

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 1, 2018

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on October 1, 2018 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 Butler; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilman Anthony Paluch and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. and Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell were absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Michael Pirrone; Barbara Trembacz; Madelyn Brandow and Patrick Doyle.

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

General Abstract #17, vouchers #352 through #363 inclusive for \$26,901.44.

Highway Abstract #16, vouchers #184 through # 194 inclusive for \$63,989.62.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported he issued a building permit for a solar panel roof system; a garage; and a modular home with a garage.

He had a Demolition permit for a barn on Spoorenburgh Rd. (APO Sleepy Hollow Lake, Inc.)

A Complaint about the demolition work at Spoorenburgh Rd. Rd. from a neighbor. (All in compliance of the removing of barn.) Supervisor Butler requested a copy of the manifest.

5 Certificates of Occupancy Searches were received.

Three (3) violations: Property Maintenance: Tall/Weeds at Doll General

“ “ : Tall Vegetation at Dollar General

“ “ : Tall Vegetation at Verizon Utility Building on

Rte. 385 near Thorpe Rd.

Hudson River Bulk: Attorney for Robert Tyson confirmed that Hudson River Bulk brought fill to the site itself using its own trucks- there was not a third party trucking company involved. He is working to see if he can get at least an estimate of the amount, but doesn't know yet if that number is available. Attorney requested a visit to review Town records about Hudson River Bulk.

Attorney Virginia Benedict arrived at this time: 7:10 p.m.

Assessor Carol McBride reported that after 2019 all Enhanced Star Renewals will be renewed by NYS Taxation and Finance. The Assessor will no longer be renewing this exemption.

Reassessment: Data Mailers have been sent to all Village properties. Next month data mailers will begin to be sent to the owners of Town residential properties.

Address updates are being received from school tax collectors for county and town tax bills.

She has a required class for ethics at Columbia Greene Community College on Friday December 7, 2018. Assessor's Office will be closed that day.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka went over the Supervisor's Report for September.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow *to accept the Supervisor's Report for September as presented*. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. *Brandow to accept the Town Clerk's Report as presented*. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 1, 2018

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of September 17, 2018 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler informed the Board that there are seven interested people for seats on the Athens Community Foundation Advisory Board, but only five seats are available. He will e-mail everyone when to meet for interviews.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. spoke about giving current 20 + hour employees prorated sick, vacation and personal time. Time would be accrued (earned) and the Employee Handbook would have to be updated. Discussion followed.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to give current 20 + hour employees prorated sick, vacation and personal time, and that the Employee Handbook is updated to reflect this. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

Information from Greene County Veterans Service Agency on the 2nd Honor a Vet Memorial Ceremony which will be held Sat. November 3rd, 2018, at 10:00 AM at the Historic Catskill Point Warehouse, Catskill, NY, this year's honoree will be Seaman First Class Alfred Van Schaack, Jr. of Athens, NY.

A letter received from Town Court requesting a resolution for a 2018-2019 JCAP Grant. They would like to apply for new Battery Backup/Voltage Protectors for each of their computers including the two in the courtroom.

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2018-35** authorizing the Court to apply for 2018-2019- JCAP Grant to purchase Battery Backup/Voltage Protectors for each of their computers and the two computers in the courtroom was adopted. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler advised the Board that we would begin going over the budget at the next meeting.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler asked if there was anything from the public. Resident Barbara Trembacz reported that there is a bad stop on Potic Mt. Rd. and Schoharie Tpk. that has very bad sight distance. Patrick Doyle of Flint Mine Solar- spoke- Discussion followed.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.