

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – February 17, 2015

Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci called the regular meeting of the Athens Town Board to order on February 17, 2015, at 6:45 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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. (Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell was absent.) Also present was Attorney Virginia Benedict.

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

General Abstract #4, vouchers #75 through # 93 inclusive for \$349,974.55.

Highway Abstract #4, vouchers #33, inclusive for \$6068.04.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. to go into *Executive Session to conduct interviews for Planning and Zoning*. Three candidates were invited into executive session. Motion Carried: Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. to *adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting*. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. *to appoint Fred Dedrick as a member of the Planning Board and Rosemary Blois as an Alternate to the Planning Board*. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The minutes of February 2, 2015 were approved as read, on the motion of Councilman Robert F. Butler, Jr. and seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci spoke about Assessor Laura Chase's status and future plans for her position. She will need a Dr.'s release and a work schedule if she requests returning to work.

Supervisor Iraci spoke about the 2016 ReVal. We are currently paying a retainer of \$2500.00 per year until the ReVal. He also spoke about the Agreement with Appraisal Associates and the five year cycle of payments. A representative of Appraisal Associates will address the Town Board before the 2017 cycle begins.

Supervisor Iraci spoke about a proposed local law concerning Planning and Zoning Training. He informed the Board that good records would have to be kept. He then stated that Hal Brodie, Planning Board Chairman and Colleen Dolan-Van Zandt, ZBA Chairman as well as Supervisor Iraci and Councilman Michael Ragaini, liaison to both Boards would all keep track of the training hours by the members.

Supervisor Joseph Iraci informed the Board that the Deputy Supervisor gets \$300.00 a year for filling in for him. He asked if this was fair. He suggested increasing the stipend paid to the Deputy Supervisor from \$300.00 to \$1,500.00.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch to *increase the stipend given to the Deputy Supervisor, from \$300.00 to \$1,500.00 effective retroactively to January 2015*. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

A discussion followed regarding paying a stipend to planning board and zoning board members. Councilman Ragaini is to look into this.

It was reported that the **Bicentennial Celebration** is continuing to meet.

Supervisor Iraci informed the Board that he is to have a dialogue with the Law Firm of Young, Sommer regarding Intervener status, regarding the proposed AC Project and Representing the Town of Athens.

The State Retirement System is looking for a report from the Town, regarding defining what a normal work week is.

Our Dog Control Officer Sherry Vieta requested an **Animal Chip Reader**, so that she doesn't have to take the dogs all the way to Hudson just to read the chip. It will cost about \$300.00. The Board suggested that we look at partnering to share cost and if there is a universal reader.

TGW (Grant Writers) spoke to Supervisor Iraci and informed him that they wish to continue a relationship with the Town, and will continue to finish Project #3 at no fee. They are coming to the meeting of March 2, 2015, to talk to the Board.

Contracts:

ITS (computers)

Rapport Meyers, \$21,500

Greene County EMS – Fly Car Services- \$23,385

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman April Paluch *authorizing the Supervisor to exercise the above three contracts*. Ayes-5 (Iraci; Butler; Paluch; Brandow; Ragaini) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The Board decided to wait on the “out of pocket” exemption to see if the County adopts it.

Training Local Law- Public Hearing.

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2015-15** was adopted:

**RESOLUTION SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #1**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Local Law No. 1 of 2015, providing for a local law amending Chapter 48 by adding Article II to the Code of the Town of Athens reaffirming training requirements for planning board and zoning board of appeals members and establishing an attendance policy for planning board and zoning board of appeals members, a copy of which is annexed, hereto is hereby introduced at this meeting:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Athens as follows:

1. The Town Board of the Town of Athens shall hold a public hearing on the 27th day of March 2015, at 7 p.m. at the Athens Town Hall, 2 First Street, Athens, New York, to hear all interested parties on said proposed Local Law.
2. The proposed Local Law constitutes a Type II action for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act which will not require SEQRA review.
3. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the official newspapers of the Town at least five (5) days prior to the date of the said public hearing.

This was introduced by Councilman Michael Ragaini, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

The proposed Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Board, the same was declared duly adopted by the Athens Town Board. Dated: February 17, 2015.

Greene County Emergency Management Services is setting up a Task Force on 2/24/2015 at 6:00 pm at the Greene County Training center.

Discussion followed on Town building sites.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.