

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – February 2, 2015

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on February 2, 2015 at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by Deputy Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.

The following people were present: Deputy Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilwoman April Paluch; Councilman Michael Ragaini and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci, Mary H. Brandow and Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell were absent.)

These people were also present: Bookkeeper Michael Strenka; Mayor Chris Pfister; Dave LaVoie of LaVoie & Company, Inc. and Trustee of the Athens Community Foundation, Eugene Hatton.

Dave LaVoie went over Health Insurance recommendations he had for the Town of Athens employees. Both plans were with CDPHP.

The first option was HDEPO 2500/5000 Silver plan 312: The deductible was lowered from \$5400 to \$5000.

With this plan the Town pays for the first \$2500, the employee is responsible for the other \$2500 of the deductible in addition to the regular percentages coming out of their checks for insurance coverage. The employee would have to set up an account for their half of the deductible, and if it wasn't used it could be rolled over for the following year.

There are no copays. (Locked-in Amount-Town will pay nothing higher than \$2500.)

The second option was Embrace EPO Gold Plan 205: After meeting deductible, almost everything needs a copayment from the employee.

Deputy Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch to offer the employees the CDPHP Option A, of HDEPO 2500/500 Silver Plan 312, Health Insurance for the year 2015. Ayes: 3(Butler; Paluch; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-2(Iraci; Brandow) Abstentions-0

Deputy Supervisor Robert F. Butler informed the Board that there would be a workshop/Health Fair, Monday February 9, 2015 at 4:00 pm to introduce the employees to the changes in this year's CDPHP Health Coverage.

Eugene Hatton Trustee of the Athens Community Benefit Foundation handed out copies of the *Community Benefit Foundation Annual Report as of December 31 2014*, on behalf of Trustees Dan DeVinney and Leo Palmateer.

Mr. Hatton spoke about current investments and contributions. A Peckham Family donation helps to offset administrative expenses.

There were 39 grants awarded by the Athens Community Foundation totaling \$189,271.

Out of the 39 grants, 31 were Athens based qualifying civic, sports, cultural, fraternal, educational, and governmental groups. Including this cycle, the twelfth annual round of grants by the Foundation, the number of grants over the life of the Foundation now totals 352, along with a dollar figure disbursement of \$1,686,857.

The Board member reviewed the minutes of January 20, 2015.

Councilwoman April Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of January 20, 2015 as read and corrected. Ayes: 3(Butler; Paluch; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-2(Iraci; Brandow) Abstentions-0

Councilwoman April Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to accept the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes: 3(Butler; Paluch; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-2(Iraci; Brandow) Abstentions-0

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Acting Assessor Carol McBride's written report showed that 6 Article 7 cases (Certioraris') are pending court action. Appraisal Associates has been consulted for appraisal action on one particular case rather than obtaining Conkra Associates.

Beginning work for the approved Revaluation Project of 2016 will start in late summer 2015.

Carol has started field review for data collection which will continue until April.

She is requesting additional paid hours as necessary for the completion of the tentative assessment roll.

Councilman Ragaini reminded the Board members that we would be conducting interviews, for Planning Board and Zoning Board members at the meeting of February 17th, starting at 6:45 pm. (Then at 7:00pm and 7:15pm.)

Deputy Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. and Councilman Michael Ragaini informed the Board that they are still working on an Engineer, for recommendations for Town Offices.

Mayor Chris Pfister and the Board discussed the current building.

Next meeting is February 17, 2015.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting, Councilwoman April Paluch made *a motion to adjourn seconded* by Councilman Michael Ragaini. Ayes: 3(Butler; Paluch; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-2(Iraci; Brandow) Abstentions-0

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm.