

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Anthony Paluch and Deputy Town Clerk Gail Stacey.

The following people were also present: Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell Jr.; Bookkeeper Michael Strenka; Assessor Carol McBride; Attorney Virginia Benedict; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Barbara Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Eugene Paluch; Janet Paluch; Stephen Le Fevre; G. Dominick Multari; Alexandra Dobles; Patrick Doyle and videographer Larry Styles.

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

GENERAL ABSTRACT #9, vouchers #171 through #199 inclusive for **\$160,291.30**.

HIGHWAY ABSTRACT #8, vouchers #76 through #93 inclusive for **\$51,841.43**.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini gave his monthly report on how many permits and certificates of occupancy were issued; removal of house at 358 Flats Rd. Extension; update on Dollar General store; and violation for Budget Inn.

Bookkeeper Michael Strenka gave his report on the April Supervisors Budget. Discussed deficit in the General A fund and General B fund. Highway Fund to be discussed at next month's meeting.

The proposed Resolutions 2018-23 through 26 were discussed.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion to accept the April Supervisors Report, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

Resolution #2018-23 was adopted and states:

Whereas, the Town of Athens has received a check for \$16,142.87 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement from Hurricane Irene cost, and

Whereas, this transaction has not yet been recognized in the 2018 Town of Athens Budget for budget purposes, and

Whereas, it is the intention of the Town Board to recognize the awarding of the grant as revenues and impending expenditures to be budgeted for in the 2018 budget;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby authorizes increasing Highway Fund Estimated Revenue Code DA 4500 FEMA Aid by \$16,143 and increasing Highway Fund Appropriations Line Item DA 5130.2 Equipment by \$16,143 to fund the cost of the Highway Department Fence.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion to accept Resolution #2018-23, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

Resolution #2018-24 was adopted and states:

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Athens has authorized the Highway Superintendent to purchase various appliances to be used in the new Highway Building, and

Whereas, those appliances have been ordered and received at a cost of \$5,970, and

Whereas, it is the intention of the Town Board of the Town of Athens to recognize such authorization for budget purposes;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board hereby authorizes increasing Highway Fund Appropriations code DA 5130.2 equipment by \$5,970 and increasing Appropriated Fund Balance DA-599 by \$5,970.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion to accept Resolution #2018-24, seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch.

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

Resolution #2018-25 was adopted and states:

Whereas, the Capital Project – Highway Building Improvement has been funded by General Fund Balance of \$800,000 and a General Fund 15 year Statutory Bond of \$800,000 making a total project funding of \$1,600,000, and

Whereas, there have been engineer recommendations and small contract changes totaling \$26,930 through the completion of this capital project, and

Whereas, it is the intention of the Town Board to recognize such changes to complete the project for budget purposes;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby authorizes increasing Highway Appropriations code DA 5130.2 equipment by \$26,930 and increasing Highway Fund Appropriated Fund Balance DA-599 by \$26,930.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion to accept Resolution #2018-25, seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch.

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

Resolution #2018-26 was adopted and states:

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Athens has authorized the repairing of the Budget Inn Motel to alleviate some of the deterioration of the property and to get the property into compliance with Town of Athens code; and

Whereas, the Town has incurred and paid a bill of \$14,500.00 for the repair of such property to Rainbow Painting, and the Town will be billing the owner of the property that was repaired;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board authorizes increasing General Fund- Part Town Appropriations Code B 3620.4 Building Code Violations by \$14,500 and increasing General Fund- Part Town Appropriated Fund Balance B-599 by \$14,500.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion to accept Resolution #2018-26, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

Patrick Doyle came before the board to discuss the solar program. Mr. Doyle will be hosting an open house at Pegasus Restaurant on Wednesday, May 30,2018 from 2-4:30 p.m. and then from 6-8:30 p.m. for anyone who would like to learn more about the program and the proposed plan for solar sites, light refreshments will be served.

If anyone would like to do a one on one with Mr. Doyle to view the proposed sites can contact him. They are looking at approximately 800-900 acres for project.

More discussion followed; questions were asked and answered.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell Jr. read the Highway Report to the Board. Equipment has been serviced, 15 loads of sand have been swept up, scrap metal taken in and check given

to Bookkeeper, pipes changed on Sandy Plains Rd., Garage to be paved next week and gate has been installed. Discussion followed on what to do with Ron Greco's driveway. Mr. Farrell with speak to owner with his plan and on how to fix a drainage issue. One plan is to put in a tip up gutter.

Stephen Le Fevre, engineer from Barton & Loguidice, spoke to the Board in regards to the service they provide for municipalities when it comes to reviewing solar projects. Mr. Le Fevre distributed reading material to the Board to review about his company and the attorney they use. He also explained that there is a lot involved and many steps that a company has to take in order to build/have a solar facility. Spoke about intervenor funds. Proposal was given to Supervisor Butler to review.

Town Clerks Report for April was reviewed by the Board.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch.

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

April 16, 2018 Minutes were reviewed by the Board.

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini.

Lighttower Fiber Networks permit application was reviewed briefly by the Board.

NYS office of the Comptroller Audit closure letter was reviewed for adjusted retirement for Deputy Town Clerk Gail Stacey and the standard work day resolution for Town Historian and also Section 45 documentation (signing off on retirement).

Meeting with State Auditor in two weeks in regards to preliminary findings.

Public Hearing Notice in Coxsackie was read by Supervisor Butler which will take place on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in regards to amending Town Zoning Law clarifying language of law. Anyone who wishes to attend can do so.

Election Results for the Athens Volunteer Fire Department were briefly reviewed.

Assessor Carol McBride reviewed her monthly report with the Board.

There has been no action taken to-date in the Sleepy Hollow common areas litigation. Sleepy Hollow probably will be filing grievances again this year. Field Review has been completed for 2018; several roads were canvassed. The Tentative Roll for 2018 has been completed and legal notice has been published. Final Roll is July 1, 2018.

Grievance Day is Tuesday, May 22, 2018 from 3-5 and 6-8 in the Town Clerk's Office. Peggy Pieruzzi has been approved for extra work hours to assist with BOAR.

The Re-Assessment Plan was discussed in length. Submittal Letter for an Amendment will have to be in by December 31, 2019 for full Revaluation. Two Data Collectors will be needed to do collection. Questions and concerns were addressed. Decision will be made by the end of the month.

Councilman Anthony Paluch inquired about Planning and Zoning Board Meetings. There haven't been any meetings, expressed some concerns. He also asked that a letter be sent to Kathi Wagner in regards to her possible resignation.

Supervisor Butler read a letter he received from the Greene County Honor-A-Vet. A ceremony will be held at the Greene County Courthouse, Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. honoring Alfred A. Daoust for his service. Anyone who wishes to attend should RSVP.

With no further business to come before the Board, Supervisor Butler made a motion to go into Executive Session, Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded the motion. (9:00 p.m.)

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion to adjourn Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with a motion made by Councilman Anthony Paluch and seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini.