

Re-Organizational meeting for the Town Board of Constable was held on January 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Town Office. Members present were Councilwoman Lemire, Councilmen MacDonald and Wilson, Supervisor Onufer, Town Clerk Prue, and Code Officer Halley. Councilman Leahy was absent.

Guests present were Susan Picard, F.O.T.N..C,. Heidi Boshek, Park Director, Constable Resident Jaliene Moore, Ken Buntz Tammy Trombley, Nicole Gonzalez, Mario Lemire, Tina Recore, Constable Fire Dept. Matt Gonzalez Chris Dufrane, Mike Reardon, Iris Shova, Nathan Mulverhill Chris Bouissey, Jordan Hession, Ron Clark, Matt Kompan, Jason Trombley, James Gavin, Greg Pickering and Chad Clement.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to appoint James Lester to the Grievance Board, replacing David Patterson, motion carried

A motion was made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Lemire for the following appointments for the year 2024, motion carried.

Deputy Town Supervisor	Melanie Lemire
Deputy Town Clerk	None
Deputy Highway Superintendent	John Mallette
Code Enforcement Officer Gordie Halley	
Health Officer	Lori Tulip, RN
Chairman of Board of Assessors	Robert Ball
Town Historian	Martha Gardner
Town Attorney	Matthew McArdle
Dog Control Officer	NCAS, Penny Landry
Newspaper	Malone Telegram
Grievance Board	Timothy Leahy, Chairman
5-year term	Term expires 2024
	,
	James Lester
	Term expires 2026
	Bernard Martin
	Term Expires 2025
Registrar of Vital Statistics	Sue Prue, Town Clerk
Records Management Officer	Sue Prue, Town Clerk

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald, seconded by Councilwoman Lemire for the following Committee's for the year 2024, motion carried.

Recreation Park	All Board Members
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Melanie Lemire, Chairwoman

Land Fill

All Board Members
Councilman MacDonald, Chairman

Building & General All Board Members
Councilman Wilson, Chairman
Councilman Leahy, Co-Chairman

Highway

All Board Members
Councilman Leahy, Chairman
Councilman Wilson, Co-Chairman

Capital Improvement

Supervisor Onufer, Chairman
Councilman Wilson, Co-Chairman

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman MacDonald for the following Financial Institutions for the year 2024, motion carried.

General, Highway and Capital
Improvements - Checking

Community National Bank

Trust & Agency - Checking

Community National Bank

Highway, General, and American
Rescue Plan – Savings

NY Class Account

Capital Improvements, Highway Fund Cap.
Improvements, Rec Park Capital
Improvements, American Rescue Plan and
Historical – Savings

NY Class Account

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman MacDonald allowing the Town Supervisor to pay Budget Bills, Malone Telegram, Utilities, Postage, Expense bills, Self-Insurance and “Association of Town’s”, a Publication received by all Town Board members and Highway Superintendent, Dues and the town credit card, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman MacDonald, regarding keeping the regular Town Board meeting night on the second Thursday of each month with the meetings starting at 7:00 P.M, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald seconded by Councilwoman Lemire, regarding allowing the Highway Superintendent to have funds of \$5,000.00 made available to him for emergency spending, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman MacDonald, for the mileage rate to be \$.65 per mile, with the starting point being the town hall and return to the town hall, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald, seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the wages of elected town officials as stated in the 2024 budget, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept the wages of town highway department employees as stated in the union contract, motion carried.

On a motion by Councilman MacDonald, seconded by Councilman Wilson for the "Guidelines for Town Officials & Employees", Motion carried.

Room Fee - \$80.00 - \$120.00 per night – Reimburse State Contract Rate with receipt
Meal Allowance – Breakfast - \$15.00
Lunch - \$15.00
Dinner - \$35.00

Daily meal allowance not to exceed \$47.00/day. Must have receipt

On a motion by Councilman MacDonald, seconded by Councilman Wilson, for Resolution #1-2024 regarding Supervisor Onufer and Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Lemire ability to sign checks for Community Bank, and authorize to withdraw and contribute to the NY Class Account, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn the Re-Organizational meeting was made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Lemire, meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM, motion carried.

HUD – Required Public Hearing

Public meeting called to order at 7:15 pm.

Susan Picard, F.O.T.N.C. read a letter from HUD/USDA.

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State of New York are committed to assuring that NYS CDBG. Receipts take positive steps to ensure equal access to housing, employment, public facilities/services, contracting and business opportunities, NYS CDBG benefits/services, and displacement protection. In addition to equal access, Recipients must affirmatively further fair housing and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Recipients must encourage community input on fair housing matters and must hold an annual public meeting on fair housing. Further, recipients must provide to Homes and Community Renewal an agenda, meeting notes, and reports concerning the steps that will be taken to address fair housing issues raised at these meetings.

As, the Town of Constable was awarded a Community Development Block Grant for Housing Rehabilitation activities Project #274HR1080-20, this annual public meeting was scheduled for community input on fair housing matters.

The agenda for this Public Hearing includes the following:

Action Item 1: A summary of Project #274HR1080-20

Action Item 2: Encourage any community input, 023.00

Action Item 1

The summary of this award as of January 11, 2024, is as follows:

Total; Grant Award is for \$365,000.00 of which the Capital Amount of \$310,000.00

Total Capital Expended \$169,026.00

Total Capital amount obligated \$310,000.00

Total Capital amount not obligated \$0.00

Original unit goal 6

of completed units 2

of units in construction 3

of units pending construction 0

of units pending home owners' documentation 0

of units out to bid 0

of units at assessment or work write up stage 0

Friends of the North Country leverage \$13,062.50

Action Item 2

All fair housing matters will be recorded and steps to address fair housing matters

raised at this meeting will be provided to NYS Homes and Community Renewal.

At this time, I would like to encourage any community input on fair housing.

2 questions were asked, who handles the funds and when will there be another grant?

Susan Picard, F.O.T.N.C – explained how the funds are handled and what the town's responsibility is. She also explained how to get on the list and that all people on the list were sent a post card advising of a new HUD Grant prior to this last grant. Supervisor Onufer informed the guests present that there has not been any announcement on the next HUD Grant.

HUD Report – 5 projects
2 completed
3 in progress

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson for Resolution #2-2024

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Constable, a municipality with offices at 15964 State Route 30, Constable, NY duly called (a quorum being present) and held at the Town Hall, located in the Town of Constable, County of Franklin, State of New York, on January 11, 2024, the following resolution was duly adopted and is now in full force and effect.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson, to continually put forth good faith efforts to affirmatively further fair housing.

Motion carried.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand as Town Clerk of the Town of Constable, on this 11th day of January, in the year 2024.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson at 7:44 pm to close the public meeting, motion carried.

Regular meeting opened at 7:45 pm.

On a motion by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept the minutes from the 12/14/23 meeting, motion carried.

On a motion by Councilman MacDonald, seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the minutes from the 12/27/23 final meeting, motion carried.

Annual Audit Cashbooks and Ledgers for Town Clerk, Town Supervisor and Code Officer. Town Justice books tabled til February 2024 meeting.

Town Clerk presented her cash receipt book for all board members present to review. Cash receipt books was reviewed and signed by all board members present. A motion was made Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept Town Clerks cash receipt book, motion carried.

Supervisor Onufer, presented the general ledgers for the General Fund and the Highway Fund for all board members present to review. General Ledgers were reviewed and signed by all board members presents. A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept both ledgers, motion carried.

Code Officer Gordon Halley presented his checkbook and year-end report for all board members present to review. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept Code Officers check book and yearend report, motion carried.

Code Officer

Gordie presented his December report and year end summary.

Mr. Buntz argued that the research done on his neighbor's septic/leach field was incomplete and his is still not satisfied. A water sample was taken and sent to Franklin County Soil & Water for testing, waiting for the results.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to have Gordie arrange to have 3 places dug up to try and find out if it is a new leach field or the previous leach field, motion carried.

It was stated that the leach field was not inspected before it was covered up.

No funds turned in for December.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the Code Officer's report, motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Onufer reported that the cost for the Caner Insurance for 2024 will be \$1,716.00.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to go into Executive session was made at 8:40 pm, motion carried.

All guests were asked to go into the Court Room while the Town Board was in executive session.

Supervisor Onufer read a letter from the Town's Attorney, Matt McArdle, with regards to the Fire Department's Contract. Supervisor Onufer tried to reach Matt by phone to answer the board's questions but he was unsuccessful.

Councilman Wilson questioned residency of the Fire Department members (people from Canada) being involved with the Fire Dept.

The attendance sheet was reviewed by the board members and some questions arose with the addresses that were listed.

The board members decided to table a decision on the Fire Contract until they can have a meeting with Matt McArdle.

A motion was made by Councilman Wilson and Seconded by Councilman MacDonald to adjourn the executive session at 9:07 pm, motion carried.

Guests were invited back into the regular meeting and it was explained that they were unsuccessful in reaching the Town Attorney, so they tabled any decision on the Fire Dept. Contract until they can have a meeting with him.

Jim Gavin thanked the board for working with the Fire Department to resolve this situation.

Supervisor Onufer requested a new member list.

The Fire Department asked that if the board has any questions, to please address them to their attorney. They also asked if it was possible to have a special meeting with the Fire Department to discuss the contract. The board said they needed to talk to the town attorney first.

Ron Clark stated that he felt that Councilman Wilson was rude to the Fire Department members when they entered the building.

SOLAR

Nothing new to report.

WEB/TECH

Dalton turned in his final report to Supervisor Onufer.

The Town Board's response to the statements made on social media was posted to our website and they want it posted on Face Book.

A motion was made by Councilman Wilson and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept Dalton's final report, motion carried.

ASSESSOR

Nothing new to report.

TOWN JUSTICE

November funds collected were \$935.00, \$475.00 was sent to the Justice Court Fund the Town kept \$460.00. There were no December funds collected.

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk turned in \$57.00 for December

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the Town Clerk's report, motion carried.

Highway

Highway Superintendent Martin gave his fuel usage report for November and December and year to date.

A Motion was made by Council MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept Larry's report, motion carried.

On a motion by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman MacDonald for budget amendment #7-2023 Highway Fund. Motion Carried

\$3,944.78 from DA 5110.1 Gen Repair
\$3,944.78 to DA5130.1 Machinery

\$2,827.55 from DA 5148.1 Serv. For Other Gov't
\$2,827.55 to to DA 5142.1 Snow Removal

On a motion by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman MacDonald for budget amendment #8-2023 Highway Fund. Motion Carried

\$419.40 from DA5110.4

\$336.14 from DA5130.2
\$446.20 from DA5140.4
\$714.42 from DA971037
\$108.08 from DA9030.8

\$958.26 to DA5142.4
\$926.62 to DA5148.4
\$135.35 to DA9060.8

Supervisor Onufer presented the Highway Dept. Fund Monthly Statement for December 2023 for all board members to review. A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the Highway Dept. Fund Monthly Statement, motion carried.

Highway Dept. bills were audited and approved #161-181.

Rec Park

Supervisor Onufer reported that the \$10,000.00 from DDS funds has been received.

Heidi reported that a food bingo will be held in the Firemen's meeting hall and all proceeds will go to the Fire Dept. Auxiliary

Heidi reported that she has a full-time job and will need an assistant for the summer season. Board to check and see what the budget will be able to afford.

Discussion by all board members present on improvements to the Rec Park and it was decided to send out information on bidding for the work to be done in the spring.

Heidi is working on things that could be offered for the month of August to try and bring more kids in later in the summer season. She is looking into having Rich Hamlin to do things with the kids. Heidi to have him send a schedule of what he could do and what he will charge for a week. It could either be free to the kids or charge \$5.00/child or free.

General

Supervisor Onufer reported that the contract for the N.C.A.S. was signed and returned and receipt of a copy of their insurance.

Supervisor Onufer reported the Equalization Rate is 8.74%.

Supervisor Onufer informed the board of the upcoming Webinar for the Sexual Harassment and Discrimination training sessions and we need to register on line.

Supervisor Onufer reported that the AED has been inspected and is working property
Court Room Air Conditioner repair – tabled.

Supervisor Onufer reported he is having difficulty filing the W-2 electronically.

Employee handbook -being worked on.

Update on broadband – Nothing new to report.

Supervisor Onufer reported that he is taking a vacation the last week of June and will return on July 9. He would like the regular July meeting to be held on the 3rd Thursday. A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to move the meeting, motion carried.

Councilwoman Lemire asked that the cleaning lady turn in something with her hours she has worked, in order for her to be paid.

Savings Statements and Trial Balance for December 2023 was presented for all board members to review.

Supervisor Onufer presented the General Fund Monthly Statement for December 2023 for all board members to review. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the General Fund Monthly Statement, motion carried.

On a motion by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by Councilman MacDonald for budget amendment #8-2023 General Fund. Motion Carried.

\$ 1,000.00 from Account #A3510.4 Dogs Cont.

\$ 417.32 from Account #A3620.4 Code Cont.

\$ 58.78 to Account #A1110.4 – Justice – Cont. Exp.

\$1,020.00 to Account #A1420.4 Attorney - Cont. Exp.

\$ 221.76 to Account #A1620.4 Central Garage – Cont. Exp.

\$ 71.57 to Account #A1410.4 – Town Clerk – Cont. Exp.

\$ 45.12 to Account #A9060.8 – Medical Ins.

General Bills were audited and approved. #244 - #271

On a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Lemire, seconded by, Councilman MacDonald motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:17 pm.

Susan Prue, Constable Town Clerk