

**Official -Town of Montezuma  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
At 6pm**

**Supervisor David Corey opened the meeting, led by the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Members Present: Supervisor:** David Corey  
**Deputy Supervisor/Councilman:** Thomas Hitchcock Jr.  
**Councilman:** Thomas Fitzsimmons  
**Councilman:** Christopher Howard  
**Councilman:** Marvin King

**Other Members Present:**  
**Town Clerk:** Marie Cronin  
**Deputy Clerk:** Tiffini Sharp  
**Code Enforcement:** John Greer  
**Historian:** Cheryl Longyear  
**Highway Superintendent:** Kenneth Cook (ABSENT)  
**Deputy Highway Superintendent:** David Ware  
**Water Operator:** Stanley Longyear

**Others Present:** C2AE staff, Bill Kimball (Government Market Leader), Melissa Snavlin (Business Developer) & Barry Viggiano (Project Manager), Ben Ware, Kathy & James Decker.

**Code Enforcement Officer Report:** John Greer stated that no permits were issued for September 2024. John placed a condemned notice on the Mawhir home on 1025 State Rt. 31 Montezuma. 1 week later he went to check on the home and, whomever was in the residence at the time took his condemned notice down. Also a generator was running, so John Greer walked over and turned it off. Then went towards the door and a women named Kelly Wright came out and asked what he was doing there. NYSEG had been at the home and inspected & tagged it, so they are going to come back and install a meter. Kelly said that she is working with the owner Adrian Mawhir to buy the property. John will be attending a seminar (Dept. of State Codes). John also has his 24hrs. in April 2024, but will be taking other classes at the seminar. Thomas Hitchcock Jr. asked about the back taxes on the above property, John let him know that it's with the County and they are working with them on this.

**C2AE Staff gave Report:** Barry Viggiano (Project Manager) spoke to the Town of Montezuma Board on the Water District plans. Progress report, but we didn't receive any. Preliminary report was sent in on time to be on the list for funding. Right now we are working on the environment process, & continue working on the permit process (SEQRA) State environmental quality review act. Working on the Full environmental assessment form, which is a large form. In June 2024 we

had the preliminary report complete. This report helps us understand the engineering report that has to go into a project before we can qualify for funding. Page 2 shows the engineers preliminary report, map planning report that C2AE needs to form the new water district. Environmental impact report because of wetlands. Comprehensive engineering report, feasibility study, after see what the funding is complete then we'll know what the Town would have to pay, and a financial analysis report also done. C2ae came up with 3 alternatives for the water. First was to drill your own wells, second was hook up to Town of Aurelius & Pump station would be needed, and the Third was to hook up to Port Byron and use existing tank. C2AE says the Third alternative is the best one for our situation. (8.9 million to go with hook up in Port Byron site).

**Bill Kimball (Government Market Leader)** spoke next to the Town Board. The detailed design on the new water project has not been started yet, it won't start until you actually get your funding, Then they can move forward. C2ae has completed the hydrollic calculations to make sure there is enough pressure to serve the properties in the new #2 district. After funding C2AE can move forward with the process. The Town only received 17 pages of the 55 page preliminary report. Bill will make copies for the Town and drop them off. After the Town Board has the chance to review the report then C2AE can come back and answer any questions. Bill Kimball stated that when we get the grant funding then he can calculate the Towns cost after. Then an intended use plan will be done, (list of communities that have a preliminary report on file). Then you get ranked on that list and see what funding you will be able to receive. Also will submit to USD-ARD (Rual Development) and EFC (Drinking water state fund) it's the Federal funds. C2AE will submit to both and see which one comes back with the best funding for our Town. Duration of payments for Rual Development are around 40yrs. The other is shorter. But the first thing the Town needs to do is sign the Resolution to allow C2AE permission to apply for funding for the Town of Montezuma. For 122 EDU's, the cost of 8.9 million is a very high amount. Some projects are funded up to 90%. IF you get funding and it won't be suitable for the Town of Montezuma then we can just pull the plug on the project. Thomas Fitzsimmons asking Bill Kimball, if (c2ae company) are you sure the system will work for what we are adding on, without having to add anything extra to the line. The Town does still have the old water tank if we needed to use it. Chlorine suitable, Bill Kimball stated that they will check all of this before proceeding. From Aurelius they have 60 pounds of pressure if needed to hook up their instead. All the reports can be amended if needed per c2ae. Tiffini Sharp (Deputy Clerk) asking if there will be a cost even if you don't hook up the to the new water system and there will be a cost if you're in the district. Locations are wrong on site map, also we are not in the eastern part of the County, we are in the western part of Cayuga County. Kathy Decker on Rt. 90, neighbors asking her constantly about the water system. Their water is horrible if they have any at all, farmers fields drainage systems then their water goes lower and lower. Have to have water trucked in at a cost or go retrieve from another source. Very frustrated and hoping water will be coming soon. Christopher Howard asking if Port Byron would have to upgrade anything to accommodate our new system. Per Bill Kimball, no they already have what's required. The Alternative #3 will be the most cost effective for our Town. Thomas Hitchcock Jr. asking about a project completion time frame. Per Bill Kimball typically it takes about one year to design the project, reviews that need to done (up to 3 months) and probably 6 months to design the

project. Possibly construction in spring of 2026 finishing in one year to one and one half year. Could be 2027 to be complete. We picked alternative #4 the first time, but per Bill there is no longer a #4. Lead service line 1979 & 1993 & 1994 County & State it was sent into and we do not contain any lead. Could there be lead past the meter to the house. Thomas Fitzsimmons said that they were supposed to be looking into the houses for lead too. No lead in the meter pits and from the meters the piping is not lead so the houses should not have any lead inside per c2ae. We (c2ae) will have information on whom was hooked up in what years. (1970 / 1993 & 1994).

**Motion made by David Corey second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to sign the C2ae Resolution permission allowing C2AE to apply for Funding at no obligation to the Town. Motion carried 4/0.**

**Historian Report:** Cheryl Longyear gave report on the rt. 31 project, Cayuga County Consultant Engineer (Bruce Natale) has agreed to review and finalize the plan. Bruce will put in writing what must be done before he will stamp the plans. See attached sheet for more information. Planning for the 2025 Bicentennial events. Cheryl attended the Crane lifting of the Lois McClure 1862 replica schooner boat from the Seneca River, at the Averdi Fox Ridge facility.

**Highway Superintendent Report: David Ware gave report.** See attached sheet on all the equipment at the highway garage. Floyd Wilson and his wife have donated 10 American Flags to the Town. Tree removal done on Dwyer rd ext., Salt block and in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Water meter report: the 2 new meter pits were installed. John Speed was asked to return the water meter that he has taken out from 8094 High St., did not return yet. David Ware wants to know what the Board would like to do on this. Possibly call the Sheriff dept on this. First call the owner of the property then if he doesn't return the water meter then call the Sheriff. Many accounts in water are still behind on their bills. Do we want to shut them off, first hand out the door knockers again with a date to shut off. Thomas Hitchcock Jr. stated to just shut them off they have had plenty of time. Let the Water Clerk Heather Tanner know to give out the door knockers to shut them off. Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by David Corey to put the door knockers on after the 60 days, and if they don't pay the water bill then shut them off. Motion carried 4/0.

**Budget Modification:** Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by Christopher Howard to approve the budget modifications as stated. Motion carried 4/0.

**Approval of Bills:** Thomas Hitchcock Jr. wondering why the Lawyer fee is so high for the water dept. Needs and upgraded program for the ez-readers through Williamson Law Book per Thomas Fitzsimmons. Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by David Corey to approve the Bills. Motion carried 4/0.

**Approval of the Supervisors report:** Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by David Corey to approve the Supervisors report. Motion carried 4/0. Thomas Hitchcock Jr. wondering

about the windshield replacement for the Highway truck. Per David Ware, Juno's glass is out of business so Glass America will fix the windshield, need to get them the tax exempt form.

**Approval of the Minutes For Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 & October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024:** Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by David Corey to approve the September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes as amended. Motion carried 4/0. Motion made by Christopher Howard second by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. to approve the October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 minutes as amended. Motion carried 4/0. David Corey Supervisor will be in Maryland for 2 weeks at the end of October but can come back if needed.

**Public comments and concerns:** The Highway dept. would like to look into getting an EZ-pass for the trucks as by the time the toll bill gets to them then there is a late charge. Also per David Ware, the cross culvert pipe inspections have been done. Thomas Fitzsimmons is wondering about the mosquito spraying. David Corey to call Duflo on this. Tiffini Sharp gave the Town Board a letter of interest in being the Youth Program Coordinator for the Town of Montezuma. Tiffini will do research on what needs to be done and costs, then bring it to the Board for a vote. 2015 was the last program the Town had and they worked with Town of Mentz and Village of Port Byron. Tiffini spoke with Debbie Dennis at Cayuga County on this and there could be a change for County funding plus the \$4,000.00 from our Town to start the Youth Program up again. Census of ages of kids in the Town Cheryl Longyear has given us at a prior meeting. Also the Youth employment program that the County has is free labor for the Town. Christopher Howard, come up with list of things you would like to do with the kids. Paid to do the Job and put this in the Budget. Motion made by David Corey second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to allow Tiffini to do the research and get back to the Town Board with a proposal. Motion carried 4/0.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Motion made by Thomas Hitchcock Jr. second by David Corey to adjourn meeting. Motion carried 4/0.

Minutes submitted by Town of Montezuma Clerk:

Marie L. Cronin