Village of Constableville

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 10, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Constableville, a Municipality, was held on November 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm, at the Village Library on Main St., Constableville, NY.

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

Others present: Christine Healt, Tug Hill Counsel
Mary Wilton, Water Plant Operator
Robert Boliver, BCA
John Reid, Lewis County Highway Superintendent
Douglas Salmon, Town of West Turin Highway Superintendent

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: Trustee McDonald made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2025 monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sullivan, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Bob Boliver, BCA updated the board on the Water and Sewer Projects.

SEWER:

- We are just getting started at the sewer plant, they are making a mess right now
- Installed the metered fiberglass manhole.
- They have started excavation for the building footers and have started that process
- He got a quote for pressure treated and for composite for the new stairs & catwalk, It was only $300 more for composite so we will be using that.
- The light pole next to the access drive is in the way, they would like to pull it and then replace it when they are finished. Mark said he doesn't see a problem with it.
- He has submitted the invoices for BCA and told Mary she can pay them when the money gets in our account.

Water Plant Operator's Report:

Water Plant Operator Mary Wilton reported on the following:

- Everything is fine at the plant. She asked Cody to look at the water pump. Cody contacted Jimmy Seelman, but he couldn't get up there in a timely manner, so Mary's son Zach tested the switch, and it was fine. He found that the plastic impeller was shot. He contacted Karpinski's and he said it is a Gould pump; and he ordered a rebuild kit (impeller & gaskets) for it, which Zach said he would put it back together when they come in.
- The roof is dripping in the office over her desk; there is a crack in the seam where the concrete panels come together. She is going to move the desk until we can get it fixed.
- She is sure we will never see 40,000 gallons a day again, but the usage is higher than she has seen since she started, up at least 10,000 gallons a day, averaging 58,756 gallons a day, so there must be another

leak. Trustee McDonald asked if it had gone down any since the hydrant on High Street was replaced. She said it is hard to tell as it fluctuates so much. Clerk Failing said she will contact Steve Freeman to look for a leak again. Bob Boliver asked Mary W. if she was still checking the usage twice a day, she said no, that she only did that for a week, but she will do it again for another week.

- Someone was taking water from the fire house last Thursday and there were complaints about cloudy, murky water. It is hard to regulate the plant with people drawing from the hydrant there.
- She has been woken up at 5 am one day and 6 am another day because the chlorine is fluctuating. She has to mix the chlorine by hand. Trustee Sullivan said there used to be a mixer up there that did that. They should have it in the Bluebook if she wants one. She said it will be fine when she gets stronger water source back.
- Mayor Brown said that meters would be helpful at times like this. Mary W. said she has been doing research on meters. She talked to some people from Turin. John Reid said Casey Dickinson (BCA) is who she was talking with so maybe Bob Boliver can explain it better. Bob said we haven't even talked about meters yet, it is too soon to discuss it. Mary Wilton said one thing she learned is that it will be a drive through meter reading. She was worried about radiation, but they said it won't be continually transmitting, only when the data is pulled.

Trustee Sullivan reported that Chris was checking the reservoir and spring boxes and there was a guy and three women up there pulling the top off the spring box and so Chris went up to them and said what's going on, they said they have a camp on the Meyer Road and we need water, so we came up here on the Smith Road to get water. Chris said the guy basically walked away and the women were standing there. Chris said you walked past a posted sign and a federal sign that says it's a felony to tamper with anything on this property and now you're pulling the cover off from the spring box to get water.

Trustee Sullivan asked what is in the works with the Water project, as far as the spring boxes, Bob Boliver replied that they will be secured, there will also be a fence installed around the property.

Bob Boliver said BCA has hired a company, Hydro Source, Claude Comier (?) to do an analysis of the spring boxes and reservoir and they were up there looking at them today.

Trustee Sullivan reported that Doug (Town) had a load of stone dumped on the road to the reservoir, Chris has been spreading it out and said it looks good. The Board thanked Doug.

Mayor Brown reported that Cortney would like to flush the hydrants again before winter hits.

Sewer Plant Operator's Report:

- He is concerned about the mess they are making at the sewer plant; it is very wet and when they put the manhole in, they piled a layer of mud right where he thought the building was going to be.

Other Business:

John Reed, Lewis County Highway Superintendent addressed the Board regarding the Complete Streets Project that will happen after the new water lines are put in on West Main St.

- He needs to know if we want lampposts, Mayor Brown said that we are opting out of them to use the money towards other parts of the project and also said that we just upgraded all of our streetlights to LED.
- He also needs to know what material we want in the snow storage area (the area between the curb and sidewalk). The choices are grass, stamped concrete or regular concrete. Glenfield's is red stamped

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concrete; there are also different colors and patterns available. He said the problem with grass is that some will maintain it, others won't.

- We have the choice of granite or concrete curbs. We opted for concrete as they are cheaper.
- There will be curbing on both sides of the street going up the hill, with sidewalks on the right-hand side only.
- There will be curbing and sidewalks at the Fire Dept. and Failing's Storage Barn and on the left-hand side from Wilton's house to the beginning of Wilton's rental house driveway. (going to Croniser's driveway would cost an additional $24,000.00)
- People will not be able to cut through the area at the Fire dept/Failing's barn any more with the curbing.
- Failing's & Wilton's will share a driveway.
- There will be grass in the snow storage area from the bottom of the school hill (West St.) to Lord's house on the right and from Thomas Street to Brown's property on the left. The stamped concrete with start on the other side of West Street to the intersection and around the corner of the intersection. The phase II project will start down Main St. from that point.
- Church St. into the intersection will be dug up for the water project. The County will be milling it, the county will pay for that section.
- West Main St., they will be doing some core samples (4) to see what's in the road. It will most likely be dug out from where the County started Highmarket Road all the way down West Main St to Route 26.
- They will reshape the ditch coming down the hill on the other side from Sam's house. Curbs will be on both sides coming down to Thomas Street, on that side, and all the way down to the village on the other side. Storm drains will be on the street side of the curbs.
- Casey will talk to Mary Dunn about connecting the West Main Street and West Street sidewalks.
- Everything will match based on what the board decides, it won't be what each individual wants. Stamped concrete holds up better and easier to maintain. Doug said, we will probably have to rent a road sweeper to clean the streets in the spring. C&S sweeping out of Syracuse is who Turin uses. Maybe, coordinate with Turin for a cheaper rate.
- Glenfield has red brick, but it also comes in leather or dark brown, Constableville will have to decide what color and design they want.
- Main Street will be 26 feet wide (per Cody, it is now 28 feet 6 inches). Steve asked if we would be able to park on one side of the street. John said we will have to discuss it further with the engineers.
- They will talk to Mr. Zehr about his sidewalk, on the bottom of the hill, so it will connect better.
- Mary Wilton said she talked to Roger Croniser about the sidewalk that will be eliminated, she said he's pretty firm about his sidewalks being replaced. John said, they won't be, there will be no sidewalks after Mark Wilton's second driveway on that side of West Main Street. She argued that she pays taxes just like everyone else and she wants her sidewalks. She asked if everyone on the board was against her. Mayor Brown explained it is a county road, the county's plan and it is what the engineers are recommending.
- At the intersection, there will be a pull-off for one car for post office parking. There will also be a pull off on Church Street.
- Sam asked John if he had talked to Harry, he said no the engineers would take care of speaking to Harry. There will be no parking in front of Harry's or the neighboring house.
- Same asked about the stop signs, John said the county will give input but it's up to the engineers.
- The project will go out to bid in February or March for the road work, but the work will start later in the year, water project will start first. Cody asked, who did Glenfield project. John replies, Central paving.
- Total project will take 3.5 to 4 months, and the village residents should expect street closures and inconveniences.
- They will meet with Rick and Mary for location and permission to put the island on the hotel barn property.
- At the intersection the sidewalk will go between the guidewire and the telephone pole (at the hotel lot area, fire department property).

Mayor Brown and Clerk Failing are meeting virtually with the county and engineers on Thursday, November 8th. John said he would like to join but he will be out of town and may not have service.

Doug Salmon, Town Highway Superintendent asked if the Town needs a Special Use Permit for the building they are putting up for Sand & Salt. The Town received a grant through the Water Quality Improvement Project Act for the building. He applied to the County Building & Codes Dept., and they said he needed to check with the Village because he may need the special use permit. After some discussion, it was believed that there is a waiver for government buildings, and they will not need one. Mayor Brown is going to check with Megan at LC Planning to get her thoughts.

Mayor Brown informed Doug that they do not need one after discussing it with the Planning Dept., Megan sent the following section from Zoning law:

The following activities shall be exempt from the requirement to obtain a Special Use Permit: Municipal buildings and facilities constructed by or for the Village of Constableville or other governmental entities, provided such use is consistent with the general intent of this law.

Clerk Failing told the board that Peter Hayes called her and wanted the water turned on at the Episcopal Church, there was some discussion about whether they had heat in the building. Clerk Failing checked with Peter Hayes, and they have electric heat in the part where there is water.

Peter also asked her if the board would like him, as Village Historian, to go over the plans for the street project. She emailed him about the meeting with John Reed, but he was stuck at the airport and couldn't make it.

Trustee Sullivan reported that he, Chris and Bob are hoping to get the Hometown Hero banners down this weekend.

Clerk Failing reported that Trustee Wendt had asked her to bring up the decorating of the tree and bandstand and find out a good time for everyone to do it. She would also like to have a craft at the library and the lighting ceremony that evening, which will be Sunday, November 30th.

Mayor Brown signed the Annual Certification of Mileage for the CHIPS program.

Clerk Failing presented to the board the List & Certification Documents for the unpaid village taxes to be signed by the Mayor and Trustees. She reported that she sent letters to all unpaid property owners giving them until November 1st to pay or the amount would be added to their Town & County Tax Bills.

Christine reviewed the Cooperative Tug Hill announcements.

Vouchers were audited by the board and signed by Mayor Brown. Trustee Sullivan asked about the invoice from North Country Contractors for water line installed to Green's for $3,600.00. Clerk Failing confirmed it is for the section from the Main to the curb stop.

Mayor Brown requested to go into executive session. Trustee Sullivan made a motion to enter executive session at 8:04 pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ward. The board returned to regular session at 8:20 pm.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm, on motion by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee McDonald and carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Failing

Mary Failing, Village Clerk