

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD - September 6, 2016

A regular meeting of Athens Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. on September 6, 2016 at 7:p.m.

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. Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Attorney Clotelle Drakeford; Bookkeeper / Budget officer Michael Strenka; Interim Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple; Deputy Supervisor Joseph Iraci; Thomas Maguire and Michael Pirrone.

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

General Abstract #16, vouchers #394 through #425 inclusive for \$41,811.35.

Highway Abstract #15, vouchers #143 through #150 inclusive for \$29,539.83.

Supervisor Robber F. Butler, Jr. called **Interim Assessor Carol McBride** first; She reported that 3 parcels were filed at the Assessor's Office for Small Claims Review and Hearings, which were held today in Catskill.

There is an upcoming Assessor's Class at Columbia-Greene Community College, with Columbia County Assessors in November to attend.

Senior Exemption Renewals will be processed and sent to those enrolled in the program. All renewals are being prepared for mailing, to be returned by March 1, 2017.

Revaluation 2017: Bob Hilbert from Appraisal Consultants was in the Office to work on vacant land values, last week and will be coming in again on September 28th with Commercial Appraiser Bob Boatwright. Disclosure Notices will be sent to Property Owners in March with informal Hearings to follow.

School Tax Bills are out. The Office is updating addresses as necessary.

Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple reported that he had received a complaint of a homeowners well at 705 Potic Mt. Road being contaminated with E.coli from his neighbor's pigs. Mr. Lanahan brought the pigs in 2014.

Mr. Thomas McGuire owner of 705 Potic Mt. Road, owner of the well, showed the Board pictures of the area the pigs are kept in and how close it is to his well. He shared a copy of the water report he received from J.J. Meyers.

Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple was directed by Supervisor Butler, Attorney Drakeford and the Town Board to issue a violation to Mr. Lanahan immediately. Supervisor Butler will get hold of Dr. Hassett.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that the culvert was finished.

They are getting ready to do the 20' x20' fuel island and roof, and he wants to set up a code to track the costs.

The Union contract has been signed.

Work boots for highway employees this year are to be purchased from Francisco's, cost is still up to \$200.

Mr. Farrell informed the Board that his new hire is Kris Rose.

He then spoke about the roads he will be doing next year.

Bookkeeper Michael Strenka reviewed the Supervisor's monthly Report with the Board and spoke about the upcoming budget process.

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

The Town Clerk's Report was reviewed by the Board.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion *to approve the Town Clerk's monthly Report as presented seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.* Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. *to approve the minutes of August 15, 2016 as read.* Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. reported that he, Councilman Surrano and Highway Superintendent Farrell had met with Biggs's Engineer, Paul Rouis and went over the floor plans for the garage.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion *to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue*, seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch. Ayes- 3 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-2 (Butler; Surrano) Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time: 8:00 p.m.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion *to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting*, seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time: 8:45 p.m.

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2016-29** *to re-appoint Linda M. Stacey as Registrar and Gail Swart as Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics for the Town of Athens, Greene County, and State of New York was adopted.* Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler informed the Board that the Town had received a quote from ITS (Intelligent Technology Solutions) to take over our website. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Butler advised the Board that the fully signed Union Contract has been received and will be filed.

The Town Board received another dog complaint from Joseph & Diane Capobianco of 1515, Leeds Athens Road, against Danel White of 1534 Leeds Athens Road
This will be looked into.

As there was no other 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- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0
Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.