

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – March 7, 2016

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on March 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. 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; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Interim Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple; Deputy Supervisor Joseph Iraci; Greg Christy of Northeast Treaters; and Eugene Hatton Trustee of the Athens Community Foundation.

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

TA1009-Northeast Treaters Escrow Account- Abstract #5, voucher #100 for \$230.00.

General Abstract #5, vouchers #101 through #142 inclusive for \$126,919.65.

Highway Abstract #5, vouchers #42 through #54 inclusive for \$19,139.07.

Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple advised the Board that he was covering for The Village Code Enforcement Officer, Michael Ragaini during his wife's illness at the request of the Village, on an as needed basis.

Supervisor Butler stated that he hadn't heard anything from the Village yet.

Mr. Holsopple asked about more records retention space for his records. Discussed followed on whether the Town had adopted the records retention schedule.

Interim Assessor Carol McBride noted that the 2 Article 7 cases should be resolved very soon. She told the Board that all exemptions and renewals were due March 1st. She sent notices out to those who missed the deadline for this year, encouraging them to renew next year. (She sent renewal forms out in October 2015.)

The Assessor will be attending a Training session for Commercial Data Collection April 4-8-2016, from 9AM – PM at Schodack Town Hall in Castleton.

May 24th is Grievance Day.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that he had received a letter from Mr. Thomas M. Murphy, President of Goulán's Property Management, LLC (GPM, LLC) regarding an unnamed road between 1310 and 1316 Schoharie Turnpike that the Town maintains. Mr. Murphy stated he had spoken with Highway Superintendent Farrell and Attorney Corrine Smith of Rapport Meyers and would like Town maintenance to be stopped.

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION # 2016-14** *that the Town Highway Department no longer maintains the unnamed road between 1310 and 1316 Schoharie Turnpike as of this date- March 7, 2016, when it becomes the responsibility of GPM, LLC as per Thomas M. Murphy, President, was adopted. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Ragaini) Abstentions-0*

Highway Superintendent Farrell handed out and went over his **2016 Road Agreement** with the Board. He explained that it needs to be signed by them, if they approve, and then sent down to the Greene County Highway Department for Mr. Harvey's Signature.

On the motion of Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION # 2016-15 to adopt the 2016 Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys was adopted as follows:**

AGREEMENT between the Town Superintendent of the Town of Athens, Greene County, New York, and the under signed members of the Town Board.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that moneys levied and collected in the Town for repair and improvement of highways, and received from the State for State Aid for the repair and improvement of highways shall be expended as follows:

1. GENERAL REPAIRS. The sum of \$171,250 shall be set aside to be expended for primary work and general repairs upon 31.25 miles of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals thereof.

2. PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS. The following sums shall be set aside to be expended for the permanent improvement of Town highways: **Oil and Stone Project for 2016**

Oil & Stone	Application							P/G Total	Stone	
Road Name	Length	Width	SY	Rate	Oil	Gallon	Price	OIL	Type	Tons
High Hill Rd	9840	22	24053	0.4	CRS2P	9621	\$2.04	\$19,579.41	1A's	361
Valley Road	11460	22	28013	0.4	CRS2P	11205	\$2.04	\$22,802.85	1A's	420
Flats Road Ext.	7020	22	17160	0.4	CRS2P	6864	\$2.04	\$13,968.24	1A's	257
Flats Road	9235	22	22574	0.4	CRS2P	9030	\$2.04	\$18,375.60	1A's	339
South Mud Lane	1300	18	2600	0.4	CRS2P	1040	\$2.04	\$2,116.40	1A's	39
								\$76,842.50		1416
Oil Cost								\$76,842.50		
Rubber tire roller w/o operator								3,600.00		
Washed 1A Stone Cost								16,992.00		
Oil & Stone Project for 2016								\$99550.90		

Schoharie Turnpike Box Culvert at the Reservoir

Set Crew	\$2,200 a day	4 days	\$8,800.00
Excavator Rental	\$2,200 a week		4,400.00
Blacktop	20 tons		1,500.00
Backfill	100 tons		815.00
		Total for Project	\$15,515.00

Total Road Work \$115,065.90

Total CHIPS & Road \$171,250.00

Remaining \$56,185.00 left in road to be used to pave around building and Old Kings Road.

The remaining funds in DB 5110.4 will be used for diesel fuel, equipment repair, EZ Pass, Gas, Tires, Signs, Drainage, Uniforms and general repair on the remaining Town roads.

The above resolution was adopted as follows: Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano)
Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Gregory Christy of Northeast Treaters came before the Board. Attorney Virginia Benedict informed him that she is waiting to hear from the archeologist . She assured him that this doesn't upset the timeline, that everything should be ready by the March 21st meeting.

Eugene Hatton Trustee of the Athens Community Foundation gave his annual report on the Foundation's Finances. The Trustees of the Athens Community Foundation announced the net distribution 38 grants totaling \$209,413 to 32 separate Athens based qualifying civic, sports, cultural, fraternal, educational and governmental groups, for 2015.

Including this cycle, the thirteenth annual round of grants by the Foundation, the number of grants over the life of the Foundation now totals 370, along with a total dollar figure disbursement of \$2,125,434.

Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Michael Strenka reviewed the Annual Financial Report Update Document with the Board for the Fiscal Year ending 2015.

Mr. Strenka then reviewed the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Report for January 2016 with the Board.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. to accept the Supervisor's Report for January 2016 as presented. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler asked the Board, and Highway Superintendent Farrell to review the **Highway Garage Plans** that they all received at the meeting of February 24, 2016. They were to add their ideas of what they thought should be added to the building such as: shower; underground tanks/ eye washing station etc. The current building was built in 1963. He asked for a motion to move forward.

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to move forward with the Highway Garage Project and contact an Engineer. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Councilwoman Mary Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to approve the Town Clerk's Monthly Report for February as presented. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to approve the minutes of February 15, 2016 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

The Town Board received a letter from the Town Court. The Court had applied for a Scan Snap IX500 Scanner through a JCAP Grant, but the Division of Technology contacted the Court and asked them to take a Scanner instead. Now they need the Upgrade Programming to set the Scanner up to work. The Scanner Program will cost approximately \$995.00 for the initial installation and first year maintenance. It will then cost \$240.00 every year after that for the renewal of the program. They are asking for a line item adjustment in the 2016 Budget under 1110.4 to move \$1,000 from Seminars/Workshops to Office Supplies.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to approve the Court's request and authorize the bookkeeper to make the proper budget adjustment.

Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Bookkeeper Michael Strenka and Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to meet Wednesday on the Employee Handbook.

April 23rd is Athens Cleanup Day.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Anthony Paluch and seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.