Village of Constableville

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 5, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Constableville, a Municipality, was held on May 5, 2025, 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: Angie Kimball, Tug Hill Counsel
Mary Wilton, Water Plant Operator

Call to Order: Mayor Samantha Brown called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. A quorum of trustees was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Approval of Minutes: Trustee Wendt made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 2025 monthly meeting, the motion was seconded by Trustee Sullivan, all in favor, motion carried.

Financial Review: The Board reviewed the Financial Reports for April 2025. Trustee McDonald made a motion to approve the financial report as presented, seconded by Trustee Wendt, all in favor, motion carried.

Water Plant Operator's Report:

Water Plant Operator Mary Wilton reported on the following:

- She never figured out the reason for the drop, Tom told her not to try to figure out why, just react. She said that now usage is up higher than usual.
- Claude gave her the go ahead to pressure wash the tank, but the valve is down in a floor drain, under a grate.
- She had an issue with the pump running when it shouldn't have been as nothing was turned on and nothing was leaking. She called Cody, he went up, he thinks possibly the pressure switch (maybe $100 to replace). She has the breaker turned off; she will turn it on when needed so it doesn't burn up. Mark went up this evening, he said the pump is pretty new, he agrees it may be the pressure switch. After further discussion, the board decided we should call Jim Seelman to look at it, and to fix the drip.
- She called Joe Genter the night before the hydrant flushing, because the turbidity meter wasn't working. Joe did some trouble shooting, it turned out there was a frog in the pipe, plugging it.
- She has been trying to get the water back up after the hydrants were flushed. It is coming up pretty good.

Sewer Plant Operator's Report:

Sewer Plant Operator Mark Sullivan reported on the following:

- Derek Stewert is interested in the Sewer Plant Operator position. Mark will show him around Mark is hopeful that he will take it over, he will stay on as back up/assistant.
- He spoke with Bob Boliver at the Open house. He said they are not planning to do the aluminum catwalk; they will upgrade the wooden catwalk that we have now. They will replace the roof and a back up generator is included in the project.

Mayor Brown reported that Bob Boliver offered to come to the meeting tonight but he didn't have anything to report except that the project will be out for bid and bid opening in mid-June.

Other Business:

Mayor Brown reported on the following:

- The NEPA application that is required for the NBRC grant is estimated to cost the village $17,500 maximum (billed at hourly rate) per BCA.
- The CDBG has not opened yet. We will need to do a SQRA when it does open up.
- There has been nothing new regarding the Water Districting.
- Dave Williamson contacted her regarding the Bandstand paint peeling on one side. She will meet with him.
- Mohawk Valley Bluegrass Band contacted her, they are interested in playing again at the bandstand. Sonia reported that Andy is taking a break, she suggested the Nelson Brothers, or Emerson Brothers as possibilities.
- She will be meeting with Kevin Townsend to sign the insurance renewal.
- Our attorney looked over Matt's comments regarding the draft zoning law, the board reviewed his suggestions/comments. Manufactured Homes, Adult Entertainment (Banning completely is an infringement of freedom of speech) and Single wide trailers were among the sections he commented on. Trustee McDonald suggested that we lighten up the language regarding adult entertainment. Another suggestion was to ban it within a certain distance of any area children gather/frequent. Clerk Failing forwarded his suggestions to Megan at Lewis County Planning, but she didn't get back to her today. Attorney Gilbert said we will need to have another public hearing because of the number of changes we have made since the last one. A public hearing was set for June 2nd at 6:00 by motion of Trustee Wendt, seconded by Trustee Sullivan, all in favor, motion carried.
- July 4th reading – Peter suggested a children's essay contest about what freedom means to them.

The hydrant by Lee Kraeger's still needs to be replaced. Mayor Brown will contact Scott Goodhines. Trustee Sullivan reported that when they flushed the hydrants, the hydrant by Patty Sullivan's he was unable to get the 5" cap off. He will ask Chris to go around and loosen and tighten back up the caps throughout the village from time to time.

Clerk Failing reported that the tenants in Green's Apartment building are leaving their garbage and recycling containers out by the road week after week. She has contacted the landlord to let her know but it keeps happening. She will send a letter will a copy of the local law.

Trustee Sullivan reported that he signed off on Nelson Tree Service cutting some limbs on Village property on Smith Road. He will be taking care of the wood they left.

Christine reviewed the Cooperative Tug Hill announcements. A Traffic Counter is available through Tug Hill Commission. She reported that the Cooperative ZBA had its first case, and Joe Genter, our representative, was present.

Vouchers were audited and signed by Mayor Brown.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm, on motion by Trustee McDonald and seconded by Trustee Sullivan and carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary R. Failing

Mary Failing, Village Clerk