

**Official - Town of Montezuma
Board Workshop Minutes
April 13th, 2023 at 6pm**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Dave Corey, led by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present: Supervisor: Dave Corey
Councilman/ Deputy Supervisor: Lee Brew
Councilman: Tom Fitzsimmons
Councilman: Tom Hitchcock Jr.
Councilman: Chris Howard**

**Others Present: Town Clerk: Marie Cronin
Highway Superintendent: Ken Cook
Historian: Cheryl Longyear
Water Operator: Stan Longyear
Assessor: Jeff Lowe
C2ae Engineer & Civil Engineer: Ian Yeardon and Macey Waldrup**

Report on C2ae from Ian Yeardon, Ian stated that the day to day contact for the Town would be Macey Waldrup (Civil Engineer). Ian is walking us through the next steps to proceed with this water project. The first step is the Hydraulic analysis and Refine Project Area. C2ae will prepare a Hydraulic Model considering Town-wide water system using Hydro-CAD software, to look into the hydraulics of the existing system, to see if the pressures will be sufficient to supply the Town residents with proper water flow, and Fire flows. Then Ian stated that they define a desired project area based on the questionnaires received and coordination with the Town and Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority (CCWSA). (Water district or project area or service area). Preparing and sending applications for grants. Ian states that after we get the funding offers in, then the Town of Montezuma can call C2ae and notify them that the Town wants to proceed. A Public hearing to notify the Town residents of what is needed to proceed with the water project will need to be done. Lee Brew wondering when the Comptroller gets involved. Comptroller is notified when a district is formed. Depending on the cost for A district, it will have to be presented to the residents and if the cost is over the Comptrollers thresh hold then c2ae is required to submit the project to them, if the cost is under the thresh hold then c2ae does not need the Comptrollers approval to proceed but can submit the project to them. Tom Fitzsimmons inquiring on how long to proceed with the hydraulic testing. Ian Yeardon explained it could be around 2 weeks to a month. Tom Fitzsimmons informed Ian that (CCWSA) hasn't been involved with our water system. Unsure if they know how our system even works, even though we get the Towns water from them. The Thruway is interested in hooking into the Town of Montezuma's water line, it will be just a few feet away from our existing pit. The Town is wondering what kind of affect this will

have on our system. Chris Howard inquired that If the Thruway doesn't know when they want to hook up to our water line, can we future proof it so in 10 years if they decide to hook up they can. Per Ian Yeardon this can be done. The Thruway has been in contact with the property owner already on the hook up of the water line as they need to go across their property to accomplish this hook up. Per Tom Fitzsimmons the tank works electronically off our system. Ian states it might be as simple as an adjustment of some of the settings. Lee Brew wondering about costs incurred with our Water Tower to accomodate the water flow and who's EDU's will the Thruway be using. The Town has one water district now, we had two districts and merged them into one district and the Town doesn't think that this should have been done. If the Town goes to districts should we renew the old water district two and the new one be water district three. Ian said it would be something they can look at for us. It's confusing when merging is done. Ian is in favor of keeping districts separate. Concerns from the Town board that there are no records of Water district #2 and that it wasn't put in in 1972 it was put in in 1996, so the pipes and everything are different. Residents will not know this because we have only one district now. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to approve Phase #1 of the C2ae task list at the cost of \$3,000.00. Motion carried 5/0.

Dave Corey asking the Town Board how they feel about a re-assessment as Jeff Lowe is not at meeting at this time. 2004 was the last time this has been done. Tom Fitzsimmons wondering if it's possible to wait one more year. Concerned of the prices increasing. If the Town Board is unified on this then Jeff Lowe will do the re-assessment.

Town Handbook- Dave Corey stated that he put all the Federal holidays in the handbook took out Good Friday and needs to add Juneteenth. Tom Fitzsimmons would like to sit down with the Highway Superintendent Ken Cook about some of the contents. Dave Corey also took out Election Day. Lee Brew inquired about #5 any employee retiring after 25yrs their health insurance will be paid by the Town until they are eligible for Medicare , we should clarify this. Dave Corey to speak with the lawyer Kevin Cox about this. Lee Brew also inquired about #7 bereavement days they should be in the book, It's in there it is 3 days. Tabled until Tuesday 4/18, 2023 Board meeting.

Assessor Jeff Lowe arrived and addressing the Board about the re-assessment for the Town this year 2023 or wait until 2024. Tom Fitzsimmons asking if the Town does the re-assessment this year 2023, will it go into effect this year. Per Jeff yes it will go into effect this year. If the Town board is not unified or has any hesitations, then Jeff Lowe will just start going around Town and updating pictures and inventory of the properties and send out mailers first, then this aspect will be done. Then the Town can look at the re-assessment for the following year 2024 and this way we have all of the information needed to proceed in 2024. At the end of the summer Jeff can mail out the data sheets and if anyone has a complaint they can come in and talk about it with Jeff. Jeff will not change any assessments until we proceed with the re-assessment.

Executive session: Motion made by Dave Corey second by Chris Howard to go into Executive session. Motion carried 5/0. at 6:50pm executive session started in the meeting room to discuss a legal matters, involving Sheila Smith and (Dustin Parker whom didn't show up to court again). A bench warrant is supposed to be issued on this. Dustin Parker wants to get all of this taken care of to be compliant. Motion made by Dave Corey second by Lee Brew to end executive session at 6:58pm. Motion carried 5/0.

Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to adjourn meeting. Motion carried 5/0.

Minutes submitted by Town of Montezuma Clerk: Marie L. Cronin