

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – May 4, 2020

A meeting of the Athens Town Board was held electronically via zoom with Board members each at his or her own property location, due to the Covid-19 Social Distancing order by the Governor.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. invited the following people to join the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.: Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilwoman Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

He also called these people to join the meeting: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Finance/Budget Officer Don Pierro and Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini.

These four people joined to listen only: Robert Brunner; Angela Colavito; Tim Miller and Dan Boyd.

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

**General Abstract #9**, vouchers #168 through #181 inclusive for **\$9,703.97**.

**Highway Abstract #9**, vouchers #78 through #87 inclusive for **\$4,019.79**.

**Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell** reported that he had 100% staffing at the Highway today.

The Highway equipment that the Board voted to surplus last week (The 2001 New Holland loader and the 2003 F250 Truck,) will be on Auctions International the end of May.

He asked about Cleanup Day and was told it might be the third week of May; however we are waiting to hear from the County.

**Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini** reported that three different people wanted building permits but were denied due to the Executive Order and fines.

**Mr. Gasparini** received 5 Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests.

He reported that on Quarry Road a property has two small manufactured homes on it. He will check with the Assessor before he sends out a Notice of Violation.

**Code Enforcement Officer Gasparini** informed the Board that Dan Boyd from SunEast Development, LLC, along with Jacqueline Murry, Esq. /Freepoint Solar, LLC has been inquiring for a small solar farm on Potic Mountain Road.

Finance/ Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed the Supervisor's Report for March.

**Councilwoman Shannon Spinner** made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to **accept the Supervisor's Report for March as presented**. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Mr. Pierro reviewed the Supervisors Report for April with the Board.

**Councilman Michael Ragaini** made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to **accept the Supervisor's Report for the month of April**. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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**Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. advised** the Board that he and Councilman Ragaini had interviewed Kathy Sprague as possible clerk to the assessor. They both liked her and she has over 30 years of experience.

**Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.** made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to approve and hire Kathy Sprague as a part time clerk to the Assessor for 20 hours a week. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

**Town Court:** Attorney Virginia Benedict reported the Court is an essential service. The mail should be picked up, not piling up at the Post Office. It is not being taken care of in a timely manner.

The NYS Office of Court Administration memo gave no guidance.

Supervisor Butler stated he would reach out to the Court remotely.

**Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion** seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of March 2, 2020 with corrections. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 (The Joint Cleanup Day will accept NO more than 4 tires, NOT more than 4 tires as stated.)

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

**Grievance Day** will be held the fourth Tuesday of May, (26<sup>th</sup>). We are unsure if it will be done on zoom, or face to face, but it will be put in the paper and on the website.

As there was no further business to come before this meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner. Ayes-5 Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.