

PRESENT: Mayor Laureen Tackman, Trustees John Scatena, Trevor Maughan, and Eric Cartier, Robin Wilson Also present, Vern Sundet representing the Tug Hill Commission, Dan Lewis, Lila Netzband and Legislator Roy Reehil.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Tackman at 6:30 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT.

PAY BILLS: Mayor Tackman made a motion to pay February abstract #9, vouchers #427-482 for \$61,113.41 the treasurer's report, second by Trustee Wilson, all in favor.

TUGHILL REPORT: Vern Sundet gave the following report:

Website update

Announcements have gone out for the 2024 Tug Hill Local Government Conference, scheduled for May 1 – 2 at Turning Stone Casino. I have extra copies of the program description and registration information, and the form is also available on the Tug Hill website at <https://tughill.org/local-government-conference-registration> ,

Descriptions in detail of program offerings are available at:

<https://tughill.org/local-government-conference-presentations/>

The North Shore economic resiliency and recovery study continues to move forward. The next steering committee meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 17 (next Wednesday) at 7:00 p.m. at the West Monroe town hall, 46 County Route 11, West Monroe.

The next community meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of A.A. Cole Elementary School in Constantia.

One of the consensus items from the most recent NorCOG meeting on the economic study was additional community outreach via the community survey. In response, we increased outreach in several ways. Paper surveys were distributed at all NorCOG member municipal buildings, and at the Central Square library and the North Shore Coffee and Tea Company in Bernhards Bay, and through the Greater Oneida Lake Chamber of Commerce to its members. I collected the surveys and collection boxes on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, and delivered the paper copies to Tug Hill on Thursday, January 4 for processing, and these will be incorporated into the previously received community survey and business survey results.

The traffic study proposal for the Route 49 corridor, extending from the west side of Central Square to east of I-81 was submitted by the deadline required. Thanks again to the village of Cleveland for its letter of support for the study. Vern commented as a result of the traffic study there will be a new roundabout in Central Square in 2026 and there will be a small bridge replacement installed on State Route 49 in West Monroe in 2026. Vern also inquired as to the status of the Constantia Sewer Project and the Mayor responded we are in talks with Town currently to discuss the future of the project.

DPW REPORT: Shaun House submitted the following report read by Mayor Tackman:

Sewer

Changed 5 pumps.

Samples were completed and passed.

David and Shaun attended a meeting regarding Constantia sewer system.

Water

All samples completed and passed.

Tyler had his onsite assessment for grade D water and passed.

Leak detection was performed at night.

We fixed 3 leaks.

1 service Oneida Street.

1 leak at a old connection.

1 hydrant leak.

Steve from rural water was on site to help.

Highway

Highway truck is on its way to being fixed.

All equipment is serviced and ready waiting for snow.

Dump trailer was fixed and now dumps again.

The DPW has been working on a sewer clog on Martin Road for the last 2 days.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Mayor Tackman read the following report submitted by Code Officer William Hamacher. 1 building permit issues, 3 property maintenance violations, 7 building permit inspections, 5 village property inspections and 23 building permits closed out. During the month of January, I have had several phone conversations with the owner of 15 Clay Street regarding the process of what needs to be addressed due to the fire. I have had several meetings with the owner of the property and done inspections. I have spoken to different contractors and others about needs to be addressed and done to help the owners get back into their house. I have also completed the NYS 1203 State Report. I have addressed and spoke with residents regarding complaints. I have attended 2 trainings on grants and energy codes. I have also spoken with the owner of 23-25 North St. regarding the apartments and trying to set up an inspection for the demo and completion of one of the apartments. I will be taking my 24Hr. in service training the first week of March in Lake Placid. I am in the process of putting together a list of all the vacant properties in the village. The Mayor commented we share the cost of codes training with the other municipalities Mr. Hamacher serves.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Mayor Tackman read the following report submitted by Deputy Chief Mike Davis. 28 total calls, 15 EMS calls, 1 MVA, 3 hazardous conditions, 2 service calls, 1 good intent call, 6 cancelled enroute and 1 mutual aid given. They have conducted a Saturday Ice Rescue Drill and have 1 new member awaiting village board approval. With that, Mayor Tackman made a motion to approve new member Jeremy Fuller for the Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department, second by Trustee Scatena, all in favor.

FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT: Mayor Tackman made a motion to accept and sign the Fire Protection Contract between the Village of Cleveland and the Town of Constantia in the amount of \$101,812.00, second by Trustee Scatena, all in favor.

CONSTANTIA SEWER PROJECT: Mayor Tackman read a statement regarding the project:

Last week Shaun, David, Julie and myself met with Frank Tamiano (town supervisor) and Bill Buchan from Constantia to discuss our sewer project with the Town.

Bill Buchan is an environmental attorney who has counseled many industries, municipalities, developers and individuals regarding compliance with environmental laws and regulations. He has subject matter expertise in many aspects of intellectual property, energy and environmental science as well as environmental law. He has over 20 years experience in the governmental sector and has served as Village Attorney, Town Justice, and environmental counsel to County governments.

Bill had heard that the village had many concerns regarding the sewer project and wanted to see if he could help in any way. He is not the village attorney nor the town attorney. He lives in Constantia and wants to be of assistance in any way possible to resolve these issues.

We are hoping to have a small group from the town, village and engineers sit down and see if we can iron out our differences.

Mayor Tackman asked Legislator Reehil about the status of the former St. Mary's Church regarding it's taxation status. She has called the Syracuse Dioceses and Devine Mercy. He will look into it. Sometimes these legal issues are difficult to unravel and drag on. 103 Bridge St. is still in limbo as well regarding ownership.

LEGISLATOR'S COMMENTS: Legislator Reehil stated the tax auction is in May with the final list was done on January 26th. There are 100 properties on this list. He reported there are many job openings at the County and many do not require a Civil Service exam and any that do, the fee is being paid by the County in order to facilitate the filling of these positions. Mr. Reehil is the Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee. This provides public transportation to medical appointments, jobs and ride to recovery centers. There are many mental health issues plaguing our County, as well as drug and alcohol issues and this transportation system makes it possible for people to get rides to services, such as AA meetings, counseling, etc. There is also an initiative for ecumenical outreach to better coordinate with these services. The transportation program will work with a transit software similar to Lyft and Uber to get rides and have them paid for. Mr. Reehil is also spearheading the Work Ready Community program at the County and working to be the first work ready community in the state. The project will have buses with computers to offer testing and to asses an applicants' readiness and skills. This will be a pilot program and will pay for these assessments. Mr. Sundet asked if the County is redistricting this year and Mr. Reehil responded yes, they are. Ms. Netzband asked if the fire protection contract amount is up, and Mayor Tackman stated it is.

Next meeting is March 12, 2024. At 7:37 Mayor Tackman made a motion to adjourn, second by Trustee Scatena, all in favor.