

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – August 15, 2016

A regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on August 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Councilman Michael Ragaini was absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; also Attorney Clotelle L. Drakeford, Esq.; Deputy Supervisor Joseph Iraci; Village Trustee Marla Butler and Michael Pirrone.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid:

General Abstract #15, vouchers #379 through #393 inclusive for \$45,374.95.

Highway Abstract #14, vouchers 4142 through #160 inclusive for \$108,142.20.

The minutes of August 1, 2016 were reviewed by the Board.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. to approved the minutes of August 1, 2016, as read. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler advised the Board that the Union Contract for the Highway Department had been received and he asked for a motion to sign the contract.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Union Contract and send a copy back to the Teamsters. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION # 2016-28, to approve and adopt the following, was adopted:**

Whereas, the Town of Athens, Town Board has approved the design of plans to expand the highway garage, and

Whereas, the General Fund has an unreserved fund balance as of December 31, 2015 of \$1,782,546, and

Whereas, it is the intention of the Town Board to recognize the full project contracted costs entered into with Ryan Biggs/ Clark Davis Engineering for budget purposes of \$161,000;

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby authorizes increasing General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance A-599 by \$161,000 and increasing General Fund Appropriations Line Item A 5132.4 Highway Garage contractual by \$161,000. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

The Town Received a letter from the State stating that we still had an Equalization Rate of 100%.

The 2017 Tax Cap will be 0.68%, for budgeting purposes.

Discussion was held regarding Solar Tax.

Law number 47 in our Code Book covers solar fixtures.

The Town can opt out of exemption. There are no exemptions allowed for solar in Greene County.

In order for the Town to opt out of exemptions, they have to pass a local law.

Short Term Rentals: Town Board reviewed a possible draft local law to regulate short term rentals.

Quarry Road: Discussion followed. (Outhouse leaching into ground.)

Employees Handbook: First 30 pages to be reviewed by the Board members, for next meeting.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that he had to order 100 ton of salt to meet last year's quota.

He also spoke about roadwork being done.

Mr. Farrell also reported to Board that Mr. Iacopelli did his own "ditch" work in his yard.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.