from Steve Freeman to use for this.

Trustee Sullivan said he ran into Tom Smith, He said there are certain things he doesn't think need to be in the Boonville Herald. He also said he wants nothing to do with draining the reservoir, if the village decides to do it again, he will be gone. Mark said he and Chris still plan to use the camera to try to see if they can see why it is plugged.

Mayor Brown reported that some other municipalities have received word about the WIIA Grant funds. She spoke with Gregor and he said there is still a chance, we have not received a denial letter, which we would typically get before the award announcements are made. And perhaps we will be awarded the BIL Funding (Bipartisan Infrastructure Funding), it is a separate pot of money than WIIA.

Sewer Plant Operator's Report:

Sewer Plant Operator Mark Sullivan reported that Daniel Hayes from DEC came on November 1st and did an inspection at the Sewer Plant. He said everything looks good, but we could still get a poor or unsatisfactory rating because the disinfection facility isn't done. It was supposed to be done in 2024. He said he would do what he can not to give us a violation.

Other Business:

Mayor Brown reported that she received an email that the Hazard Mitigation Plan needs to be updated, refreshed. We need 2 Point of Contacts. There will be 1 or 2 meetings to attend, and bring back information to the board, there will also be a lot of emails. Trustee Sullivan and Trustee Wendt (as backup) will be the POC's for the Village.

Sofia Burd, a member of the Zoning Commission, presented a draft Zoning Law to the Board. She said they used town laws as a template, they changed lot sizes because we are a village. Village Laws were incorporated in to the Zoning Law. The Board will review the draft before the next meeting and discuss it further at the December board meeting.

The following are the next steps in the Zoning Local Law process:

- Commission presents it to the Village Board at the November meeting
- December meeting - Village Board reviews and make changes if applicable
- Send to the County Planning Dept. for review, they have 30 days
- Village Board holds Public Hearing
- Village Board adopts Zoning Local Law
- Zoning Board of Appeals will take effect in January

The Mini Comp Plan (Land Use Document) will also be discussed at the December meeting.

Clerk Failing presented the board with a list of unpaid taxes to review and sign the affidavit for the Lewis County Treasurer's Department to add them to the Town/County Tax Bills.

Clerk Failing reported that the certified letter that we sent to Joseph & Kristine Kraeger regarding their dog, was returned unclaimed. She sent the letter again via regular mail. She did see Doug Salmon who told her that they have not seen the dog around lately.

Clerk Failing said Eager Beaver Tree Service started the trimming of the branches today, they will be back tomorrow to finish and pick up the branches they had piled up. They had an issue with one of the residents telling him not to continue and not to do her other property a couple doors down.

Regarding the limb trimming there was also an issue with a local tree service individual complaining on social media that the village didn't contact him for a quote. The board discussed this, and they felt we got the three quotes they

needed per our procurement policy, and we did consider him however, without a lift truck we didn't think he had the equipment needed to do the job.

Clerk Failing reported that the Methodist Church inquiring about a bill for the parts they used from the village – Mark helped Bob Greene find the part in the Belltower, it was a ½" curb valve and a 2' Shut off curb stop rod. (New - $112.00) Mark suggested charging them $70 - $80 for the Curb Stop and not charging them for the key. Mark will order 3 – 2" Shutoffs and a key.

Jen Maracchion was present to discuss an idea for a Thanksgiving Food Drive. Mayor Brown reported that we have a Nintendo Switch and Case that was donated to Constableville for Tomorrow, we could do a raffle with that and add a 2nd and 3rd prize for $60 and $40 gift cards. If we sell 60 tickets at $10 each, we will have a profit of $500 to use for purchasing what we don't get in food donations. Bins will be placed in the library and at the Post Office. We have received $200 in cash donations so far.

The Christmas Tree for the bandstand was discussed. Mayor Brown will get one from the Nellenback tree farm. The Board will meet at 10:00 am on December 1st to decorate it. (NOTE: date changed to November 30th @ 10:00 AM) Trustee Wendt would like to have a Tree Lighting ceremony at 5:00 pm, with cookies & hot cocoa at the library. She will talk to the library board and get back to us.

The Fire Department is sponsoring a Breakfast with Santa on 12/15.

Trustee Ward reported that the lights at the pavilion are on until 11:00 pm, if no one is using it, he thinks we should change it for them to come on at 4 pm and go off at 8 pm.

Mary A. Wilton told the board that Eric Siegrist bout the Shilling house on Church St.

Christine Healt reviewed announcements.

Vouchers were audited and ordered paid.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm, on motion by Trustee Wendt and seconded by Trustee Sullivan and carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Failing

Mary Failing, Village Clerk