

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – AUGUST 1, 2016

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on August 1, 2016 by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Interim Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple; Phyllis Dinkelacker; Clotilde Holoful from Rapport and Meyers, and Anne Waling of Cypress Creek Renewables (Solar).

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

General Abstract #14, vouchers #362 through #378 inclusive for \$7,851.97.

Highway Abstract # 13, vouchers 137 through #141 inclusive for \$1,757.41.

Attorney Virginia Benedict handed out the new zoning maps, for the safe, the Planning Board the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Town Board.

Interim Assessor Carol McBride reported that two small claims have been filed to date. One Article 7 has been filed on the Sleepy Hollow Common Areas. There are 28 Town parcels and 6 Village parcels making a total of 34 parcels all together. These have been turned over to Attorney Benedict for review.

Mrs. McBride stated that Bob Hilbert, our consultant is planning on working in the office the third week of August, on the 2017 ReVal update.

Carol stated that she wants to meet with Attorney Benedict and the Board on what she learned at her recent assessor school in Ithaca, on what Towns that have similar “Communities” as Sleepy Hollow in their jurisdiction are doing as far as taxing the common areas. Discussion followed.

Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple handed out copies of e-mails from Mary DiStefano of 15 Hidden Drive, Regarding the Air B & B on 51 Thorpe Road. He also spoke about Quarry Road.

Attorney Virginia Benedict read all the complaints from the Quarry Road Air B & B and stated that they are all Civil Issues. She asked for copies of the complaints so she could review them closer.

Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Michael Strenka reported that he is getting the budget worksheets ready to handout to department heads. Discussion followed.

Board members reviewed the Supervisor’s Report.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to approve the Supervisor’s Report as presented. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The Town Board reviewed the Town Clerk’s report.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion to approve and accept the Town Clerk’s Report as presented. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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Anne Waling, Zoning Manager of Development for Cypress Creek Renewables (Solar) gave a presentation on solar panels, non-toxic panels. She was advised that was already covered in the Zoning.

Attorney Benedict spoke about the Route 9W property.

She explained that with Northeast Treaters no Engineer was needed. All that had been done. So was the archeological Study. For the Town to do this it would cost \$15,000 or more, to have all of the work done to be rezoned. She then handed out charts for the Board to review RE: highway commercial and RU .

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion *to approve the minutes of July 18, 2016 as read*, seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Town Board members were given copies of the rough draft of the Employee Handbook.

Union Contract is set to go.

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2016-27** *to surplus Town equipment (a chipper and a mower), and authorize the Highway Superintendent to sell it was adopted.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Resident Phyllis Dinkelacker spoke about a Countywide ambulance.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.