

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – January 4, 2021

The Organizational meeting of the Athens Town Board was held electronically via Zoom on January 4, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, presiding.

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

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

General Abstract #1, vouchers #1 through #16 inclusive for \$42,570.88.

Highway Abstract #1, vouchers #1 through #9 inclusive for \$6,128.82.

RESOLUTIONS

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-1 to adopt the Rules of Procedure for a Town Board Meeting were adopted as Follows:

1. Upon entering the site of the Athens Town Board meetings, All cellular phones, non-emergency service pagers and other such electronic devices shall be set to function in a way imperceptible to any other person present.
 2. All meetings will begin at the same, routine, and normal time, as legally posted in compliance with the New York State Public Officer's Law, following a routine agenda as adopted both by tradition and vote of the Town Board.
 3. No Additional matters are to be considered until each matter on the prepared agenda has been acted upon by the Town Board. Therefore, all department heads are encouraged to remain until the adjournment of the meeting.
 4. To foster an element of sincere mutual respect, no demonstration, inappropriate applause or verbal support, booing, or any such disruptive response, which would interrupt the civility and formality of a Town Board meeting, will be tolerated. Any person or group persisting in such action will be asked to leave the meeting, with the concurrence of a majority vote of the Town Board.
 5. Anyone wishing to be placed on the agenda to address the Town Board on a particular issue shall contact the Town Clerk at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting, giving their name, address, and the topic wished to be discussed. Citizens are encouraged to limit their presentations to seven (7) minutes, and to present to the Town Board supporting documentation as deemed appropriate to their position. Not allowing a petitioning citizen to address the Town Board is recognized as a serious matter, and if deemed appropriate, shall only be agreed to by a majority vote of the Town Board.
 6. Any person addressing the Town Board shall direct his/her comment to the Supervisor and Town Board, and not engage any Town Board Member, department head, or any other member of the audience in a debate. Questions shall be directed to the Supervisor who may choose to answer or to defer the question to a department head or other Board member. Some questions may be tabled for future research, at which point the Supervisor will answer the citizen with a reasonable time frame for a final response.
 7. A time will be allotted at each meeting for the assembled public to comment upon or ask further questions of the Supervisor regarding any of the discussions which had taken place at this meeting. A 15 minute limit per topic from the floor.
 8. At no time may any of these provisions, as adopted, be modified without a majority vote of the Town Board.
- This resolution was adopted as follows: Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner)
Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION # 2021-2 to adopt the Salary Schedule for 2021 was adopted: Please see the next page:

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – January 4, 2021

Mary	Brandow	Town Council	A 1010.1	4,300
Michael	Ragaini	Town Council	A 1010.1	4,300
Michael	Ragaini	Deputy Supervisor	A 1010.1	1,000
Anthony	Paluch	Town Council	A 1010.1	5,800
Shannon	Spinner	Town Council	A 1010.1	<u>5,800</u>
Sub-Total				21,200
Constance	Pazin	Justice	A 1110.1	19,838
Edward	Mercer	Justice	A 1110.1	<u>17,588</u>
Sub-Total				37,426
Marcia	Puorro	Justice Clerk I	A 1110.11	40,046
Vincenzina	Carl	Justice Clerk II	A 1110.11	<u>38,501</u>
Sub-Total				78,547
Robert	Butler, Jr.	Town Supervisor	A 1220.1	13,383
Donald	Pierro	Bookkeeper	A 1220.1	<u>43,000</u>
Sub-Total				56,383
Cheryl	Kaszluga	Assessor	A 1355.1	30,000
Kathy	Sprague	Assessor's Clerk	A 1355.1	<u>26,325</u>
				56,325
Linda	Stacey	Clerk/Collector/Registrar	A 1410.1	54,453
Gail	Stacey	Dep. Clerk/Collector/Registrar	A 1410.1	<u>27,576</u>
Sub-Total				82,029
John	Farrell	Highway Superintendent	A 5010.1	64,433
Albert	Gasparini	Code Enforcement	B 3620.1	19,500
Margaret	Pieruzzi	Code/Assessor Clerk	B 3620.1	<u>10,000</u>
Sub-Total				29,500
Lynn	Brunner	Historian	B 7510.1	320
Peter	Alberti	Highway Crew + OT	DA 5142.1	64,900
Christopher W	Hendricks	Highway Crew + OT	DA 5142.1	55,600
James H	Robinson III	Highway Crew + OT	DA 5142.1	61,200
Fred E	Vail IV	Highway Crew + OT	DA 5142.1	48,000
Sub-Total				<u>55,600</u>
				285,300

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

On the motion of Councilwoman Marv H. Brandow seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2021-3** to establish the mileage reimbursement at the IRS recommended rate of use, for the use of employees own vehicle on Town business Was adopted. (Currently it is S.56.) Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – January 4, 2021

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION #2021-4 authorizing Petv Cash Funds to in the amount of \$100.00 each for: Town Justice Pazin: Town Justice Mercer: Highway Superintendent Farrell and Town Clerk Stacey was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following RESOLUTION #2021-5 authorizing a cash drawer of \$100.00 for the Town Clerk and a cash drawer of \$125.00 for the Tax Collector was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION #2021-6 establishing meeting dates for 2021, as the first (1st) and third (3rd) Mondays of each month at 6:45 PM unless otherwise advertised. Except in November when the first meeting is held on the first Thursday after the General Election, was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following RESOLUTION #2021-7 designating the National Bank of Coxsackie as the Official Depository was adopted. 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 # 2021-8 designating the Catskill Daily Mail as the Official Newspaper was adopted. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) No-1 (Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following RESOLUTION #2021-9 establishing March 1st, 2021 as the date to audit the Justices Books and the Books of the Town Clerk. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-10 designating the Town Clerk as Registrar of Vital Statistics and the Deputy Town Clerk as Deputy Registrar was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following RESOLUTION #2021-11 to adopt a sixty (60) day extension to send the Annual Financial Report to the State Comptroller, if needed. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-12 to hire the CPA Firm of Sickler Torchia Allen & Churchill was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following RESOLUTION #2021-13 to accept the current Employee Handbook for 2021 with amendments was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION #2021-14 designating Mary H. Brandow as the Delegate to the Annual Association of Towns Training School and Meeting to be held virtually from February 14-17, 2021 was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to make the following one year appointments:

ONE YEAR APPOINTMENTS

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer	Don Pierro
Deputy Supervisor	Michael Ragaini
Tax Collector	Linda Stacey
Deputy Town Clerk& Dep. Tax Collector	Gail Stacey
Code Enforcement Officer	Albert Gasparini
Dog Damage Control	Albert Gasparini
Consolidated Health Secretary	Albert Gasparini
Consolidated Health Member	Stephan Bradicich (Mayor)
Consolidated Health Chairman	Robert F. Butler, Jr. (Supervisor)
Consolidated Health Officer	Dr. Stephen Hassett
Clerk to Code Enforcement Officer	Margaret (Peggy) Pieruzzi
Senior Court Clerk	Marcia Puorro
Court Clerk	Vincenzina Carl
Historian	Lynn Brunner
Assessor's Clerk	Kathy Sprague
Zoning Board Chair	Kevin Park

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

Councilwoman Marv H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to appoint Scott Fischer as Chairman of the Planning Board for one (1) year. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilman Ragaini spoke about training for the planning and zoning members.

The Zoning Board is a 5 member Board. There are currently 4 members so they need a member, a secretary and alternates.

The Planning Board is a 7 person Board and they need more alternates and a secretary.

An ad needs to be placed advertising for planning Board, Zoning Board, Members, alternates, and secretaries.

Athens Community Foundation

Tommy Bruno (Supervisor's Appointment) Term expires 12/31/24
Ed Bloomer (Board Appointment) Term expires 12/31/23

Supervisor Butler named the following committees for the year:

COMMITTEES

Joint Landfill	Tony & Mary
Village & Town	Robert & Mike
Special Projects & Building	Shannon & Mike
EMS/ALS Ambulance	Phyllis
Reserves	Mary & Don
Insurance	Mary & Don
Medical Insurance	Robert & Don
Planning	Shannon & Mike
Zoning	Tony & Mary
Employee Handbook	Don & Tony
Employee Committee	Mary & Mike
Highway Committee	Robert & Shannon
Code Enforcement	Mike
Assessor	Shannon
Court	Tony
Fire Contracts	Robert
Collective Bargaining	TBD

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – January 19, 2021

On the motion Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2021-16** was adopted: **Resolution Subject To Permissive Referendum:** Authorizing the expenditure up to an estimated \$25,000 for the purchase of an Alamo Rear Mounted Boom Mower, to be paid using funds from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund. A full copy of the authorizing resolution is available for inspection at the office of Athens Town Clerk, 2 First St., Athens, NY 12015 during regular business hours of the Town.

Pursuant to Section 90 of Town Law this purchase and expenditure from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund is subject to Permissive Referendum in accordance with Article 7 of the NYS Town Law.

Ayes-(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION 2021-17** was adopted: **Resolution Subject To Permissive Referendum:** Authorizing the expenditure up to an estimated \$125,000.00 for the purchase of a 2021 Ford F600 Chassis with Henderson Plow and Body package, to be paid using funds from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund. A full copy of the authorizing resolution is available for inspection at the office of the Athens Town Clerk, 2 First St., Athens, NY, 12015 during regular business hours of the Town.

Pursuant to Section 90 of Town Law this purchase authorization and expenditure from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund is subject to Permissive Referendum in accordance with Article 7 of the NYS Town Law.

Ayes-(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

In other Highway business, Rainbow Painting is going to paint the Shed.
The Village is still using the Town's salt shed.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported that there were 3 Certificate of Occupancy. There were 14 Municipal searches. He had 2 fire calls. He had 1 foil request.

Mr. Gasparini reported that Dan Boyd's Solar Project was rejected as it was the wrong zone, and was sent to the zoning Board of Appeals.

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

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow *to approve the minutes of January 4, 2021 as read.* Ayes-(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P. M.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – February 16, 2021

A meeting of the Athens Town Board was held via Zoom on Tuesday February 16, 2021, at 7:00 P. M. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding.

The following people attended: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember /Shannon Spinner; Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro and Albert Gasparini. (Councilmember Paluch was absent.)

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

General Abstract #3, vouchers #35 through #62 inclusive for \$46,045.38.

Highway Abstract #3, vouchers #23 through #27 inclusive for \$6,324.33.

General Abstract #4, vouchers #62A through #79 inclusive for \$9,069.80.

Highway Abstract #4, vouchers #28 through #33 inclusive for \$11,297.04.

Trust & Agency Abstract #1, vouchers #1 through # 4 inclusive for \$364,347.00.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini: VIOLATIONS: reported that he had a Notice posted on the property at 1717 Schoharie Turnpike in Athens, (for the new owners) a Notice of Demolition letter and an Order to Vacate Dangerous and Unsafe Building. At 1319 Schoharie Turnpike, Athens, he attached an Order to Remedy on the Front Door, for a boat parked at the corner of Schoharie Turnpike and Green Lake Road. Two building permits were issued. Ten building Inspections were done. There were two Certificates of Occupancy. One Temporary Certificate of occupancy. There were Seven Certificates of Occupancy Search Requests. One demolition Permit. He finished his FOIL Request for Short Term Rental documents. (Andrew Peck.) He also received plans for a proposed gas station & Convenience Store at Old Kinga Road and 9W.

Assessor Cheryl Kaszuga turned in her written report earlier: Which was read by Supervisor Butler. The Deputy Assessor has processed and mailed out all exemption renewals, which are to be returned by March 1st.

Assessor and Deputy Assessor continue to work on all sales that they have received. The month of November had (3) sales with the highest at \$440,000 and the lowest \$61,500 for a vacant parcel. The Highest in Sleepy Hollow with waterfront with a sale price of \$507,500 and lowest at \$4,000 for vacant parcel. It is very important to verify all sales to determine if they are an arm's length sale. The sales will be used to determine for our level of assessment.

She and Kathy continue updating their files with information from the previous data collector along with MLS listings and sales verification that they receive. E-mails and phone calls are being received wanting estimate of value for potential new construction.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed the Supervisor's Report for January.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to approve and accept the Supervisor's Report as presented. Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. reviewed the Town Clerk's Report with Board members.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the Town Clerk's Report for January as presented, Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0

Bookkeeper Don Pierro presented a resolution to the Board regarding Senior and Disability Filing Requirements.

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini the following RESOLUTION #2021-18 was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby recognizes that on March 7, 2020

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo issued Executive Order Number 2020, declaring a State disaster emergency for the entire State of New York, and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2020 said declaration was extended to include: Subdivisions 7, 7a and 8 of section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law, and subdivisions 5, 5a, 5b, 5c, and 6 of section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, which permits the governing body of an assessing unit to adopt a resolution directing the assessor to grant exemptions pursuant to such section on the 2021 assessment roll to all property owners who received that exemption on the 2020 assessment roll, thereby dispensing with the need for renewal applications from such persons and further dispensing with the requirement for assessor's to mail renewal applications to such persons. and

WHEREAS, the Town is desirous in adopting such resolution while also allowing the assessor to require a renewal application to be filed when he or she has reason to believe that an owner who qualified for the exemption on the 2020 assessment toll may have since changed his or her primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner. or died, now THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board is authorized to pass such resolution, and that the assessor is instructed to take any such necessary actions in the above described directives.

RESOLVED, that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 16th day of February in the year 2021.

Adopted as follows: Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0

(Same Sliding Scales for both Exemptions, the same as 2020)

Maximum Income Limit-	\$29,000.00	50%
\$29,000.01	\$29,999.99	45%
\$30,000.00	\$30,999.99	40%
\$31,000.00	\$31,999.99	35%
\$32,000.00	\$32,899.99	30 %
\$32,900.00	\$33,799.99	25 %
\$33,800.00	\$34,699.99	20%
\$34,700.00	\$35,599.99	15%
\$35,600.00	\$36,499.99	10%
\$36,500.00	\$37,399.99	5%

The Board held a short discussion on Attorneys.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to hire Attorney George McHugh from Coeymans, New York as the Towns Attorney.

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

Supervisor Robert F. Butler Jr. Explained the Intervenor Fund Settlement Proposal to the Board and asked for permission to sign the Settlement Proposal Letter.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner authorizing Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to sign the Intervenor Settlement Fund Proposal Letter on behalf of the Town. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Paluch) Abstentions-0.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Intervenor Reimbursement Application as presented. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Paluch) Abstentions-0.

Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer spoke about doing an RFQ (a request for qualifications) for the land out by the Town garage. He is looking for an area to put an office building.)

Bookkeeper / Budget Officer Don Pierro presenter the Board with the two copiers; One for the Clerk's Office and one for the Assessor/ Code Offices.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to move ahead and order the copiers. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Paluch) Abstentions-0.

Zoning and Planning Board Secretary:

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to appoint Mary Mirando as secretary to the ZBA and the Planning Board. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Paluch) Abstentions-0.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – March 1, 2021

A meeting of the Athens Town Board was held via Zoom on Monday March 1, 2021, at 7:00 P. M. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding.

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

These people were also in attendance; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Tom Satterlee; Senior Court Clerk Marcia Puorro; Court Clerk Vee Carl and Town Justice E. Timothy Mercer.

The following bills were audited and ordered paid:

General Abstract #5, vouchers #81 through #89 inclusive for **\$17,301.08**.
Highway Abstract #5, vouchers #34 through # 38 inclusive for **\$7,078.15**.

Supervisor Butler announced that from now on, the second meeting of the month is when Department heads will give their reports.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported that he had 3 building permit; 9 building inspections.

He had an inquiry on a building permit for a solar farm on Spoorenburgh Road. There are 89 acres zoned as farm land. (James Kondrat is the project developer for Borrego Solar. Dominick Arico is the engineer for the proposed project which includes sub-division of a property, a storage shed, garage and 2 new homes).

2 Certificates of Occupancy were issued; one Certificate of Compliance was issued; He was called to a structure fire at 470 Green Lake Road from the wood stove.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that he had advertised the referendums for the Alamo RM180 rear mounted boom mower off of the Sourcewell Contract, and for the purchase of a Ford Pickup truck off of the OGS Marketplace Mini Bid and there were no petitions against either of them. He wants to order the mower, and he needs to put the specs together for the truck.

He will have the Road agreement ready for the next meeting.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-19 was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to authorize the Superintendent of Highways to purchase an Alamo RM180 rear mounted boom mower off of the Sourcewell Contract and,

WHEREAS, in order to meet such Equipment needs the Town Board shall authorize the Superintendent to place an order with Tracey Road Equipment, Inc. for the Alamo RM180 at a cost not to exceed \$25,873.00 and,

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Town Board of the Town of Athens to recognize such equipment needs as funded in the Annual Highway Budget and,

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – March 1, 2021

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby authorizes the purchase of Highway equipment to be paid for out of the Equipment Reserve (\$9,000) and the Community Foundation Grant Program for the balance of \$16, 873.00 and that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 1st day of March in the year 2021.

Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The Ford pickup will replace the truck that Mr. Farrell currently drives, which has high mileage on it.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2021-20** was adopted: Town Board of the Town of Athens has authorized the Highway Superintendent to purchase a Ford Pickup truck off of the OGS Marketplace Mini Bid. The Price of the Ford pickup truck should not exceed \$125,000.00.

Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Annual Court Report was given next: Senior Court Clerk Marcia Puorro; Court Clerk Vincenzina Carl; and Town Justice E. Timothy Mercer were in attendance.

Senior Court Clerk Puorro went over the report with Board members.

In summary; Tickets received in Court for 2020 were 1533, up 300 from 2019.

Small Claims & Evictions-26

Criminal Cases -75

DWI Cases -22

Unlicensed Operator cases -31

The total amount collected for 2020 was \$253,935.00

Amount to NYS 145,498.00

Amount to Town 103,498.00

Amount to County 5,293.00

(Total to Village for parking Tickets \$135.00)

Court was closed for two months according to the Governor’s Covid Executive Orders. Then it was run at a reduced rate as per the Governor, and the Executive orders.

On the motion of Councilmember Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2021-21** to accept the Court’s ²⁰²⁰ Annual Report was adopted. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Mr. Thomas Satterlee the Town’s Representative to the 2020 Joint Village/Town

Comprehensive Plan spoke about where we are.

Supervisor Butler asked him if there was anything major for the Town that could be looked at. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Butler announced that the second meeting of the month will be when the department heads give their reports, and when the Attorney will be present.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to reappoint Councilmember Anthony Paluch to the Greene County Planning Board for a three year term. Ayes-5 (Butler, Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler suggested that we have Ryan Biggs look at the Highway Building regarding air conditioners.

Mr. Butler named the following as potential revenue streams:

Flint Mine Solar
Athens Gen
Catskills Renewable Corridor
Champlain Hudson

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow authorizing Planning Board Chairman Scott Fischer to hire Delaware Engineering. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Discussion followed on lot line adjustments; problems getting people out for a meeting. It was suggested to reduce the Planning Board down to 5 members from 7.

Our current assessor Cheryl Kaszluga handed in her resignation.

We have access to another assessor, for one day a week, and who will also operate remotely. Her name is Dawn DeRose, from Cocksackie.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to appoint Dawn DeRose as Sole Assessor for the Town of Athens, to fill the unexpired term of Cheryl Kaszluga. (Term to expire 9/30/25.) Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – March 15, 2021

A meeting of the Athens Town Board was held via Zoom on Monday March 15, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding.

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

These people also attended: Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro and Joshua Lipsman for the Village /Town Comprehensive Plan.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid:
General Abstract #6, vouchers #90 through #110 inclusive for \$17,814.36.
Highway Abstract #6, vouchers #39 through #46 inclusive for \$4,864.16.

Highway Superintendent Farrell reported that he would have the Road Agreement in April. The truck will be put out to bid. He has ordered the Boom Mower. There has been an increase in State Funding.

The Joint Cleanup Day with the Village will be held on April 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the drop off location will be behind the Fire House on Third Street.

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION #2021-22 To Set the Date for Grievance Day 2021 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 set the upcoming date for the 2021 Grievance Day and,

WHEREAS, in order to meet such requirements the Town Board shall authorize the 4th Thursday in May 2021 in keeping with the Town Assessor schedule and the Town Board of Review and,

WHEREAS, many Assessor currently serve multiple Towns and it is required to carefully set the Grievance date accordingly in an effort to accommodate the various Boards that can be affected and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby sets the date of Thursday May 27, 2021 being the 4th Thursday of the month from 4:00 P.M. through 8 P.M. and that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 15th day of March in the year 2021.

This resolution was adopted as follows:

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

Bookkeeper /Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed the Februarys Supervisor's Report with the Board. He advised them that monies for all levies had been received. The Special Districts were paid. Outside Auditors are working on the 2020 AUD Report. He has been working on the FOIL request that the Town receives every year. The RFQ have been received. There were 4 companies. He placed them in everyone's mailbox.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to accept the Supervisor's Report as presented. Ayes-4 (Butler Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1 (Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – March 15, 2021

Joshua Lipsman spoke about the Comprehensive Plan. He said it is not a Law, but it will be useful when making zoning changes.

Mr. Lipsman advised the Town Board that they have already passed part 1 and 2. Part 3 SEQRA is still open.

Supervisor Butler stated that he would like to give it to our Attorney to look at. April 5th is our next meeting.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021 as read. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to bring the Planning Board Secretary's pay to \$75.00 per meeting. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to pay the members of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board (including attending Alternates) \$25.00 per meeting. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Discussion followed on the Sleepy Hollow Case.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions for training session for Board of Assessment Review (BAR) Members has been cancelled. The NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services and the NYS Assoc. of County Directors of Real Property Tax Services are finalizing a Video that will provide the required training for newly appointed and reappointed BOA members.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to appoint Frank Pedatella to the Planning Board. Ayes-3 (Butler; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-2 (Brandow; Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to appoint Donald Andrews to the Planning Board. This motion was not acted on, as more information was needed.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to appoint Helen Inde to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5 year term beginning March 15, 2021 to December 31, 2025. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to appoint Scott Leggio to the Zoning Board of Appeals from March 15, 2021 to

. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow)

Absent-0 Abstentions-0

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – March 15, 2021

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to appoint Eric Nelson to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate for a term of one year beginning March 15, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

March 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. will be the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – April 5, 2021

A regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was held via Zoom on Monday April 5, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding.

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

These people were also in attendance: Bookkeeper Don Pierro and Robert Brunner.

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

General Abstract #7, vouchers #111 through #139 inclusive for **\$128,957.34**.
Highway Abstract #7, vouchers #47 through #59 inclusive for **\$26,112.25**.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reviewed the 2021 Road Agreement with Board members.

Supervisor Butler asked if there was a weight limit on the quarry, or a date to expire. He said he would look into this.

Highway Superintendent Farrell advised the Board that any CHIPS expenditure would be paid out before the end of the year.

On the motion of Councilmember Anthony Polach seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-23 was adopted as follows:

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

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that monies levied and collected in the Town for the 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 \$224,200 shall be set aside to be expended for primary work and general repairs upon 31.17 miles of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or renewals thereof.

- ## 2. PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) Type

OIL AND STONE PROJECT FOR 2021

Oil & Stone									
Road Name	Length	Width	SY	App Rate	Oil	Gallon	Price	P/G Total Oil	Stone type
Valley Road	11,000'	20'	25,556	.04	CRS2P	10222	2.03	\$20,750.66	1A's
Black Lake Rd	4900'	18'	9,800	.04	CRS2P	3920	2.03	\$7,957.60	1A's
Lake Forest Dr.	1160'	22'	2'836	.04	CRS2P	1134	2.03	\$2,302.02	1A's
High Hill Road	9925'	22'	24,261	.04	CRS2P	9704	2.03	\$19,699.12	1A's
Center Road	1230'	22'	3,007	.04	CRS2P	1203	2.03	\$2,442.09	1A's
Cross Road	2150'	22'	5,256	.04	CRS2P	2102	2.03	\$4,267.06	1A's
								Oil Cost	\$57, 418.55
								Rubber tire roller w/o operator	\$ 3,000.00
								800 tons Washed 1A Stone Cost	\$11,440.00
								Oil and Stone Project for 2021	\$71,858.55

CHIPS PROJECT

BOX CULVERT SCHOHARIE TURNPIKE

Engineering for Project	\$14,000.00
Pre-engineer box culvert	\$39,000.00
Equipment Rental	\$5,000.00
Backfill	\$12,000.00
Black Top	\$11,500.00
Guardrail	\$9,000.00

Total From NYS CHIPS PROJECT

\$91,000.00

Total Road Work \$162,858.55

The remaining fund 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.

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

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell informed the Board that he felt engineering services was needed for the culvert work to be done on Schoharie Turnpike. He got the proper number of bids and he chose MJ Engineering.

On the motion of Councilmember Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2021-24 to hire an Engineering Firm for Culvert Work on Behalf of the Town Highway Department 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 procure Engineering Services for the Highway Department for certain Culvert work, and

WHEREAS, in order to meet such financial commitments the Town Board has authorized the Superintendent of Highways to seek such Professional Services and the funding is in place within the 2021 Budget which was confirmed by the Budget Officer and,

WHEREAS, the current funds to meet this obligation are duly held at the National Bank of Cossackie, Athens, New York, and said fund are currently un-restricted funds and available within the Annual Budget as part of the overall reimbursement process from Extreme Weather (CHPS) and/or PAVE NY Funds and,

WHEREAS, the amount for these services will be negotiated by the Superintendent of Highways and reported back to the Town Council at the next available Town Meeting and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes the hiring of **MJ Engineering** subject to favorable pricing as determined by the Superintendent of Highways and it is further

RESOLVED that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 5th day of April in the year 2021.

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

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reviewed the Truck specs, and equipment with the Board.

On the motion of Councilmember Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2021-25** authorizing the Highway Superintendent to purchase a Carmody Ford with Henderson Products as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest purpose to authorize the Superintendent of Highways to purchase a 2022 Ford F 600 R Cab with Chassis off of NYS Contract #PC68992 (Carmody Ford) in the amount of \$50,477.85 and,

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Highways is also authorized to purchase a Mark III utility sized single axle Dump body, Spreader, and Plow from Henderson Products in the amount of \$63,178.00.

WHEREAS, in order to meet such equipment needs the Town Board shall authorize the Superintendent of Highways to place an order with Carmody Ford and Henderson Products a total cost not to exceed \$113,655.85 and,

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Town Board of the Town of Athens to recognize such Equipment needs as funded in the Highway Equipment Reserve and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby authorizes the purchase of Highway equipment to be paid for out of the Highway Equipment Reserve (\$113,655.85) and that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 5th day of April in the year 2021.

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

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to approve the minutes of **March 1, 2021***approved as read.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to approve the minutes of **March 15th, 2021** *as read.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to approve the *Town Clerk Report as presented.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

BLS-Town of Catskill Ambulance - Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro and Councilmember Michael Ragaini spoke about making an appointment with the Catskill Town Supervisor regarding past ambulance billing, to be brought up to date.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to move **Gerald Bunting from an alternate to a member of the Planning Board for a term of five years April 5, 2021 to December 31, 2025.** Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-1 (Paluch) Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to appoint Frances McCusker to the Planning Board as a member for a seven (7) year term beginning April 5, 2021 and ending December 31, 2027. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1 (Butler) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to appoint Mitchell Poole to the planning Board for a one year term beginning April 5, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Abstentions-0

Request for Qualifications for Professional Engineering Services for a New Town Hall Project, were reviewed. The companies that responded were MJ Engineering; Ryan Biggs; Delaware & Chazen.

Board members were given a week or so to look these proposals over. They were polled individually as to how they rated the 4 companies.

Supervisor Butler	: Ryan Biggs; MJ Eng.; Delaware; Chazen
Councilmember Brandow	: MJ Eng.; Delaware; Ryan Biggs; Chazen
Councilmember Ragaini	: MJ Eng.; Ryan Biggs; Delaware; Chazen
Councilmember Paluch	: MJ Eng.; Delaware; Ryan Biggs; Chazen
Councilmember Spinner	: MJ Eng.; Ryan Biggs; Delaware; Chazen

Two or three of the Engineering firms will be asked to come and look the site over and submit their ideas to the Board.

There was a discussion on data collection for the Assessor's office.

Board Members were reminded of the joint Village/Town Cleanup Day which will be held on April 24th behind the Village Fire House next to the new DPW building.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Abstentions-0 (8:10 p.m.)

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Abstentions-0 (8:15 p.m.)

On the motion of Councilmember Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini the following RESOLUTION #2021-26 to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement was adopted as follows:

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this 5 day of April, 2021, be and between the Cocksackie-Athens Central School District, a municipal corporation, existing by and under the laws of the State of New York, and having its principal place of business located at 24 Sunset Boulevard, Cocksackie, New York, 12051, and the Towns of Cocksackie and Athens, municipalities, existing by and under the laws of the State of New York, and having its principal places of business located at 56 Bailey Street, Cocksackie, New York 12051 and 2 First Street, Athens, New York 12015.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District and Towns of Coxsackie and Athens are named respondents in a tax certiorari matter involving The Association of Property Owners of Sleepy Hollow Lake, Inc. property for the 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 fiscal years;

WHEREAS, the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District and Towns of Coxsackie and Athens desire to continue the joint defense the said tax certiorari matter;

WHEREAS, Article 5-G, Section 119-o of the General Municipal Law of New York State specifically authorizes municipal corporations to enter into Intermunicipal cooperative agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises herein contained and other good and valuable consideration, the parties agree as follows:

1. That the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District and the Towns of Coxsackie and Athens shall, for purposes of litigation, jointly defend the tax certiorari proceeding involving the Association of Property Owners of Sleepy Hollow Lake, Inc., properties for the aforementioned fiscal years.
2. That the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District and the Towns of Coxsackie and Athens shall agree to hire and employ the law firm of E. Stewart Jones, Hacker and Murphy LLP to defend all parties to this agreement in the said tax certiorari matter.
3. That the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District and the Towns of Coxsackie and Athens shall be entitled to speak with and consult both individually and jointly with E. Stewart Jones, Hacker and Murphy LLP.
4. That the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District and the Towns of Coxsackie and Athens shall share the legal costs equally for the defense of the said tax certiorari matter up to a total cost of \$85,000, a cost to each entity not to exceed \$28,333.00.
5. Each party hereto acknowledges that they have read this Agreement, understands it and, agrees to be bound by its terms, and further acknowledges and agrees that it is the complete and exclusive statement of the agreement and understanding of the parties regarding the subject matter hereof, which supersedes and merges all prior proposals, agreements and understandings, oral and written, relating to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may not be changed orally, but only by an agreement in writing signed by the party against whom enforcement of any waiver, change, modification, extension or discharge is sought.
6. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with laws of the State of New York and the parties designate and consent to the venue and forum of the courts of the County of Greene, State of New York.
7. In the event that one or more of the provisions hereof shall be held to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, such provisions shall be deemed severable and the remaining provisions hereof shall continue in full force and effect.
8. Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving the other party thirty (30) days prior written notice of termination.
9. This Agreement may not be assigned by either party.
10. That the Superintendent of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District has executed this Agreement pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the Board of Education at a meeting thereof held on _____, 2021.
11. That the Supervisor of the Town of Coxsackie has executed this Agreement pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the Town Board at a meeting thereof held on _____, 2021.
12. That the Supervisor of the Town of Athens has executed this Agreement pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the Town Board at a meeting thereof held on April 5, 2021.
13. This Agreement shall be for an initial term of one year: the term commence _____, 2021.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – April 5, 2021

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly executed this Agreement on the day and month and year written above.

Coxsackie-Athens Central School District-

Randall Squire, Superintendent –Date: _____, 2021

Town of Coxsackie-

Richard K. Hanse, Town of Coxsackie Supervisor - Date: _____, 2021

Town of Athens-

Robert F. Butler, Jr., Town of Athens Supervisor Date: April 5, 2021

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD - REGULAR MEETING - April 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was held via Zoom on Monday April 19, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding.

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

These people also attended: Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro and Robert Brunner.

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

General Abstract #8, vouchers #140 through #175 inclusive for \$20,807.90.
Highway Abstract #8, vouchers #60 through #67 inclusive for \$12,606.77.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. read a proposed Solar Exemption to the Board.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-27 was adopted:

WHEREAS, solar and wind energy systems are now available and becoming more common in the Town of Athens; and

WHEREAS, most solar and wind energy systems are rentals and are not owned by the property owner; and

WHEREAS, the New York State exemption for solar, wind and farm waste energy systems (Application 4B-487) is a fifteen-year tax exemption for homeowners who purchase solar and wind energy systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that effective for the 2021 assessment roll, the Town of Athens will exempt solar, wind and farm energy systems from being assessed, but same will be inventoried as an improvement by the Assessor of the Town of Athens. This resolution was adopted as follows: Aye-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-1(Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed the Supervisor's Report with Board members.

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

Mr. Pierro reported that the RFQ's (Request for Qualifications) for engineering services for a new town building, that three were picked. MJ Engineering was the highest rated by the Councilmembers; with Ryan Biggs and Delaware Engineering coming in second and third. Mr. Pierro to write letter to the three finalists asking them to compare initial cost, with bid price and then the final price.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini spoke about Leeds Fire Protection. Discussion followed.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that the Highway Crew has been cleaning up trash along the sides of the roads, and they will get rid of what they collected at the joint Cleanup Day.

Mr. Farrell stated that he is looking to black top next week.

Supervisor Butler asked about the status of the boom mower. John told him hopefully before June. When asked about the Truck, he replied that the finished truck would probably arrive in mid- September.

Clean-up Day discussion followed. Members wondered where the dumpsters would go, as the new Village DPW building is there now. They will go along side of it on the south. The Sheriffs will also be there to collect unused medication. There will be NO Tires.

The Supervisor stated he finally got an answer from the Fire Chief about using the Fire House for our meeting so we will be in compliance with the State's Executive Law regarding Covid-19. We need to draw up a Covid Plan and submit it to the Village Board.

Councilmember Marv H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of April 5, 2021, as corrected. (Councilmember Paluch's name was spelled incorrectly.) Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to appoint Donald Andrews as an Alternate to the Town Planning Board for a term of 1 year, beginning 4/19/21 to 12/31/21. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to appoint Elizabeth Bruning as Secretary to the Town Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of 1 year – 4/19/21 to 12/31/21. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to appoint Gail Stacey as Secretary to the Town Planning Board for a term of 1 year- 4/19/21 to 12/31/21. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to pay the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary each \$100.00 per meeting. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion on Councilmember of Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION #2021-28 was moved for adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

The accompanying proposed Local Law No. 1 for the Year 2021 to amend and replace Section 159-3 of the Town of Athens Town Code, changing Grievance Day from the fourth Tuesday of May every year to the fourth Thursday of May every year is hereby introduced, and

A public hearing upon such proposed Local Law shall be held on May 3rd, 2021, at 7:00 pm at Athens Town Hall, 2 First Street, Athens, NY 12015, and

The Town Clerk shall publish notice of the Public Hearing upon the proposed Local Law with a summary thereof in the official newspaper at least five (5) days in advance of the Public Hearing.

Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

There will be a Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan for the Town on May 3, 2021 after the Grievance Day Local Law.

Discussion followed on Quarry Road, off of Potic Road. It doesn't meet the State Fire Code. This is a private road, with private residences.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 (8:20)

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 (8:20)

No decisions were made.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – May 3, 2021

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on May 3, 2021 at 7:00 pm, in the Athens Community Center Gym by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

These people were also present: Bookkeeper Don Pierro; Chris Pfister; Barbara Trembacz; Fran McCusker; Michael Pirrone; Theresa Cardinale; Sheila Brady; Tom Satterlee; Merrill & Ellen Roth; Nancy Poylo; Annika Vogt; Robert Brunner; Maria Butler and Patrick Doyle.

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

General Abstract #9, vouchers #176 through #202 inclusive for \$19,799.96.

Highway Abstract #9, vouchers #68 through #79 inclusive for \$6,043.81

Trust & Custodian (was Agency)

Abstract #1, voucher #1- Packham Industries \$390.00

Abstract #1, voucher #1- Verizon \$715.00

Abstract #1, voucher #1 – Freepoint Solar \$715.00

The Notice of Public Hearing for the Proposed Local Law #1 of 2021 was read by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. as it appeared in the Official Newspaper.

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion to open the public hearing seconded by Councilmember Micheal Ragaini. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion to close the public hearing seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch the following RESOLUTION #2021-29 Adopting Local Law No. 1 for 2021 was adopted as follows:

Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2021

A local law Amending Chapter 159 of the Athens Town Code, by replacing Section 159- (entitled “Grievance Day”) in its entirety.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Athens as follows:

Town Code Chapter 159, Section 159-3 (entitled “Grievance Day”) is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

Section 159-3. Grievance Day.

All grievances addressed to assessments of real property within the Town of Athens shall be heard by the Board by of Assessment Review of the Town of Athens on the fourth Thursday in May each year.

Final adoption May 3, 2021, designated as local law No. 1 of 2021.

Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2021-30 to adopt the Village/Town Comprehensive Plan** 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 review and approve the final Comprehensive Plan after the Public Hearing on May 3, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, the Town and Village of Athens undertook a project to update their 2007 Joint Comprehensive Plan. This new plan, initially begun in 2020 and referred to as the Village/Town Comprehensive Plan (“The Plan”), reflects the issues, trends, and needs of the current community. It is based in part on data, analysis, and public input conveyed to a volunteer Village/Town Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, (“Committee”). This Plan should be considered as a collective community vision that provides a roadmap to guide future projects, programs, and decision-making and,

WHEREAS, it is true that Community input was very important to the development of this Plan. Although developed in the middle of a Covid-19 Pandemic, a great deal of public input was still collected from a Town Wide survey, a joint Village/Town Board Workshop, input from the Committee, and public hearings and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby held a public hearing on Monday May 3, 2021, closed the public hearing and voted to approve the Comprehensive Plan this date May 3, 2021 and that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 3rd day of May in the year 2021.

Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-2 (Paluch; Spinner) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion to go into Executive Session seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to discuss a personnel issue. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 (7:44 pm)

No decisions were made.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting, seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 (8:00 pm)

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – May 17, 2021

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on May 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm, at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House, 39 Third St., by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Barbara Trembacz; Francis McCusker; Michael Campbell; Kurt Andernach; Theresa Cardinale; Linda Ferrucci and Robert Brunner.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid:
General Abstract #10, vouchers #203 through #204 inclusive for \$20,887.99.
Highway Abstract #10, vouchers #73 through #79 inclusive for \$3,547.58.

Abstract #9, voucher #196 paid 5/18/21, check 17681; (It was on hold.)

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini informed the Board that he sent a Notice of Violation Letter registered mail to a home owner for building a deck without a building permit, on Gypsy Point Road.

Short Term Rental: Albert advised the Board that Mr. Peck's Cabin on Potic Mountain Road, (which he has one certificate for) he has had since 2017. Mr. Peck has sent e-mails, checks, letters etc. to renew this illegal Short Term Rental, but has only received violation letters in return. Mr. Gasparini will be getting these records together for the Supervisor and the Attorney.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that there was a good showing for Cleanup Day.

The Highway crew has been black topping; patching; and prepping roads for work. The Engineer has been building the culvert structure, however Mr. Farrell thinks that it won't be ready in time, he suggested that we purchase it this year and store it for installation next year.

Highway Superintendent Farrell suggested selling the mower this year on Auctions International; he stated he would bring the paperwork in on June 7th.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro presented proposals from Sickler, Torchia Allen & Churchill, CPA's PC for the following: The Tax Collecting Officers; Fiscal Oversight Responsibility of the Town Clerk; and the Annual Financial Report. (AUD)
This will require 2 departmental reviews. Estimates will be given at the next meeting.

Mr. Pierro reported that Councilmember Anthony Paluch, Councilmember Mary H. Brandow and our Negotiator Elayne Gold ^{met} to work on the Highway Union Contract. They made some language changes. They added in longevity periods of 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years. They also changed the Contract to a calendar year Jan-Dec.

Discussion followed.

On the motion of Councilmember Tony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-31 was adopted as follows:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TOWN OF ATHENS HIGHWAY UNIT CONTRACT;

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to ratify and approve the Town of Athens Teamsters Highway Unit Contract from June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2024 and,

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – May 17, 2021

WHEREAS, the Town of Athens team undertook the process of negotiating a new contract which currently expires on May 31, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, this Board Resolution provides as back up a Memorandum of Agreement agreed to by all parties participating, along with a detailed letter from the Town of Athens Counsel for this Union contract negotiation and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of Athens hereby ratifies the Teamsters Highway Unit Contract commencing from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2024 on this date May 17, 2021 and that the foregoing resolution shall become effective the first day (1st) of June in the year 2021.

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

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to make the following Memorandum of Understanding proposing to change the Union Contract ending period from May 31, 2024 to December 31, 2024 to coincide with the Town of Athens Calendar year end December 31, 202X. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to approve the minutes of May 3, 2021 as read. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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

A new list of potential building permit fees was presented. This will be brought up again at the next meeting.

Residents Michael Campbell and Kurt Andernach asked about 911. They also handed out a letter from a resident who couldn't make it to the meeting. Their concern is with condition of the road. According to them, it is in very bad shape, and ^{they} feel that a fire truck or emergency vehicle would not be able to navigate this road without damage. They are looking for someone to fix this road. Also asked who was responsible for 911.

Mr. Campbell's main concern is the Peck cabin, which is in violation of the Short Term Rental because there is no water, electric or bathroom facility. He feels it is a health hazard. People park out on the main road and nobody can get past them. Discussion followed.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

ATHENS TOWNS BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – June 7, 2021

A regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on June 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm, in the Village Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also there: Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Tom Satterlee; Barbara Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Robert Brunner; Michael Pirrone; E. Timothy Mercer; Constance Pazin and Ruth Wittlinger.

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

General Abstract# 11, vouchers #224 through #255 inclusive for \$13,384.05.

Highway Abstract #11, vouchers #80 through #98 inclusive for \$72,052.11.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that the surplus Diamond Boom Mower, Model #RBM-C-W was advertised on Auctions International and the Highest Bid was for \$5,200.00.

He asked the Board how they felt about the bid price. They advised him if he was happy, to accept the bid;

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-33 that Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell be authorized to accept the bid price of \$5,200.00 for the sale of the surplus boom mower from Auctions international was adopted. Ayes-5(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstention-0

Mr. Farrell explained that engineering got off to a slow start and he doesn't feel that they will have the culvert structure to us in time to get it installed properly. (Schoharie Turnpike culvert project.) He thinks it should be stored and installed next year (2022). He would also like to add to guiderail update projects on Leeds Athens Road, totaling \$55,733.36, installation and purchasing of rail would be off the Greene Highway bid.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini the following RESOLUTION #2021-34, that the 2021 Expenditure of Highway Monies between the Highway Superintendent and the Town Board (Resolution #2021-23, Road Agreement) be changed as follows: 1) To remove NYS CHIPS: keep the engineering, and the purchase of the culvert, (but don't do the job until next year.) 2) Add 2 guiderail update projects on Leeds Athens Road totaling \$55,733.36. (Installation and purchasing of guiderail would be off Greene County Highway Bid.) The current CHIPS balance is \$109,577.20. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Town Justices Constance Pazin and E. Timothy Mercer were next on the agenda. Judge Mercer informed the Town Board that Judge Pazin and he had reviewed the two resumes that they had received for the position of Court Clerk and had chosen the one they felt was the most qualified. Judge Mercer then introduced Ruth Wirtlinger, from Ancram. Ms. Wittlinger gave the Town Board her resume, and said she belongs to the Unified Court System already. The Board welcomed her, and she will start working June 14, 2021.

Mr. Pierro informed the Board that he has been reviewing the Town Hand Book and it looks like there are 9 articles that need to be edited. None of these affect the Highway Department. Mr. Pierro stated that he will be working with Attorney George D. McHugh on these edits.

Mr. Pierro handed out copies of the new lists of proposed fees for Code fees.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to accept and use the new list of Code Fees for 2021 beginning right away.

Certificate of Occupancy – (residential)	\$100	Certificate of Occupancy- (commercial)	\$150
Temporary Certificate of Occupancy	\$100	Certificate of Compliance	\$75
Operating Permit	\$75	Septic Permit (Res.)	\$100

Septic Permit-Commercial- \$200

Demolition Permit (Residential) \$150 Plus cost of special permits

Demolition Permit (Commercial) \$250 Plus cost of special permits

Letters for Cert. of Occ., Pre. Date & Build Violation-(Residential) \$100

Letters for Cert. of Occ., Pre Date & Building Violation (Commercial) \$150

Residential Building Permit Fees –Based on Est. Assed. Val.

\$20,000 to \$ 50,000 \$250.00

\$50,001 to \$100,000 \$500.00

\$100,001 to \$150,000 \$750.00

\$150,001 to \$200,000 \$1,000.00

\$200,001 to \$250,000 \$1,200.00

Anything over \$250,201: the fee will be ½ of 1%

Permit Extension (ONE TIME ONLY) for 1 year 25% of original permit

Additional extension

Discretion of Code Enforcement Officer

Late filing Fees will double if work begins without proper building permit

Commercial Building permit fees- construction amount based on square footage

New Commercial Construction

\$1.00 Per Sq./ft.

Addition

.50 Per Sq./ft.

Solar

Residential Solar

Minimum \$150.00 or \$.50 per Sq. Ft.

Large Scale Solar

\$1,000/MW

Decks

Prebuilt Shed/ Garage

\$.40 per Sq. Ft.

\$100.00

Above Ground Pool

\$100.00

In-Ground Pool

\$200.00

FILL PERMITS

Residential – First 999 CY, anything over 1,000 CY \$50.00-999 CY or less, \$25.00 for ea.
additional 1,000 yds.

Commercial-First 999 CY, anything over 1,000 CY \$250-999 CY or less, \$25.00 for ea.
additional 1,000 yds.

FIREWORKS PERMIT

\$150.00

Fire Inspections (All Occupancies except R-1)

\$100.00

R-1 Occupancy

\$100.00 per building for first 25 rooms and \$1.00
for each additional room over 25.

ATHENS TOWNS BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – June 7, 2021

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed budget transfers with the Board that needed to be made.

On the motion of Councilmember Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner RESOLUTION #2021-39 to make the following Budget Transfers 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 certain excess funds within General Fund A and to replenish certain expenditures (A) Fund (see below) totaling \$28,000, and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve such appropriate Transfer of Funds between General Fund Budget lines the Town Board shall authorize said Budget 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 un-restricted funds and available to be transferred no later than June 8, 2021 and,

WHEREAS, the amount of un-restricted funds for this Transfer total \$28,000.00 and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

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

RESOLVED that the foregoing Budget Transfer shall become effective this 7th day of June in the year 2021.

	Fund	Increase	Decrease	modified bud. bal.
Office supplies	1010.4	750		3250
Dues & Subscriptions	1110.4	1000		2000
Postage	1330.4	500		2250
office supplies	1410.4	500		900
Postage	1410.4	500		950
other legal	1420.4	9000		67500
Building Exp.	1610.43		28000	5000
Copy paper (all dept.)	1610.46	1500		3000
Building & Grounds Cap.	1620.2	10000		25000
Judgements & Claims	1950.4	1000		2500
Contingency Exp.	1990.4	2250		5750
Social Security	9030.8	1000		33000
	Totals	28000	28000	

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

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner
Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstention-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p. m.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – June 21, 2021

At 6:15 pm. the following people met with Mr. Laurence P. Farbstein, President of IUVC, Inc. (Industrial & Utility /Valuation Consultants, Inc.): Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilmember Mary H. Brawdow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Town Clerk Linda M Stacey; Attorney George McHugh; Assessor Dawn DeRose; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro; Barbara Trembacz; Francis McCusker and Theresa Cardinale.

Mr. Farbstein presented his proposal for the Town of Athens Upcoming Systematic Review with respect to providing Real Property Assessment and Taxation Consultant Services. He also submitted his resume and Real Property Assessment and Taxation Consultation Qualifications.

Included in his proposal were other Cities and Towns he has helped: City of Albany; Town of Colonie; Town of Coeymans; Town of Guilderland; Town of New Scotland; Town of Newburgh Town of East Greenbush; Town of Haverstraw; Town of Hadley; City of Schenectady; Town of Huntington; City of Rye and the City of Mt. Vernon.

This non-reappraisal systematic review has, as its goal, assessment equity both within and among the various property classes located in the Town. As such, the goal is to recalibrate the current taxable assessments in the Town, conforming to current and recent real estate market trends within the residential, commercial, industrial, and vacant property classes.

New York State ORPTS is responsible for the equalization rate

At 6:58 pm. Mr. Farbstein and Assessor DeRose left.

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. at The Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, at 7:00 pm. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The same people as listed in the first paragraph, were in attendance as well as the following: Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Micheal Pirrone; Robert Brunner; Patrick Doyle and Randall Squier, Cocksackie-Athens CS Superintendent of Schools.

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

General Abstract, #12, vouchers #256 through #281 inclusive for \$30,041.24.

Highway Abstract, #12 vouchers #99 through #104 inclusive for \$23,550.79.

Trust & Custodian Abstract# 2, voucher#2, \$260.00.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported on two (2) violations: 1) 279 Church Street (Old Gypsy Point Boarding House) Property Maintenance. Renovating house and leaving building debris around house. (2) 359 Green Lake Road. Renovating and building addition with no building permit.

The following are Short Term Rentals in Athens: 51 Thorpe Road; 862 Potic Mountain Road; 19 S Greenwood Lane; 216 Route 385.

There is one (1) Fireworks Permit in Sleepy Hollow, to be used for their Fourth of July Celebration.

Mr. Gasparini reported that there were 10 building permits; There were 14 building inspections.

There was 1 Certificate of Occupancy.

There were 2 Temporary Certificate of Occupancy.

Certificate of Compliance-1

Certificates of Occupancy Search Request-5

Short Term Rental Certificates-1 (862 Potic Mountain Rd.)

Mr. Gasparini made a request to hire the Flats Brothers Landscaping LLC to clean up the Verizon Building Property (on Route 385), of trees and brush around the building and over grown grass on the property.

The Rustic Cabin on Poetic Mountain Creek, owned by Dresser Properties, Inc., was issued an Appearance Ticket. They have a Court Date of July 15, 2021 at 2:00 PM. This property was removed from having a Short Term Rental Certificate. Owner continued to use property as a Short Term Rental after receiving violation notices.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro reported that the Highway Union Contract has gone to the Lawyer to be typed.

Mr. Pierro informed the Board that he and Attorney McHugh had reviewed the Town Handbook, with only 2 articles remaining to be reviewed and corrected. They had made corrections in the parts that they had reviewed. The Board will be given copies when they are finished, so they can review it, and see if any more changes need to be made.

Bookkeeper Pierro advised the Board that Supervisor Butler had given him the paperwork for the Corona Virus Stimulus money, so it could be filled out. He reported that he is still working on it.

At this Time Cxsackie Athens CSD Superintendent of Schools, Randall Squier addressed the Board. He announced that this year's graduation was going to be held outside, at 6:00 PM.

They want to move all K through 2 to EJA Elementary School, and all grade 3 through 12 to Cxsackie. The Board of Education voted to retire the School Mascot and Mascot name after many years. Students receive personalized attention; Project Based Learning; Support; Opportunities. There were many more updates spoken about.

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of May 17, 2021 as read. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to accept and approve the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Patrick Doyle, of Flint Mine Solar advised the Board that he had met with the Town Planning Board. Several of the properties need sub-divisions and field work on them.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – July 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order at 7:00 pm on July 6, 2021 at the Village Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Michael Pirrone; Barbara Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker and Robert Brunner.

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

General Abstract #13, vouchers # 282 through #317 inclusive for \$35,065.04.

Highway Abstract #13, vouchers #105 for \$5331.72.

Trust & Custodian- Freeport Solar: Abstract #2, voucher #2 for \$65.00.

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of June 7, 2021 as read. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of June 21, 2021 as read. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-40 to Hire Laurence Farbstein for Systematic Evaluation for Providing Real Property Assessment and Taxation Consultant Services as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to procure Contracted Consulting Services for the upcoming Systematic Review of Property Classes within the Town of Athens; and to make corrections within such classes which will drive corrections to the Equalization Rate beginning June 2022 through June 2023. The Town received two proposals from firms in the Albany area and tentatively agreed on Mr. Farbstein. Additionally there may be additional representation needed in the event any Certiorari's or Small Claims complaints arise as the result of this process. The funds for these additional items will be on a different Budget Line as estimated during the applicable Budget Process.

WHEREAS, in order to meet such financial requirements the Town Board shall authorize the funding in the 2022 and 2023 Budgets which will be confirmed by the Budget Officer at a public meeting of the Town Board to be determined, and

WHEREAS, the current funds to meet this obligation are duly held at the National Bank of Cossackie, Athens, New York, and said funds are currently un-restricted funds and will be available within the respective Annual Budgets, and

WHEREAS, the amount for these contracted services were quoted at a price of \$30,000.00 for the basic advisory & statistical analysis for 2022 and an additional \$30,000.00 for the 2023 Budget year and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes the hiring of Laurence P. Farbstein, President, IUVC, Inc., and it is further

RESOLVED that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 6th day of July in the year 2021.

Adopted as follows: Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-1 (Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro went over the Employee Handbook that he and Attorney McHugh had revised, with underlines and cross outs that were made for any changes. The revised handbook will be discussed and voted on at the July 19th meeting. (Everyone received a copy of the handbook so they can review it.)

Supervisor Butler reported that he received a letter from the Court requesting a new HP Laser Jet Pro M428fdw monochrome Laser Multifunction Printer with duplexing. The new copier will cost \$450.00. The old copier's drum is dying.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow that the Court be authorized to purchase the copier listed above to replace the old one. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The IDA yearly report showed that the true-up for the Town is \$00.

Bookkeeper Don Pierro reported that we had another candidate submit an application for Data Collector, for the Assessor's Office. Her name is Jeanine Thompson. She met with Assessor Dawn DeRose and Bookkeeper Pierro, last Thursday.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to hire Jeanine Thompson as the new data collector to work with Robert Brunner to finish up collecting the data for the Town. Ayes-5(Brunner; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler advised the Board that he had received an e-mail from Supervisor Dale Finch for Catskill with regard to the Catskill; Athens; Leeds Fire Protection Contract.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to go into Executive Session to discuss salaries. Ayes-5(Brunner; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time: 7:31pm

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting. Ayes-5(Brunner; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 7:37 pm

The Town Board decided to stay at \$17.00 per hour for the date collectors. discussion followed.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstent-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – July 19, 2021

The Athens Town Board met on Monday, July 19, 2021 at 6:20 p.m. at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House with the following people present:

Those present: Deputy Supervisor Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Assessor Dawn DeRose; Attorney George McHugh; Larry Farbstein; Christine Douglass; Dan Tilley; John Wolham; Paul & Niki Miller;

Mr. John Wolham introduced himself and had the other State Officials present, introduce themselves.

Mr. Wolham told the Board that the people in this group were the people that that would monitor the files and the statistical information as it comes in by July 1, 2022, The Tentative Roll.

Discussion followed and several questions were asked. Then the State Officials and the assessor left.

At 7:05 p.m. Deputy Supervisor Michael Ragaini called the regular meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

These people also attended the meeting: Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell; Justice E. Tim Mercer; Barbara Trembacz; Robert Brunner and Albert Gasparini.

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

General Abstract #14, vouchers #318 through #335 inclusive for \$14,057.14.

Highway Abstract #14, vouchers #106 through #114 inclusive for \$48,406.24.

Trust & Custodian: Verizon: Abstract #2, voucher #2 for \$520.00.

Peckham: Abstract #3, voucher #3 for \$780.00.

Fire Districts: Abstract #1, voucher #1 for \$1,623.74

Abstract #1, voucher #2 for \$ 552.07

Abstract #1, voucher #3 for \$1,071.67

Total Abstract #1 **\$3,247.48**

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported on June activities.

He issued 4 building permits and did 12 building inspections.

He answered building permit inquiries; questions regarding home renovation; storage sheds, garage, Septic System, Short Term Rentals, and signs permits.

One Certificate of Occupancy was issued; One Certificate of Compliance was issued.

There were 18 Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests made..

Rustic Cabin on Poetic Mountain Creek, Dresser Properties, Inc. An Appearance Ticket was sent to Mr. Peck, for a Court date to be held on August 12, 2021 at 2:00 pm. The Process Server was not able to serve Mr. Peck, so it will be attached to his residence, at 314 Quarry Road.

Mr. Gasparini has been monitoring 279 Church Street (Old Gypsy Point Boarding House) on Property Maintenance. They have renovated the house and have left debris around the house.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that they will start paving . Mr. Farrell advised the Board that the new Boom Mower arrived today.

Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed the Supervisor's Report with the Board.

Mr. Pierro informed the Board that he has been working with Attorney Elayne Gold to get the Union Contract typed and delivered.

Bookkeeper Pierro informed the Board that the Town should be getting \$119,000 in Stimulus money sometime between the end of July and Beginning of August.

Mr. Pierro spoke about a procurement policy.

The Board reviewed the Ambulance Contract with the Town of Catskill. Bookkeeper Pierro informed the Board that he pulled out 2020-2021's contract to compare.

Attorney McHugh commented on paragraph number 5 which reads: "It is understood and agreed by and between the parties hereto that Catskill retains the right to file claims for reimbursement with the insurance carriers of those using Catskill services under this contract." He said he would look in to these soft billing costs.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the minutes of July 6, 2021, as corrected. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstention-0 (Date to review revised handbook is July 19th not July 21st.)

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to approve and accept the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstention-0

Bookkeeper Don Pierro and Attorney George McHugh reviewed the Employee Handbook revisions with the Board members.

John J. Farrell asked questions about Section #705- Medical Plan and the wording. He also asked about Section #706 –Medical Insurance Buyout- For those who have it now. Discussion followed.

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to authorize the Attorney to inquire about the Horowitz Property at 31 Old Kings Road adjacent to the Highway Garage, and if available get an appraisal. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstention-0

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstention-0

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – August 2, 2021

Deputy Supervisor Michael Ragaini called the regular meeting of the Athens Town Board to order on August 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House.

The following people were present: Deputy Supervisor Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M Stacey. (Supervisor Robert F. Butler was absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro; Town Justice E. Timothy Mercer; Barbara Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Michael and Robert Brunner.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid:
General Abstract #15, vouchers # 336 through #360 inclusive for \$33,125.18.
Highway Abstract #15, vouchers # 115 through #118 inclusive for \$6,665.36.

Deputy Supervisor Ragaini called for approval on the minutes of July 19, 2021.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to approve the minutes of July 19, 2021 as read. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to approve the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that they finished the CHIPS sealing. It went well. He said the guide rail project would be next. He has been working with the engineer and they are waiting on prices.

The Ambulance Contract between the Town of Catskill and the Town of Athens was brought up for discussion and signing.
Discussion followed on the fees: Fees due from the Town of Athens for services rendered as set forth in paragraph 1, during 2022 shall be \$109,105 and during 2023 \$117,000.
Paragraph #5: This means that Catskill will bill only if the patient has insurance and Catskill will accept whatever payment is received from the insurance company. The insured may also be subject to their respective co-payment if applicable. If someone uses the ambulance service and has no insurance they will be billed at 100 % (This was added to section #5.)

Mr. Pierro stated that this contract needs to pass at least one year.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow that the Town Board passes the Town of Catskill / Town of Athens Ambulance Contract for one year (2022) with the changes listed above, and authorizes the Supervisor to sign it and return it to Catskill. Ayes-3 (Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-1 (Paluch) Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

The Employee Handbook was reviewed by the Board; Sections # 705 and Section 708 were discussed.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to adopt the Employee Handbook with changes as presented. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

The Town Board was presented a Procurement Policies and Procedures document which was review and then voted on.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch the following RESOLUTION #2021-42 PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND

PROCEDURES was adopted as follows:

1. Every prospective purchase of goods or services shall be evaluated to determine the applicability of General Municipal Law, Sub-section 103. Every officer, board department head or other personnel with the requisite purchasing authority (hereinafter Purchaser) shall estimate the cumulative amount of the items of supply or equipment needed in a given fiscal year. That estimate shall include the canvass of other departments and past history to determine the likely yearly value of the commodity to be acquired. The information gathered and conclusions reached shall be documented and kept with the file or the other documentation supporting the purchase activity.

2. *All purchases of supplies or equipment which will exceed \$20,000.00 in the fiscal year or public works over \$35,000.00 shall be formally bid pursuant to GML, paragraph 103.*

3. All estimated purchases of supplies or equipment of:

Less than \$ 20,000.00 but greater than \$3,000.00 requires a written request for a proposal (RFP) and written/fax quotes from three (3) vendors based on departmental recommendations, and shall be approved by the Town Board.

Less than \$3,000.00 but greater than \$1,000.00 requires a written request for the goods and written/fax quotes from two (2) vendors based on departmental recommendations and shall be approved by the Town Board.

Less than \$1,000.00 but greater than \$200.00 requires an oral request for the goods and oral/fax quotes from two (2) vendors which shall be approved by the Town Supervisor.

Less than \$200.00 but greater than 0 are left to discretion of purchaser and shall be approved by the Supervisor.

4. ALL estimated Public Works to include Highway Department contracts of:

Less than \$35,000.00 but greater than \$10,000.00 requires a written RFP and fax/proposal from three (3) contractors based on departmental recommendations and shall be approved by the Town Board.

Less than \$10,000.00 but greater than \$3,000.00 requires a written RFP and fax/proposal from two (2) contractors based on departmental recommendations and shall be approved by the Town Board.

Less than \$3,000.00 but greater than \$500.00 is left to the discretion of the Purchaser and shall be approved by the Town Superintendent of Highways.

Any written RFP shall describe the desired goods, quantity and the particulars of delivery. The purchaser shall compile a list of all vendors from whom written/fax/oral quotes have been requested and the written/fax/oral quotes offered.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – August 2, 2021

All information gathered in complying with the procedures of this policy shall be preserved and filed with the documentation supporting the subsequent purchase or public works contract.

5. The lowest responsible proposal or quote shall be awarded the contract unless the Purchaser prepares a written justification providing reasons why it is in the best interest of the Town and its taxpayers to make an award to other than the low bidder. If a bidder is not deemed responsible, facts supporting that judgement shall also be documented and filed with the record supporting the procurement.

6. A good faith effort shall be made to obtain the required number of proposals or quotations. If the purchaser is unable to obtain the required number of proposals quotations, the Purchaser shall document the attempt made at obtaining the proposals. In no event shall the inability to obtain the proposals or quotes be a bar to the procurement.

7. *Except when directed by the Town Board, no solicitation of written proposals or quotations shall be required under the following circumstances.*

- a. Acquisition of professional service;
 - b. Emergencies;
 - c. Sole source situations;
 - d. Goods purchased from agencies for the blind or severely handicapped;
 - e. Goods purchased from correctional facilities;
 - f. Goods purchased from another governmental agency;
 - g. Goods purchased under federal, state, or county contract;
 - h. Goods purchased at auction;
- Documentation should be provided which details why procurement is not subject to competitive bidding:
- ❖ Description of facts giving rise to emergency;
 - ❖ Description of professional services;
 - ❖ Copies of state or county contracts;
 - ❖ Description of sole source item and how such determination was made.

8. *This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Town Board.*

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

On the motion of Councilmember Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner the following RESOLUTION #2021-43 to approve Attorney George D. McHugh, P.C.'s Letter of Engagement to provide legal services to the Town of Athens in connection with an Article 78 proceeding filed on July 9, 2021for the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Code Enforcement Officer, Albert Gasparini, on behalf of Dresser properties (Peck) in Greene County Supreme Court.

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

A letter of Thanks was received from the Town of Coxsackie Mayor, Mark Evans for the Town Highway Department's response to Coxsackie's call for assistance when they suffered a Microburst with 100 mph winds on July 7, 2021.

Clerk to advertise for Community Foundation members and for Planning and Zoning Members.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – August 2, 2021

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to move Planning Board member Don Andrews up to fill the vacant seat of Planning Board member Fred Dedrick (due to his passing) which expires December 31, 2023. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

A letter was received from Boy Scout Troop 45, Coxsackie/Athens, N.Y. announcing the achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout by Addison Vota. His Eagle Court of Honor will be held on August 28, 2021, at 1:00 pm at the Athens Fire House. The Supervisor and Town Board were invited to attend, and to speak.

Mr. Micheal Campbell came before the Board to present two letters. The first letter was sent to the Supervisor and the Board members RE: the Legal status of roadway-565 Potic Mountain Road. This was sent by Mr. Campbell's Attorney. The second letter was a copy of a letter which was sent to Mr. Campbell's Attorney, from Greene County Director of Emergency Services, John P. Farrell, Jr. referring him to the Town of Athens. Discussion followed.

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to move ZBA Member Eric Nelson to Vice Chairman with the same expiration term (12/31/2021), on the Zoning Board of Appeals, so that someone will be able to run the ZBA meetings if the Chairman is unable to make. Ayes-4 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Butler) Abstentions-0

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P. M.

Town of Athens Board Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2021

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board came to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following Board Members were in attendance: Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilman Michael Ragani; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilwoman Shannon Spinner. Also in attendance: Deputy Town Clerk Gail M. Stacey. Councilman Anthony Paluch, Superintendent John J. Farrell and Attorney George McHugh were absent.

The following people were also in attendance: Lawrence Styles; Annika Vogt; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Lynn Brunner; Thomas Satterlee; Tim Mercer; James Lee; Jeff Stockbrine; Merrill Roth; Ellen Roth; Robert Brunner; Carol Pfister; Chris Pfister; Phyllis Dinkelacker; Rickie Gabrielle; M.K. Garvey; Mayor Amy Serrago, Fred Gillen, Jr.; Cari Gardner; Donald Gardner; Village Clerk Mary Jo Wynne; Kathy Jackson; Marla Butler; Michael Campbell; Village Board Member Gail Lasher; Rick Surran; Nora Adelman.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid:
General Abstract #17. Voucher #388 through #416 inclusive for **\$21,090.28.**
Highway Abstract #17. Voucher #126 through #141 inclusive for **\$66,740.01.**

The Board previously audited the following bills from the meeting of August 16, 2021 that had been cancelled: **General Abstract #16** voucher # 361 through #387 inclusive for **\$5,249.25** and **Highway Abstract #16** voucher #119 through #125 inclusive for **\$58,839.94.** All bills from this abstract have been paid.

Mayor Amy Serrago and Village Board Member Gail Lasher came before the Board to discuss whether the Town of Athens would be rehabilitating the existing building or building a new Town Hall. Supervisor Butler had previously discussed the past lease agreement with the Mayor and Gail Lasher prior to the meeting. The past agreement to take over the building was never rescinded nor had there been a motion to do so.

A motion to rescind and remove the motion of the agreement of five years ago to transfer ownership of the building from the Village to the Town was made by Councilman Michael Ragani and seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner.

Ayes: 2(Ragani;Spinner) Noes: 2(Butler;Brandow) Absent: 1(Paluch) Abstentions: 0

Motion did not carry. A second vote will take place at the next scheduled Board meeting with all members present.

Further discussion occurred with Mayor Amy Serrago stating that the Village wants to move forward and is willing to make the investment into rehabilitating the building with the Town. The Comprehensive Plan between the Town and Village states that the members of the community want the Town and Village offices to stay together in the same building. If the Town does not stay in the building, then the Village is looking to collect the past 3 years in rent or utilities in full and also cleaning costs. Also, there would be an agreement drawn up between the Town and Village for as long as the Town needs to occupy the building until the new facility is built. Supervisor Butler in formed the attendees that this meeting was not a public hearing but questions would be answered. Gail Lasher stated that, even though the Village owns the building, there is a covenant in the deed with Cocksackie Athens School District that has certain guidelines as far as the building is concerned and one of them is that the building cannot be sold. Several attendees asked about rehabilitation costs versus new building costs. Figures could not be given at this time. It was also stated that the Town should consider the residents of the community when making its decision to stay in the building or build a new facility. Councilman Michael Ragani gave a presentation on existing building and/or new building.

If the Town Board votes to stay in the existing building, the rehabilitation will be done as a whole and not room by room. Previous studies have shown that the existing building and foundation are structurally sound. Residents would like a cost comparison for existing building versus new building. If the Town stays in the building, then more grants/additional funding would be available for renovations because the building is historical which the engineers would seek out. With cash in reserves, up to half of costs could initially be paid. The intent is not just to sign a bond for the amount and pass it along. The project is not subject to Permissive Referendum but certain aspects of the money would be. Gail Lasher would like the elected

officials to take into consideration the feelings of the majority of the community and stay in the existing building with the Village.

Rick Surrano came before the Board with a few more questions in regards to the vote from five years ago about taking over the building. As a previous councilman of the Town Board who voted for staying and rehabilitating the building, he wanted to know what has changed since then. The answer given was the delay on the initial motion to take over and environmental changes. He also wanted to know, at today's costs, if a new building could be built at around 1.8 million dollars. Don Pierro, Bookkeeper/Budget Officer of the Town informed Mr. Surrano that the numbers may be available at the next Town Board meeting. Supervisor Butler added that the initial cost projected to rehab the existing building came in at around 3 million dollars.

The Town Clerk's Report was reviewed by the Board. Councilman Michael Ragiani made a motion to accept the Town Clerk's Report seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner. Ayes-4(Butler;Ragiani;Brandow;Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0. Motion carried.

The Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2021 were reviewed by the Board. Councilman Michael Ragiani made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Councilwoman Mary Brandow. Ayes-3(Ragiani;Brandow;Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-1(Butler). Motion carried.

A resident on Howard Hall Rd. had a complaint about speed but was not present at the meeting to discuss the matter. There was a short discussion amongst the Board in regards to the issues on that road which is a county road. Supervisor Butler will reach out to Scott Templeton to see if he has had any complaints and to hopefully get some of the issues taken care of.

Supervisor Butler inquired whether the Town Clerk's office had received any applications for the Planning, Zoning, or Community Foundation Boards. There were no applications received as to date.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. appointed Paula Butler to the Athens Community Foundation for a term of one year. This will be his yearly appointment. Any other applicants will have to be voted on.

Michael Campbell came before the Board in regards to Quarry Rd. He was informed that the Town Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro has made a draft plan (list) of things to do for Quarry Rd. and the Dresser property which has been approved by the Town Attorney George McHugh. Mr. Campbell states that the Town is not doing their job as far as the road is concerned. He also states that all the houses on said road are illegal. Supervisor Butler will have Town Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini go down there and do a proper inspection of all properties. Mr. Campbell discussed the Dresser (Peck) property and he was informed that Code Enforcement has been directed to pull his application and that Mr. Peck has received many violations. Quarry Rd. is a private, unpassable, 911 road. Mr. Campbell owns up to the power lines and several acres of land. The Draft Plan was discussed along with 911 status of Quarry Rd. There are several issues that need to be dealt with. The rental of an ATV may be an option to get down into road to do inspections, issue violations, etc. Drones may also be another alternative to get a lay of the land. It was also asked if Rolling Hills Rd. and Lime Kiln Rd. would also be considered for inspection. Forest Rangers may also be utilized for the maps of the roads. Copies of the deeds for the properties on Quarry Rd. will be obtained.

Councilman Michael Ragiani made a motion to accept the Draft Plan for Quarry Rd. seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner. Ayes-4(Butler;Ragiani;Brandow;Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0. Motion carried.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro presented the Supervisors Report to the Board for review and discussion. Three out of the four funds still have a surplus. The B Fund has a slight deficiency. Two funds have been appropriated. Bank reconciliations are fine. The final copy of the Union Contract has been received and just waiting for signature page. Employee Handbook was completed August 2, 2021. 50 percent of the ARPA funds have been received. Funds have to be used a specific way and getting equipment for infrastructure repairs may be a stretch. The Town will be getting reimbursed for wages paid and lost revenue in the court due to the co-vid closure. Funds are very restrictive. The Procurement Policy is final with no specific changes. Supervisor Butler met with Supervisor Finch of Catskill to help improve one of the fire

companies in the district. Don will be helping with the financials and has come up with a 2022 Budget for said fire company and is being reviewed by Mr. Finch. Deadline for budget is coming near. A new CPA firm has been suggested for the fire company and they will be adopting that. Assessor Dawn DeRose has a couple of requests in regard to Mr. Farbstein and certain work needed before he starts next year. Alison Dooley, retired NYSRPTS, has been brought on to help out with back log. Supervisor Butler had a question in regards to the State Mortgage Tax. Funds received will be used for over budgeted expenditure lines and for the needed work in the assessor's office.

Councilwoman Shannon Spinner made a motion to accept the Supervisors Report seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini.
Ayes-4(Butler;Ragaini;Brandow;Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Board, Councilwoman Shannon Spinner made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Councilwoman Mary Brandow.
Ayes-4(Butler;Ragaini;Brandow;Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – September 20, 2021

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. called the regular meeting of Athens Town Board to order on September 20, 2021, at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House, on Third Street, at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Councilmembers Mary H. Brandow and Shannon Spinner were absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Barbara Trembacz; Michael Pirrone; Joanne Higgins; Nelson Jr.; Lynn Brunner; Nancy Poylo; Gail Lasher; Gail Lasher; Susan Brady; Sheila Brady; Lawrence Styles; Timothy Mercer; Kathy Jackson; Robert Brunner; Susan Grilli; Patricia Fleming; Carol & Chris Pfister; Donald & Carl Gardner; Patrice Miller; M.K. Garvey; Mary Ann & Richard Peters and Josh Lipsman.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid.
General Abstract #18, vouchers #417 through #437 inclusive for **\$14,735.39**.

Resident Joanne Higgins of 429 Howard Hall Road (County Rte. 53) came to speak about vehicles speeding up and down this road. Her elderly father-in-law walks across the road to get his mail, and she is afraid he is going to get hit.

Supervisor Butler advised her that generally when a road is not posted, it is 55mph. **Highway Superintendent Farrell** informed her that it is a County Road, and asked her if she had a copy of an e-mail or anything from the County. After speaking with Mrs. Higgins, Superintendent Farrell advised the Board that he had to speak with them at County tomorrow, so he would start the process.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell told the Board that they had worked on the drainage for, and had black topped Cold Spring Road.

John stated that he spoken with Greene County Solid Wasted about Clean-up Day and they are tentatively looking at the end of October: probably October 30, at the Town Highway Garage.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported the following: Three (3) building permits were issued; 16 building inspections were done;
Three (3) Certificates of Occupancies were issued: {2Pre-made cabins at Treetopia Adventure, LLC, Campground} (formerly Indian Ridge Campground)
[House at 73 Lisa Lane in Sleepy Hollow]
Certificates of Compliance- 3 for 1 garage 2 decks.
Certificates of Occupancy Search Request-8

Notes: (Short Term Rental Certificate was not renewed) - **Rustic Cabin on Poetic Mountain Creek, Dresser Properties, Inc.** Athens Court Appearance Ticket date has been moved to October 16, 2021 because of Court date change for Dresser Properties, Inc. in filing an Article 78.

2) **House at 9567 Route 9W, 2nd Notice of Violation of Expiration of Temporary Certificate of Occupancy** was issued. He spoke w/Contractor that was to finish renovation of house.

Homeowner hasn't hired the new contractor yet.

Suspension of building permit BP 21-43 as no contractor has been hired yet.

Stop Work Order issued on 9567 Route 9W for no building permit, and for removing large front porch roof sheathing.

An inspection was done of the 9w Black Horse Farm stand's "waste holding tank." Farm Stand property is to be sub-divided from the Black Horse Farm land in the Sub-division of land for the Flint Mine Solar Project.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – September 20, 2021

Discussion followed on septic systems.

Town Office: Councilmember Michael Ragaini stated that he would like to see the numbers from the last feasibility study.

Supervisor Butler informed him that with the original study, we met with the Board and answered questions.

We need an idea and scope of work before we get to involved.

Ambulance contract: Board members decided to accept the ambulance contract with Catskill for two (2) years.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to accept the ambulance contract with Catskill. Ayes-3 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch Noes-0 Absent-2 (Brandow; Spinner) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler spoke about potential changes to be made to the Code Enforcement staffing.

The Board discussed an easement on Bambi Lane so electric cable can be buried for a homeowner.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch that an easement be drawn up by our Attorney and that the Supervisor sign it so that a homeowner can bury his electric wire from the house to the electric pole, alongside of Bambi Lane. Ayes-3 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Brandow; Spinner) Abstentions-0

At this time the public was asked if they had questions, statements or discussion that they wished to make on the current building or a new building.

Several people spoke about renovating the current building, rather than spending the money for a new building, land, plans and all that goes into that.

They also didn't want to lose a piece of Athens history.

Most of those in attendance were interested in the cost differences between the "old" and the "new".

Supervisor Butler advised them, that in 2017 or 2018 the Town paid to have a feasibility study done of the building, including the structural integrity, along with a basic design.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch. Ayes-3 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Brandow; Spinner) Abstentions-0

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 pm.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 4, 2021

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr., called the regular meeting of the Athens Town Board to order on October 4, 2021 at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Donald Pierro; Lynn Brunner; Barb Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Michael Pirrone; Robert Brunner; Tim Mercer; Carol & Chris Pfister; Kathy & Andy Jackson and Miki Garvey.

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

General Abstract #19, vouchers #438 through #470 inclusive for \$14,725.39.

Highway Abstract #18, vouchers #142 through #149 inclusive for \$10,731.59.

Trust & Custodian Abstract #3: voucher #3 for \$265.00 . (Verizon)

Abstract #4 voucher #4, for \$1070.00. (Peckham)

Donald Pierro, Bookkeeper/Budget Officer reviewed the Supervisor's Report with the Board.

He has been doing backups for our CPA Firm.

He has been working with Supervisor Dale Finch of Catskill on straightening out the books for Leeds Hose Co. #1, from 2020 to 2022. This included his helping with the 5 year contract on Fire Protection from Leeds Hose, for the Towns of Catskill and Athens.

Mr. Pierro Thanked Supervisor Butler for allowing him to help Leeds Hose Co. #1 set up their books in the proper format.

Mr. Pierro stated that our budget workshop would be held here on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7:00.

He informed members that not all changes were picked up last year.

Mr. Pierro hen spoke of the Leeds fire prevention contract between the Towns of Athens and Catskill. The following is a list of proposed payments for the Town of Athens for the five year contract: for 2022 \$48,728; for 2023 \$51,054; for 2024 \$53,607; for 2025 \$56,287; and for for 2026 \$59,101.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to accept the Supervisor's Report. Ayes- (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell requested the Town Board to pass a Resolution to have the State to look at County Route 53 Howard Hall Road from NYS Route 385 to County Route 28 Schoharie Turnpike for speed.

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-44, (will be sent to the Greene County Superintendent of Highways who will request the Department of Transportation, pursuant to Section 1622.1 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, to establish a lower maximum speed at which vehicles may proceed on) County Route 53 (Howard Hall) a County Road between NYS Route 385 and County Route 28 (Schoharie Turnpike).

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

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 4, 2021

Highway Superintendent Farrell was asked to look at weight limits on Valley Road.

Joint Village and Town Cleanup Day will be held on Saturday October 30, 2021, at the Town garage.

The following County Resolutions were received: 231-'21 Awarding the Bid for Abrasives (Dry screened & washed)
#235-'21 Authorizing Chargeback of Assessment Roll Related Services & Materials
#236-'21 Amount Due County Treasurer by Respective Towns

Copy of letter received from the ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) RE: the Leeds Public Fire Protection for Athens and Catskill, meeting is scheduled for October 25th at 1:00 pm.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to appoint David Levey to serve on the Board of Assessment and Review. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler reported that he had three new names for the Community Foundation Advisory Board: Lucy Michener; Maureen Murphy; Anita Nelson.

Assessor's Office: Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to appoint Stephanie Hamilton as a part time data collector. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to appoint Allison Dooley as Assessor Assistant. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of September 7, 2021 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to approve the minutes of September 20, 2021 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to accept and approve the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

The Town received mail from Greene County IDA regarding the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project which in Greene County primarily consists of two buried transmission lines that will run along the existing CSX line until the very southern part of the County where the line will leave the CSX ROW and transverse lands of Lehigh Cement to the Hudson River where it will continue south buried under the river for +/- 1.1 miles until entering Ulster County. The Project is expected to have a three (3) year construction window.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0
Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING SPEED LIMIT

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens has received complaints from residents concerned about excessive speed and unsafe travel along county and state highways within the Town of Athens and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over traffic regulations on town, county and state highways and,

WHEREAS, unless the appropriate governmental body acts, the statewide mandated enforceable speed limit of 55MPH shall continue to apply to all roads.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby requests the NYS DOT conduct a traffic survey on County Route 53 Howard Hall Road between State Route 385 to County Route 28 Schoharie Turnpike, to facilitate the lowering of the existing speed limit.

Dated: October 4, 2021

Motion made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini

Seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow

Carried: 4- ayes 1-absent

Linda M. Stacey, Town Clerk
Town Clerk

BUDGET WORKSHOP- ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 6, 2021

A Budget workshop of the Athens Town Board was held on October 6, 2021 at the Athens Town Hall with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding. He called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Donald Pierro and Town Clerk Linda Stacey.

Supervisor Butler announced that he has only received three letters of interest for positions on the Athens Community Foundation and they are: Lucy Michener; Maureen Murphy and Anita Nelson.

Budget Officer Don Pierro went over the budget with Town Board discussing reductions or increases from this year.

Debt Service was discussed.

It was noted that Medicare is increasing.

The joint public hearing with Catskill and Leeds was discussed, Supervisor Butler suggested October 27th.

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2021-45** a public hearing will be held jointly by the Town of Athens and the Town of Catskill Boards, Greene County, New York, pursuant to the provisions of Section 184 of Town Law of the State of New York at Catskill Town Hall, 349 Main Street, Catskill, NY on Wednesday, **October 27, 2021 at 6:00 PM** for the purpose of contracting with Leeds Hose Company No. 1 for fire protection to be furnished by said Fire Department to the protection district established in said Town of Athens and Town of Catskill was adopted Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Paluch) Abstentions-0

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

Meeting adjourned 8:10 pm.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 18, 2021

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. called the regular meeting of the Athens Town Board to order on October 18, 2021 at the Village Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Councilmember Shannon Spinner was absent.)

These people were also present; Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Donald Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Michael Pirrone; Maureen Wilk; Cory Coager; Tim Mercer; Barb Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Lynn Brunner; Cari Gardner; Don Gardner; Robert Brunner; Carol Pfister; Henry M. Jaen; Giuseppina Agovino; L. Agovino; Patrick Doyle and Mary Garvey.

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

General Abstract #20, vouchers #471 through #494 inclusive for \$13,397.37.
Highway Abstract #19 Voucher #150 for \$516.86.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. called Kevin Park and Maureen Wilk forward.

Mr. Park spoke about an easement that has been granted on Bambi Lane, right where he says there is a wetland area. The man, who was granted the easement, had no paper work. Mr. Park felt that he should have been digging in the middle of the road not where it is always wet.

Supervisor Butler stated that he checked with the County and this is not considered a wetland.

Discussion followed. Highway Superintendent John Farrell reported that he was called by County Legislator Ed Bloomer, and went out to Bambi Lane to see what was going on. He in turn got in touch with the Town Attorney George McHugh.

Mr. Park stated that this hole was filled in with big rocks. Discussion continued.
Mr. Park and Miss Wilk left soon after.

Patrick Doyle was called up next. He told everyone that that the Flint Mine Project is a two (2) Hundred million dollar project. They submitted the Pilot application in September, and it will be the same process as Cocksackie.
Now they are going through the Sub-division process but they have a septic issue. They have hired Lamont Engineering which is going to cost another 10 to 15 thousand dollars.

Supervisor Butler stated that he wants to go over the Host Agreement with Rene' VanSchaack.

Department Heads:

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that he submitted the paperwork for the speed limit on Howard Hall Road. It could take up to a year to hear back from the State.

Clean up Day is all set for October 30 from 8:30 to 12:30 at the Town Highway Garage.

The new hire received his full class B CDL.

The drainage job in Lime Street Hamlet is completed.

They installed an under drain on Schoharie Turnpike West of Vosenkill Road.

They have done 2 driveway pipe upgrades.

They worked with the Village on a broken Sewer on Route 385.

Talked to Mr. Okonksi about cleaning up rock when it dries up.

New #1 waiting to hear back from OGS on when the dealer will send it to up fitter.

Old truck needed new power steering lines.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported the following:

Issued 8 building permits. Did 14 Building Inspections.
Issued 1 Certificate of Occupancy. Answered 11 Certificates of Occupancy Search Requests.
Rustic Cabin on Poetic Mountain Creek, Dresser Properties, Inc. Athens Court Appearance
Ticket date has been moved to December 2, 2021 from the request of property owner's attorney
because of filing an Article 78.

Attorney George McHugh advised Albert and the Board that the Article 78 for the Dresser
property was only an excuse.

An inspection was done of the 9W Black Horse Farmstand's "Waste Holding Tank."
Subdivision of Farmstand property is on hold with Flint Mine Solar Project until septic system
is brought into compliance because the system has failed.

Giuseppina Agovino asked Mr. Gasparini if this was going to happen to all farmstands.
He explained again that this was happening because this system has failed.

New owners of Budget In and Suites have been before the Planning Board in July and haven't
submitted the necessary papers to the Planning Board yet. Work has been done on the property
buildings without approval from the Planning Board. Buildings have been retagged with "Order
To Vacate" papers dated back to 10/12/2017. Manager of property has been notified to stop work
on buildings and reattach sheathing to all building openings.

The Assessor's written report was received as well;

Assessor's Clerk has been very busy with the public answering questions on school taxes.
She is still working on organizing all the normal files along with exemption files and keeping
them up to date, and this will be an ongoing process.
They continue working on all sales that they have received, also split and merges.
The Assessor continues to update their file with information from the previous data collector
along with MLS listings and sales verification that they receive. She continues to receive emails
and calls wanting an estimate of value for potential new construction.
She is also reviewing the new construction via the building permits and setting values thereon
accordingly.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro presented the payroll list and the Holiday list for 2022
to be voted on. There will be 12 holidays for 2022.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H.
Brandow to approve the minutes of October 4, 2021 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow;
Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H.
Brandow to remove David Levey from the Board of Assessment and Review. Ayes-4(Butler;
Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F.
Butler, Jr. to hold the minutes of October 6, 2021. Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch)
Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 18, 2021

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to appoint the following people to a three (3) year term each to the Athens Community Foundation Advisory Board as a member: Anita Miller; Lucy Michener; and Maureen Murphy. Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. that Attorney George McHugh gives a written response to the Attorney for the Dresser Property (Peck) who filed an Article 78 against the Town of Athens. Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to meet with the Village on money that is due. Ayes-2 (Brandow; Paluch) Noes-2 (Butler; Ragaini) Absent-(Spinner) Abstentions-0 No Vote

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

BUDGET WORKSHOP - ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 20, 2021

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:05 P. M.

The following people were present; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Donald Pierro; and resident Michael Pirrone. (Councilmember Shannon Spinner was absent.)

Budget Officer Pierro reviewed budget figures with Town Board members present.

The Town of Catskill, Town of Athens, Joint Fire Protection Contract with Leeds Hose Co. #1 the public hearing is scheduled for October 27th at 6:00pm at Catskill Town Hall.

The proposed 2% tax cap law was talked about.

The Town Board will have Proposed Local Law #2 to review at the November 4th meeting. There will be a public hearing on this local law on November 15th.

On the motion of Councilmember Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2021-46** -to accept the changes made to the Tentative Budget and to adopt it as the Preliminary Budget for 2022 with the Public Hearing to be held November 4, 2021, at 7:00 pm. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – November 4, 2021

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. called the regular meeting of the Athens Town Board to order on November 4, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the Athens Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

These people were also present; Finance/budget Officer Don Pierro; Michael Campbell; Lynn Brunner; Robert Brunner; Michael Pirrone; Judge Connie Pazin; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Barbara Trembacz; Cari and David Gardner.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid.
General Abstract #21, vouchers #495 through #518 inclusive for \$56,046.86.
Highway Abstract #20, vouchers #151 through #169 inclusive for \$47,013.01.

Supervisor Butler read the Notice of Public Hearing for the Preliminary Budget for 2022 as it appeared in the Official Newspaper. He then opened the hearing to questions from the public.

Don Pierro Finance/Budget Officer informed the Board that he had received the West Athens Lime Street Fire Protection Budget; Leeds-Fire Protection Budget and the Library Budget all of which are considered Special Districts.

Supervisor Butler informed those present, that the public hearing would remain open until November 15, 2021.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve and accept the Town Clerk's Report. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to accept the minutes from the Town of Catskill, from the Public Hearing on the Town of Catskill, Town of Athens and Leeds Hose Public Hearing on Fire Protection held on October 27, 2021. Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of October 6, 2021 as read. Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to approve the workshop minutes of October 20, 2021 as read. Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of October 18, 2021 approved as read. Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Bob Knighton, President of Greene Land Trust requested a letter of support from the Town of Athens for their application for funds for engineering. They will include this letter of support with their online application.

The Board was notified by Catskill Rotary That they would like sponsor and restore the Wacky Raft Race. Tentative date is July 9, 2022.

Supervisor Butler Read the following Notice of Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law #2 of 2021:

NOTICE is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Athens will hold a Public Hearing on November 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to listen to comment from the public regarding a proposed Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2022. The hearing will take place at the Athens Fire House located at 39 3rd Street, Athens, NY. The proposed Local Law amends Chapter 76 of the Athens Town Code to allow the Town Board to Override the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2022 Established by General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the Town of Athens to adopt a Town Budget for town purposes, fire protection districts, and other special or improvement districts governed by the Town Board for the Fiscal Year 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the tax levy limit as defined by GML §3-c. The proposed local law is available for public inspection at the Town Clerk's office at 2 First Street, Athens, NY 12015, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. At the above date, time and place all interested persons are welcome to attend and will be heard.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow **RESOLUTION #2021-46A that the notice above for the Proposed Local Law #2 be published in the paper was adopted.** Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The holiday list for 2022 was handed out to be voted on, so it could go into the Employee Handbook.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2021-47 to adopt the Holiday Schedule** for employees for 2022 was adopted. Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilmember Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2021-48** was made and adopted:

WHEREAS, the Edward J. Arthur Elementary School ("EJA") located in Athens is vital to the education of the children in Athens and to the overall health, welfare and prosperity of the community,

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District has proposed a plan to reconfigure grade groupings (hereinafter "Reconfiguration") that would change EJA from a Kindergarten through 4th grade (K-4) school for the southern region of the District to Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade (preK-2) for the entire District,

WHEREAS, the current three-tier school system comprising two Elementary Schools (K-4), a Middle School (5th – 8th grade) and a High School (9th – 12th grade) would be reconfigured to four tiers comprising an Early Learning Center (preK-2), Elementary School (3rd – 5th grade), Middle School (6th-8th grade) and High School (9th-12th Grade),

WHEREAS, the Reconfiguration would require 4-7 year old children throughout New Baltimore and central and northern regions of Coxsackie to take long bus rides to EJA in the morning and back home in the afternoon, and would relocate 3rd and 4th Graders (8-9 years old) from EJA to Coxsackie Elementary School,

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – November 4, 2021

WHEREAS, the Village of Athens is a vital civic center of the Town and School District with a high population density, elementary school, library, playgrounds, churches, police department, fire department, post office, government offices, little league, senior center, American Legion Hall, municipal utilities, cemeteries, restaurants, business, the Athens Pool, active citizenry, a strong sense of community, and many other institutions and assets that together make a wonderful place to live and raise a family,

WHEREAS, the Town has always had and always needed an elementary school; always supported an elementary school financially and otherwise; the Town and Village of Athens pay 35% of the School District tax levy; and a K-4 EJA is an appropriate investment to to serve the needs of the School District,

WHEREAS, the Town Board has considered the merits of the Reconfiguration plan and has determined that reconfiguration would result in substantial harm to the Town of Athens, including but not limited to the quality of its residents and the prosperity of the Town,

WHEREAS, among its wide-ranging negative impacts, Reconfiguration will risk the safety of very young and vulnerable children lacking the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and language development necessary to safely participate in two long commutes every day without close parental supervision; will add a major school transition for 7-year old children causing unnecessary upheaval in their academic and social development; will impede childhood development by turning large amounts of normal activity time into counterproductive transportation time every day; will cause unnecessary hardships on young families; and will disrupt the simplicity and security of early childhood community life in the Town of Athens,

WHEREAS, the prospects of children attending school in Athens only through the 2nd grade will make Athens a less attractive place to live and raise a family, which will be very damaging to the vitality and prosperity of the Town,

WHEREAS, there is broad opposition and little, if any, support from the residence of the Town of Athens for the proposed Grade Reconfiguration, and

WHEREAS, the School District proposed a similar grade reconfiguration circa-2015, which was met with broad opposition and little, if any, support from the residence of the Town of Athens,

IT IS RESOLVED THAT, the Town Board of the Town of Athens opposes the proposed Grade Reconfiguration and directs the Town Supervisor to convey this resolution to the School Board and Superintendent of Schools.

Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion Attorney McHugh, Finance/ Budget Officer Don Pierro and she be on a committee to talk with the Village about money that is due. There was no second to this motion. Discussion followed.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting, Councilmember Ragaini made a motion to adjourn Councilmember Spinner seconded the motion.
Ayes- 5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0
Meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.