

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert F. Butler on March 19, 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; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Deputy Town Clerk Gail Stacey.

These people were also present: Garth Walker; Marie Walker; Fran McCusker; Larry Styles and Patrick Doyle.

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

General Abstract #6, vouchers #110 through #136 inclusive for **\$24,188.85.**

Highway Abstract #6, vouchers #48 through #62 inclusive for **\$13,716.17.**

Capital Projects H Abstract, vouchers #10 and #11 inclusive for **\$178,358.99.**

Attorney Virginia Benedict read the Notice of Public Hearing for Local Law 1 Amending Chapter 159 of the Code of the Town of Athens entitled "Taxation" in its entirety.

A motion to open the public hearing 1 for Local Law 1 on "Taxation" was made by Councilman Michael Ragaini, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

Councilwoman Brandow opened with a question in regards to why a change would be made towards the Veterans.

Supervisor Butler answered, stating that we are going in line with the county as set in the 2018 guidelines and no major changes were going to be made.

Councilwoman Brandow would like that exemption to stay the same.

Larry Styles commented stating that he agreed with Councilwoman Brandow and that there should be more done for the Veterans.

There were no further comments or questions, Supervisor Butler asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Motion was made by Councilman Ragaini to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Brandow.

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

Motion to keep local Law made in 2010 for the Veterans exemptions for Local Law 1 : 2018 was made by Councilwoman Brandow, seconded by Councilman Paluch.

Ayes-3 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-1 (Butler) Absent-1 (Surrano) Abstentions-0

A motion to amend Local Law 1, 2018 Chapter 159-16 to revise the exemption to \$24,000, \$36,000, and \$120,000 was made.

Ayes- 3 (Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes- 1 (Butler) Absent-1 (Surrano) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler asked for a motion to be made in regards to moving the Public Hearing on Section 52 to the April 2, 2018 meeting. Councilman Paluch made the motion and Councilman Ragaini seconded.

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

Regular meeting convened at 7:30 p.m.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell presented the Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Monies Road Projects.

Oil and Stone

Road Name	Length	Width	P/G Total Oil
Indian Ridge Ext.	2800	20	\$5,087.29
Cone Place	1380	18	\$2,256.58
Rudolf Wier Jr. Rd.	1570	20	\$2,852.52
North Vosenkill Rd.	14835	21	\$28,301.22
Sandy Plains Rd.	12160	20	\$27,616.71

Oil cost	\$66,117.00
Rubber tire roller w/o operator	\$6,250.00
Washed 1A Stone Cost	\$14,541.00

Oil and Stone Project 2018 \$86,908.00

Old Kings Rd.

Restructure sub base	6" minus	2018 budget	\$5,000.00
Repaving of Old Kings Rd.	Blacktop	2017 CHIPS	\$80,000.00
		2017 pave NY	\$20,000.00

Park Ave.

2" blacktop overlay	Blacktop	2018 pave NY	\$16,000.00
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Sandy Plains Rd.

Pug Mill Pave at 2"	1As cold mix	2018 CHIPS	\$85,500.00
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Total road work	\$91,908.00
State Funds & Road	\$293,408.00

The remaining fund in DB 5110.4 will be used for diesel fuel, equip. repair, EZ Pass, gas, tires, sign, drainage, uniforms, and general repair on the remaining town roads.

Other projects include small culverts; Leeds-Athens Rd. by thruway tunnel: corner filled to stop erosion; suggested taking Code Enforcer Gasparini to the property in question on Leeds-Athens Rd. to possibly take some pictures and evaluate if water drainage can be solved .

Superintendent Farrell also addressed the board in regards to a call he received about clean up on Buttermilk Falls Rd. and the State Land. Board had no issues with the clean up as long as it was done before the Athens Clean-up Day. There would be no liability issues.

A Motion to Accept the Highway Expenditures Agreement was made by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini.
Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1(Surrano) Abstentions-0

Discussion followed in regards to gates and fences at the Highway Garage. Will move on it at next meeting.

Supervisor Butler read the proposed resolution for JCAP:

Whereas, the Town of Athens has received a check from New York State awarding a grant of \$1,303 from the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP), and

Whereas, this transaction has not yet been recognized in the 2018 Town of Athens Budget, 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 General Fund Estimated Revenue Code A3021 Court Facilities by \$1,303 and increasing General Fund Appropriations Line A1110.4 Town Grant supplies by \$1,303.

(3) Judge Robes and a Cabinet

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow, the aforementioned **RESOLUTION #2018-21** was adopted.

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

Supervisor Butler read the Standard Work Day Resolution for Employees:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Athens, Location Code 30383, hereby establishes the following as standard work days for its employees and will report days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the time keeping system or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these members to the clerk of this body:

Town Historian 6:00 hrs

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow, the aforementioned **RESOLUTION #2018-20** was accepted.

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

Supervisors Report 1/31/2018 was reviewed. No questions were asked.

Motion made to accept report made by Councilman Michael Ragaini, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

March 5,2018 Minutes were reviewed.

Motion made to accept minutes made by Councilman Anthony Paluch, seconded by Supervisor Butler.

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

Athens Street Festival letter received from Gail Lasher in regards to Gold Sponsor monies (in the Budget)

Motion to accept made by Councilman Anthony Paluch, seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini.

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

Town Finance Schools ; May 3 & 4, 2018 in Saratoga Springs and May 10 & 11, 2018 in Ellicottville. Anyone interested, please let us know.

Attorney Virginia Benedict opened discussion on Recyclical Reval Plan. She will speak to Bob Hilbert and Councilwoman Brandow will speak to Assessor Carol McBride in regards to what was filed and for how many years. There has been no new updates presented to Board or Attorneys' office. A new cycle should be starting for 2019. Have until September 1, 2018 to be done
Attorney Benedict will continue to work on it.

CLEAN UP DAY scheduled for Staurday, April 28, 2018, 8:30-12:30, behind the Athens Volunteer Firehouse.

Building Update given by Supervisor Butler. Architect will be reaching out to everyone soon. Supervisor Butler will be presenting project to Senator Amedore for possible State funding.

Garage Update given by Supervisor Butler. General Contractor will be coming in the spring to do miscellaneous work to the building. Discussion continued on the manual LED lights at the garage

Howard Hall Rd./ 385 Update given by Supervisor Butler. Stated that plans coming out for bid should be posted on DOT website. Discussion on looks of project will be a possible "T" design.

Discussion on Dollar General Accessibility (traffic aspect).

Discussion on CSX stoppage on train tracks; Supervisor Butler will look into further.

Discussion on Sliding Gate for Highway Garage; Option 1- Lightweight Aluminum fence
Option 2- Welded Steel Fence

Handout will be reviewed by Board and discussed and moved on at next meeting.

Supervisor Butler discussed with the Board about purchasing guiderail from EMI Guiderail in Schnectady for \$5.00 per foot (used with hardware), getting 300 Feet of guiderail for \$1500.00, and a possible total of \$2500.00 cost with hiring somebody(county or Bob Litchko) plus materials.

Lease Agreement presented by Supervisor Butler. Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion to accept the agreement, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

Board had no further business.

Audience was asked if there were any other items to be discussed:

-Garth Walker spoke in regards to the tree debris on Leeds-Athens Rd. from the tree removal from Central Hudson. Supervisor Butler will speak to Mayor Alberti, Superintendent Farrell, or Bob Van Valkenburgh in regards to the clean up and who may want to take the wood.

-Patrick Doyle from Hudson Energy Development spoke to the board in regards to a public involvement plan and the project going up in Cocksackie. Anyone who would be interested, can take a tour of possible sites for solar. He would like to have an open house in either May or June. Further discussion followed. Mr. Doyle was told he would need to be put on the agenda if there should be any further discussion on the solar topic.

With no further business to come before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Michael Ragaini, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

