

REGULAR MEETING-ATHENS TOWN BOARD

SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. on Monday, September 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr; and Deputy Town Clerk Gail M. Stacey. Councilman Michael Ragaini and Superintendent John J. Farrell were absent.

The following people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Assessor Carol McBride; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; Gene Paluch; Janet Paluch; Robert Brunner; and Shannon Spinner.

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

General Abstract #18, vouchers #348 through #366 inclusive for \$17,523.57

Highway Abstract #17, vouchers #162 through #178 inclusive for \$18,968.12

Supervisor Robert F. Butler Jr. went over the Equipment Inventory Sheet that Superintendent Farrell had left. There is one piece of equipment that needs to be surplus and that is a seven foot mower arm.

Councilman Richard M Surrano, Jr made a motion to surplus the mower arm, seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow.

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

A Notice of Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Athens Volunteer Fire Department in regards to zoning changes.

The Employee Handbook will have no adjustments as to date. Budget Officer, Don Pierro, has to discuss some things with Attorney Virginia Benedict in regards to eliminating Comp Time.

Cruisin on the Mountaintop fall car show sponsorship was discussed and no one was interested in donating.

A Notice of Public Hearing from the Village of Athens is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at the Village Hall, 2 First St. in regards to opposition of zoning changes from Water St. to Church St.

A letter from Young/Sommer was briefly discussed. It's a notice of submission of proposed stipulations for the Flint Mine Solar Project, case #18-F-0087.

Hecate Energy is extending the public comment period on their proposed stipulations to eight additional days. The comment period will end September 26, 2019.

Two letters from the Department of the Army were discussed briefly. The first is a proposal, DEC #4-1992-00299 consisting of the discharge of fill material below the ordinary water mark of Sleepy Hollow Lake to stabilize the shoreline on lot #192. The second is from Iroquois Pipeline which is a joint application to temporarily place timber mats on approximately 2,352 square feet of wetlands to provide access to maintain the pipeline.

With no further business to come before the Board, Supervisor Butler asked for a motion to be made to go into Executive Session.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion to go in to Executive Session, seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.

Ayes-2 (Butler; Surrano) Noes-2 (Brandow; Paluch) Absent-1 (Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Councilwoman Brandow was asked by Supervisor Butler why she chose to oppose Executive Session and her response was that she felt the issues between the two parties could have been resolved through face to face conversation. When also asked if it was alright that on 6 consecutive days of asking for something and not getting an answer, she responded that no it wasn't but there was an explanation given by the person in question and Supervisor Butler's response was that no there was no explanation given.

Councilman Paluch was asked why he chose to oppose Executive Session and his response was that he didn't need to have a reason and when asked if the people who voted for the members wanted to know why, he stated that he would tell them.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.