

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – August 17, 2020

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on August 17, 2020 by Deputy Supervisor Michael Ragaini, at 7:00 p.m. at the Athens Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, Athens, NY.

The following people were present: Deputy Supervisor Ragaini; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilwoman Shannon Spinner and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Supervisor Butler and Highway Superintendent Farrell were absent.)

These people were also present: Finance Officer/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Barbara Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Robert Brunner; Lynn Brunner; Patrick Doyle; George Stacey and Fran McCusker.

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

**General Abstract #16**, vouchers #278 through #296 inclusive for **\$22,034.67**.

**Highway Abstract #16**, vouchers #147 through #160 inclusive for **\$30,494.25**.

**Financial Officer/ Budget Officer Don Pierro** went over Restricted Items to be realigned.

**On the motion made by Councilwoman Mary H, Brandow** seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-29** to **REVISE RESERVE FUND BALANCES** was adopted as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to revise Reserve Fund Balances based on initial recommendations in July 2020 and increase and decrease various reserve items based on Town Needs, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to achieve such revisions, the finance staff met with the Finance Board Liaison to examine appropriate Reserve Fund balances as a continuation of earlier Board Discussions and that said revisions will be voted on at the August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Board meeting when Town Board shall authorize said revisions at a public meeting of the Town Board, and

**WHEREAS**, the current funds are duly held at the National Bank of Coxsackie, Athens, New York, and said funds are currently restricted funds and may only be revised by the Town Board as of August 31, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, the amount of the newly restricted Reserve Funds for this matter will be \$1,189,503.53 based on the July 31, 2020 Bank Reconciliations, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby authorizes the revisions of the Reserve Funds per the Finance Worksheet distributed and voted on by the Board on August 17, 2020, and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the foregoing resolution shall become effective the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August in the Year 2020.

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

**On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch** seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-30 To Transfer General Funds to Highway Fund (DA) To Restore Fund Balance** was adopted as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to transfer General Funds to the Highway Fund (DA) to restore DA Fund, Balance, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to achieve such appropriate Transfer of Funds the Town Board shall authorize said Transfer a public meeting of the Town Board, and

**WHEREAS**, the current funds are duly held at the National Bank of Coxsackie, Athens, New York, and said funds are currently unrestricted funds and available to be transferred no later than August 31, 2020, and,

**WHEREAS**, the amount of unrestricted funds for this Transfer total \$6,648.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

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**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Transfer of General Funds to the Highway Fund (DA) necessary to make the DA Fund Balance whole in view of the 12/23/2019 deficiency as noted in the 12/31/2019 AUD, and is further

**RESOLVED** that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year 2020.

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

**On the motion of Councilwoman Shannon Spinner** seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION#2020-31-To Transfer General Funds to Highway Fund to Restore Highway Shed Paint Project** was adopted as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to transfer General Funds to the Highway Fund to restore the Highway Shed Paint Project Cash, and

**WHEREAS**, in order to achieve such appropriate Transfer of Funds the Town Board shall authorize said Transfer at a public meeting of the Town Board, and

**WHEREAS**, the current funds are duly held at the National Bank of Coxsackie, Athens, New York, and said funds are currently unrestricted funds and available to be transferred no later than August 31, 2020 and,

**WHEREAS**, the amount of unrestricted funds for this Transfer total \$6,000.00, and,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Transfer of General Funds to the Highway Money Market Account (GL A/C #200.3) necessary to make the Highway Shed Paint Project whole in view of the 12/31/2019 project deficiency as noted in the 12/31/2019 AUD, and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August in the Year 2020.

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

**On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch** seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2020-32 To Hire a CPA Firm for Year End Town Review and To Complete the Annual Financial Report** was adopted as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to hire a new CPA firm for various Year-End analysis, review and completion of the Annual Financial Report, and other analysis that be necessary, and,

**WHEREAS**, in order to achieve such financial requirements the Town Board shall authorize the hiring of a CPA Firm in order to achieve stated goals and objectives at a public meeting of the Town Board, and

**WHEREAS**, the current funds to meet this obligation are duly held at the National Bank of Coxsackie, Athens, New York, and said funds are currently un-restricted funds and available within the Annual Budget, and,

**WHEREAS**, the amount for this year-end project was successfully bid at a price of \$6,000.00 for the basic year end advisory services and if additional analysis is necessary those funds will be charged to GL Account #1010.4- Outside Accounting & Auditing, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board hereby authorizes the hiring of Sickler, Torchia, Allen & Churchill and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year 2020.

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

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**Financial Officer/Budget Officer Don Pierro** handed pie charts to the Board that referenced the various taxes paid based on a house assessed for \$200,000. He used the current tax rates, and last year's school rate.

**Mr. Pierro** informed the Board that he had spoken with TGW (The Grant Writers) John and Anthony Duchessi who we had used before for a Grant. They spoke about doing a feasibility study on this building. Discussion followed.

**Councilwoman Shannon Spinner** made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to hold our joint Village and Town Clean Up Day on September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Town highway garage. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

**Councilman Anthony Paluch** made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of August 3, 2020 as read. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

Discussion followed on building.

Patrick Doyle of Flint Mine Solar advised the Board he had submitted new plans to the siting Board. Board members asked questions.

Our next meeting will be on September 8, 2020 and Flint Mine Solar will be there.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by **Councilwoman Shannon Spinner** seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow and carried. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.