

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – June 1, 2015

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on June 1, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and a moment of silence for the passing of one of our Board Member April Paluch.

These people were present: Supervisor Joseph B. Iraci; Councilman Robert Butler; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Michael Ragaini and Town Clerk Deputy Cathy Lyden ( Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell was absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper Michael Strenka; Interim Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple; Phyllis Dinkelacker and Bill Walsh.

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

General Abstract #10, vouchers #244 through #259 inclusive for \$42,381.65

Highway Abstract #9, vouchers #94 through #101 inclusive for \$8,341.97

General Abstract #11, vouchers #260 through #278 \$30,547.81.

Highway Abstract #10, vouchers #102 through #105 \$599.26

Supervisor Iraci opened up the meeting informing the Board about the law on how the board can fill the vacant seat of the Town's Board Member April Paluch. They can leave it vacant till the next election or they can appoint someone to fill the seat till the end of the year. If the individual would like to stay on the Board , they have to run in the November election. Supervisor Iraci read the Herb Scott Memorialization that was written when the Board lost the former Supervisor. **Resolution #2015-21** was motioned by Councilman Michael Ragaini and seconded by Councilman Robert Butler to write the same memorialization and put in the minute book for Councilwoman April Paluch. Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

Bill Walsh came before the board to discuss a dog barking issue. Mr. Walsh stated that his neighbor's dog constantly barks at all hours of the day and night. Supervisor will contact the Dog Controller and see what the town can do to resolve this issue.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion to approve May 4, 2015 minutes, Seconded by Councilwoman Mary Brandow, Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini).

Supervisor Iraci informed the Board that they are looking at 3 negotiators for the Union Contract. There will be no activity till mid-June.

Interim Assessor Carol McBride reported that there were 23 Grievances for May 26<sup>th</sup>. Next month there will be a better understanding of the values. She also discussed the chairs that were purchased for the Assessor's office. They were asked to be picked up because of the material that was used to make them was harmful. Staples has credited our account and said we can donate or do what we would like with the chairs. She also discussed that her cabinet locks came in

Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple reported that Mr. SanPal has moved his garage to the set back as of June 1<sup>st</sup>. He also reported about Northeast Treators pre demo air quality was ok. And demo permit is ok for them to get.

Phyllis Dinkelacker came before the board to ask to be the representative for EMS Inc. Next meeting is June 16<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Robert Butler made a motion *to appoint Phyllis Dinkelacker as the Athens Rep for EMS Inc.* seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini, Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini). A letter to Aiden needs to be sent stating that she is the new Athens rep.

Bookkeeper Michael Strenka spoke about the Government efficient plan, tax pass and tax freeze was needed to pass a resolution. Letter went out from the State stating that a 3<sup>rd</sup> form was needed to be in by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Everything got submitted on time. A retirement form is needed to be in by June 30<sup>th</sup>. A discussion followed about the new Accounting Firm coming in and looking at our records every 3 months. A question was asked about the May service contract line item and why is so high. Bookkeeper will be looking in to that.

Councilwoman Mary Brandow made a motion *to accept the agreement from Pattison, Koskey, Howe & Bucci, CPAs, P.C.* and seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini, Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

Councilwoman Mary Brandow made a motion to *accept the December 2014 and May 2015 Supervisors Report* and seconded by Councilman Robert Butler, Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

Councilman Robert Butler made a motion to *accept Standard Retirement Filing* and seconded by Councilwoman Mary Brandow, Ayes-3 (Iraci, Butler, Brandow), 1 Abstained (Ragaini)

Councilman Robert Butler made a motion *to send in Government Efficiency Plan Tax Forms* and seconded by Supervisor Iraci, Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

Councilman Robert Butler made a motion for **Resolution #2015-22** *to accept the Budget Adjustments*, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini, Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

**Budget Transfers**

<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Amount</b>
A 1355.1 assessor personnel	A 1355.4 assessor service contr	3000
A 1910.4 liability insurance	A 1410.1 town clerk personnel	1500
A 1410.4 town clerk seminars	A 1410.4 town clerk service con	600
A 1910.4 liability insurance	A 1420.4 attorney other legal	1000
A 9060.8 medical ins. buyout	A 5010.1 highway sup personn	3000
A 9060.8 medical ins. buyout	A 1110.1 town justice personn	1500
A 1910.4 liability insurance	A 9040.8 workers comp insuran	100

To cover costs of certiorari actions.

To cover costs of town clerk part time help as needed.

To cover costs of town clerk non employees costs.

To cover costs from additional legal services as needed.

To transfer budgeted money in proper code for highway and justice.

The Town Clerk’s Report for May was reviewed by the Board.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow *to approve the Town Clerk’s Report as presented.* Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

A discussion followed about money for the Athens Street Festival. Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion *to give the Street Festival \$1000.00* and seconded by Councilman Robert Butler Ayes-4 (Iraci; Butler; Brandow; Ragaini)

Supervisor Iraci informed the Board that Lynn Brunner from the Bi-Centennial committee will be coming before the board with a report and a budget.

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Supervisor Iraci discussed the Building committee, a discussion followed.

Supervisor Iraci informed the Board of how surrounding towns are interested in grouping up for yearly training. New Baltimore has volunteered to host one since they have a facility big enough to host it.

Supervisor Iraci informed the board of the Assessors hours when the office is open. They also discussed what the hours used to be, what they are now, and what they will be in the future, now that grievance day is over.

A discussion about Councilwoman April Paluch's seat followed.

Councilman Robert Butler asked to put an ad in the paper for the Advisory Board. 3 member's seats are up and need to be filled.

A discussion about Budget Motel followed. The motel was sold and has new owners. Attorney Virginia Benedict will contact Code Enforcement Officer George Holsopple with the details.

Councilman Robert Butler made a motion to go into Executive Session, to talk about negotiations and personnel matters, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini, Ayes -4 (Iraci, Butler, Ragaini, Brandow)

Councilman Robert Butler made a motion to get out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini, Ayes -4 (Iraci, Butler, Ragaini, Brandow)

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilman Robert Butler, Ayes -4 (Iraci, Butler, Ragaini, Brandow)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM