

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – December 21, 2020

A meeting of the Athens Town Board was held electronically via zoom on Monday December 21, 2020 with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding. The meeting started at 7:05 P. M.

The following people attended: Supervisor Butler; Councilwoman Mary Brandow; Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilwoman Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people also attended: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Elliot Sinel; Dan Boyd and Fran McCusker.

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

General Abstract #23, vouchers #415 through #436 inclusive for **\$40,455.60**.

Highway Abstract #23, voucher #210 through #215 inclusive for **\$6,277.15**.

Also:

General Abstract #24, vouchers #437 through #457 inclusive for **\$26,857.35**.

Highway Abstract #24, vouchers #216 through #220 inclusive for **\$1,326.23**.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that the highway crew worked a total of 19 hours on the snowfall. They worked from 8:30 pm that night until 4:30 pm the next day.

Mr. Farrell stated that he posted in the newspaper, the opening for highway position.

It was also put on the website.

Mr. Farrell had asked Attorney Benedict about people living on Rt. 9W and backing off on the Town Highway property, receiving 911 numbers to receive their mail there, how it can be stopped, as he doesn't want the liability.

Attorney Benedict explained that in the winter, he can disregard plowing that area as the Town doesn't use it.

If the Town wants to abandon that area, they should have that area surveyed, and "give" those sections to the property owners for them to upkeep. It wouldn't be his liability any more.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini gave his November Code Report:

He issued 5 building permits, and did 12 building inspections.

He had several building permit inquiries; a generator installation; two new homes;

Two new decks; He also had a lot line adjustment in Sleepy Hollow Lake.

There were 3 Certificates of Occupancy; 5 Certificates of Compliance; 14 Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests; 1 Demolition Permit;

Fire/911 Call: Nov. 14, 2020 at 705 Potic Mountain Road- Chimney Fire.

Code Enforcement Officer Gasparini also reported that he made visual inspections of the following registered junkyards in the month of December (for the Town of Athens). The three registered junkyards have been maintained and are recommended for operation/renewal for the 2021 calendar year.

Scott Fischer (Junkyard location) Flats Road Ext.: Currently no cars and no tires.

Robert O'Connell (B & B Garage) (Junkyard location) 292 Route 385, Catskill.
140 Cars and 100 tires.

Kayla Rexford 62 So. Mud Lane., Athens. 24 cars and 42 tires.

This report was accepted.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro went over the Supervisor's monthly report with the Board.

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

Resident Elliot Sinel came to the Town Board with a name change for a road in Sleepy Hollow. He requested that the road House Wife Court be changed to Lake Shore Court. He explained that property owners on this road agreed that the name needed to be changed, and the administration at Sleepy Hollow advised Mr. Sinel that the Town had to sign off on the new name.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to move forward with Lake Shore Court as the new name for the former road name of House Wife Court in Sleepy Hollow. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Dan Boyd for the Potic Solar Facility informed the Board that he has submitted \$5,000 for the Escrow Account.

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

Supervisor Butler announced that he received a letter from DEC stating that Mr. Sandhu can operate at his property on Valley Road from 6 am to 7 pm Monday through Saturday.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to approve the minutes of November 16, 2020 as read. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler reported that the NYS Municipal Shelter Agreement Report was found favorable.

Mr. Butler also stated he would be meeting Hal Brodie, Scott Fischer regarding the Planning Board Chairman.

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the Following **RESOLUTION #2020-46** was adopted: **Budget Transfers General Fund & Town Outside Fund to Increase Budgeted Expenditures And Reduce Contingency:**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to transfer Contingency funds to General Fund A and to Town Outside B to replenish certain expenditures (A) Fund 1110.4 Office Supplies \$500.00 & (A) Fund 1680.4 Central DP – Server- Parts- software \$2,500.00; (B) Fund1680.4 DP – Server-Parts-Software \$12,000.00 to install new software for the Code Enforcement Department, and

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

WHEREAS, the currant funds are duly held at the National Bank of Coxsackie, Athens, New York, and said funds are currently un-restricted funds and available to be transferred no later than December 21, 2020 and,

WHEREAS, the amount of unrestricted funds for this Transfer total \$15,000.00 and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Transfer of General Funds and Town Outside Funds and it is further

RESOLVED that the foregoing Budget Transfer shall become effective this 21st day of December in the year 2020.

This resolution was adopted as follows: Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner)
Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2020-47** was adopted:

RESSOLUTION ADOPTING LGS-1:

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Athens that Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-!), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing valueless records listed therein.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with article 57-A:

- (a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;
- (b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

This resolution having been approved by a majority of the Board, the same was declared duly adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The Holiday Schedule was review for 2021.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to **approve of the Holiday Schedule for 2021**. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner)
Noes-1 (Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P. M.