

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD –January 5, 2015

The Organizational meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on January 5, 2015 by Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci at 7:01 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence.

The following people were present: Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci; Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilwoman April Paluch; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Michael Ragaini and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Acting Assessor Carol McBride and Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid;
General Abstract #1, vouchers #1 through #21 inclusive for \$20,263.29.
Highway Abstract #1, vouchers #1 though #9 inclusive for \$17,400.28.

Department Heads:

Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple presented his Annual Code Enforcement Report for 2014, and reviewed it with the Board.

He informed the Board that he will be concentrating on neglected properties.

Councilman Butler asked him if these “neglected” properties would be livable.

Most of the properties are in violation of the Junkyard Ordinance. Discussion followed.

The Board reviewed the Town Clerk’s monthly report.

Councilwoman April Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow *to accept the Town Clerk’s Report as presented*. Carried. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Acting Assessor Carol McBride handed out copies of a ‘new’ exemption that can be added to the Senior Citizen Exemptions. This exemption would be used if the Board allows “out of pocket” medical expenses. (Medicare reimbursement amount)- For one year.

If it is decided to have this law formerly publicized, a resolution will be needed.

Discussion followed. Attorney Virginia Benedict will draw up the language for the ‘New’ law if the Board decides to have a public hearing.

The Board reviewed the minutes of December 15, 2014.

Councilwoman April Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. *to approve the minutes of December 15, 2014 as read*. Carried. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

RESOLUTIONS

On the motion of Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2015-1** *to adopt the Rules of Procedure for a Town Board Meeting was adopted*. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0
Rules follow;

2015
Rules of Procedure for Town Board Meeting

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, boosing, 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 to 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.

On the motion made by Councilwoman April Paluch seconded by Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2015-2** to adopt the Salary Schedule for 2015 was adopted. Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Grade	2015 Proposed Salaries	Type	Payroll	Hours for year	Yearly
Butler	Councilman	Elected	Monthly		4,070
Paluch	Councilwoman	Elected	Monthly		4,070
Brandow	Councilwoman	Elected	Monthly		4,070
Ragaini	Councilman	Elected	Monthly		4,070
Iraci	Supervisor	Elected	Monthly		10,303
Butler	Deputy Supervisor	Elected	Quarterly		254
Slacy	Town Clerk	Elected	Bi-weekly	1550	42,529 Salary
Farral	High Sup	Elected	Bi-weekly	2000	57,222 Salary
Rubin	Judge	Elected	Monthly P/T		15,109 Salary
Robinson	Judge	Elected	Monthly P/T		15,109 Salary
Wolapple	Code Enf. Officer	Appointed	Bi-weekly	1300	28,878
Lyden	Deputy Town Clerk	Appointed	Monthly	1550	23,400
Sivenski	Budget/Budget Officer	Appointed	Bi-weekly	1300	28,800
Palom	Justice Clerk I	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	47,855
Carl	Justice Clerk II	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	47,704
10 Robinson	MEM Working Supervisor	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	47,352 + DF
11 Weger	MEM I	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	33,154 + DF
12 Alben	MEM II	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	41,856 + DF
4 Mendicino	MEM III	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	38,120 + DF
5 Tai	MEM IV	Appointed	Bi-weekly	2000	38,108 + DF
Chase	Assessor	Appointed	Bi-weekly	1854	44,146
McEide	Acting Assessor	Appointed	Bi-weekly	1855	38,205

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2015-3** authorizing the Highway Superintendent the expenditure of funds as needed for the purchase of small tools or on parts as per Town Law #52, Articles I & II without prior Board approval was adopted. Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman April Paluch seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2015-4** establishing the mileage reimbursement rate at the IRS recommendation for use of employee's vehicle on Town business was adopted. Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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On the motion of Councilwoman April Paluch seconded by Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2015-5** *authorizing petty cash funds for Town Justice Constance Pazin; Town Justice James H. Robinson, Jr.; Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk at \$100.00 each, was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman April Paluch seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2015-6** *authorizing Petty Cash Drawers for the Town Clerk at \$100.00 and Tax Collection at \$125.00 was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci the following **RESOLUTION #2015-7** *Establishing the Regular Meeting Dates for 2015 was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

2015 Town Board Meeting Dates

January 5 @ 6:45	July 2 @ 6:45
January 20 @ 6:45 (Tuesday)	July 20 @ 6:45
February 2 @ 6:45	August 3 @ 6:45
February 17 @ 6:45(Tuesday)	August 17 @ 6:45
March 2 @ 6:45	Sept 8 @ 6:45
March 16 @ 6:45	Sept 21 @ 6:45
April 6 @ 6:45	Oct 5 @ 6:45
April 20 @ 6:45	Oct 19 @ 6:45
May 4 @ 6:45	Nov 5 @ 6:45 (Thursday)
May 18 @ 6:45	Nov 16 @ 6:45
June 1 @ 6:45	Dec 7 @ 6:45
June 15 @ 6:45	Dec 21 @ 6:45

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2015-8** *Designating the National Bank of Coxsackie (Athens Branch) as our Official Depository was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2015-8** *designating the Official Newspapers as the Catskill Daily Mail & the Greene County News was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2015-10** *establishing the first meeting on March (March 2,) to audit the Books of the Justices and the Town Clerk's cash book was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2015-11** *designating the Town Clerk as Registrar if Vital Statistics and Deputy Town Clerk as Deputy Registrar was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

On the motion of Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2015-12** *to adopt a 60 day extension to send the Annual Financial Report to the State Comptroller, if is needed, was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2015-13** *designating the firm of Pattison, Kosky, Howe, & Buccio, CPA, PCA as our Accountants was adopted.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch to make the following ONE YEAR APPOINTMENTS;

Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer	Michael Strenka
Deputy Supervisor	Robert F. Butler, Jr.
Tax Collector	Linda M. Stacey
Dep. Town Clerk & Dep. Tax Collector	Cathy Lyden
Code Enforcement Officer	George Holsopple
Dog Damage Control	George Holsopple
Consolidated Health Secretary	George Holsopple
Consolidated Health Member	Mayer Chris Pfister
Consolidated Health Chair.	Super. Joseph Iraci
Senior Court Clerk	Marcia R. Puorro
Court Clerk	Vincenzina R. Carl
Historian	Lynn J. Brunner
Dog Damage Control	Sherry Vieta\
Planning Board Chair	Hal Brodie
Zoning Board Chair	Colleen Dolan Van Zandt
Secretary to Plan. and Zoning	Marlin Henry

The appointments above were approved as follows:

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

Councilwoman April Paluch made a motion seconded by Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci to *appoint Carol McBride as Acting Assessor to continue until February 28, 2015.* Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Committees:

Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci made the following Committees appointments:

Joint Landfill Committee	Michael Ragaini (Alternate- Iraci)
Village & Town Committee	Robert F. Butler, Jr. (Alternate-Iraci)
Special Projects	April Paluch (Alternate-Iraci)
Clean Up Days (1 in Spring/1 in fall)	Robert F. Butler, Jr. (Alternate-Iraci)
EMS/ALS Ambulance	April Paluch (Alternate-Iraci)
Reserves Fund	Mary H. Brandow Alternate –Iraci)
Negotiations	Robert F. Butler, Jr. (Alternate-Iraci)
Insurance/Medical	Mary H. Brandow (Alternate-Iraci)
Planning & Zoning	Michael Ragaini (Alternate-Iraci)

Employee Handbook, Personnel Committee & Employee Committee Linda M. Stacey, Mary H. Brandow, Marcia Puorro, Laura Chase (Alt. - Iraci)

Supervisor Joseph Iraci appointed Leo Palmateer to the Athens Community Foundation as a Trustee from 1/5/2015 to 12/31/2017.

Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to *recommend Anthony Paluch to the Greene County Planning Board.* Ayes-4(Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-1(Paluch)

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Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci made a motion seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch to reappoint Patrick Murphy to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a five year term 1/5/2015 to 12/31/2019.
Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Iraci and Mayor Pfister spoke about doing a building study. The front entry and floors are going to be done.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch to go into Executive Session to discuss upcoming negotiations. Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time 8:55 pm

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded Councilwoman April Paluch to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the organizational meeting. Ayes-5(Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time 9:45 pm

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by April Paluch to adjourn the organizational meeting. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.