

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD -- January 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on January 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr., and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present; Attorney Virginia Benedict; Greg Christy and John Brock of North East Treaters and Sam Sebren.

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

General Abstract #2, vouchers #18 through #36 inclusive for \$6,399.95.

Highway Abstract #2, voucher #12 for \$6,310.88.

Dave LaVoie came before the Board to speak about the Health Insurance for 2016. He had a spread sheet that showed the current benefits of CDPHP and the proposed benefits of MVP the proposed Health Plan so that they could be compared, including the premiums. He explained that CDPHP is discontinuing the current plan for 2016. There are similar plans, however the benefits include higher deductibles and co-pays and the premiums would cost much more as well.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano to offer the employees the MVP HDEPO 3500/7000 Silver Plan 8 Health Insurance, with the Town picking up the first 50% of the deductible and if the employee wants one of the other two insurances on the list, they can pick up 100% of the difference in the premium. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Sam Sebren came before the Board asking for another letter to be written recommending that the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation is the appropriate Agency and not the New York State Thruway Authority, to serve as lead agency in the environmental review of the proposed Pilgrim pipelines project. (Mr. Sebren is with the Coalition against the Pilgrim Pipeline.) (Supervisor Butler /Attorney Benedict drafted a letter to be sent.)

Greg Christy of North East Treaters approached the Board to see where they are at with his plans.

Attorney Virginia Benedict explained that she had met with the Supervisor and went over the map with the Board members. She discussed the 19 acres and how it was going to be used. (Residential, light industrial etc.) She stated that there is a 50' set back, and 200' residential. Discussion followed on 100feet vs 200 feet, plus 50 'set back.

Mrs. Benedict stated a new proposed zoning map needs to be made up, a proposed local law, need to set a public hearing on the local law, it has to be submitted to county planning and town planning than the local law can be passed.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. to have the first 100 feet residential and the rest of property Light Industrial 2. Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Surrano) Noes-1(Paluch) Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to approve the minutes of January 4, 2016 as corrected. (Councilman Surrano voted no on Resolution #2016-9 – to have the daily mail as our Official Newspaper.) Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. appointed **Margaret (Peggy) Snyder as the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary.** He advised the Board he asked the Village what they paid her. She gets \$50.00 a meeting.

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Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to pay the Planning Board Secretary and Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary \$50.00 a meeting. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to appoint **Dr. Stephen Hassett as the Town's Health Officer.** Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Councilwoman Brandow asked if a salaried position could be changed to per diem.

Discussion followed.

Councilman Paluch stressed his interest in getting the building committee going on a new Town building.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to go into Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0 Time-8:30 pm

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0 Time- 8:45 pm

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-4 Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Ragaini) Abstentions-0 Time-8:45 pm