

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – April 1, 2019

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on April 1, 2019 at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

These people were also present; Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Peter and Cheryl Alberti; Barbara Trembacz; Fran McCusker and Patrick Doyle.

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

General Abstract #7, vouchers #139 through #162 inclusive for **\$40,248.47**.

Highway Abstract #7, vouchers #76 through #83 inclusive for **\$6,681.76**.

**Assessor Carol McBride** informed the Board that the County is working with a new vendor, ABS, for tax preparation. Assessors will be printing some of the work previously done by the former processor. Tax Collectors are to meet with RPTS on this issue this week.

She stated that Field Review is still in progress until the filing of the Tentative Roll. She asked that the make, color, and license plate number be put on the website along with the information that the office might be closed for annual field review. Property owners should call, and leave a voice mail message to make an appointment to see her.

The Tentative Roll will be printed on May 1, 2019.

Our Equalization Rate and Residential Assessment Ratio have been declared at a level of assessing of 97% per decision to postpone our Reassessment until 2021.

**Grievance Day is scheduled for May 28, 2019**, in the Town Clerk's office from 3-5 and 6-8 pm. Forms to file a Grievance can be picked up at the office or downloaded from the Town's website under the Assessor's tab.

**Assessor McBride** requested 3 boxes of self-addressed stamped envelopes for Town Data Mailers and Change of Assessment Notices for the Tentative Roll.

She also requested a new or used copy machine for the office.

**Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini** reported 7 building permits were issued and 7 building inspections were done.

He received many inquiries: These included T Mobile planning to change out their cell tower equipment at Crown Castle Cell Tower (Black Lake Rd.); Asking about building a home in a rural residential zoned area; about the use of Geo-thermal heating and cooling system for a house in the SH area; a call regarding solar panels; and a call about the removal and installation of a new manufactured home. Also information on lot line adjustment.

Two Certificates of Occupancy were issued and two Certificates of Compliance were issued. Also two Certificate of Occupancy Search requests. One Demolition Permit was issued. Two complaints were received.

Mr. Gasparini completed the NYS 2018 Uniform and Energy Code Administration and Enforcement Report. He has been working on the 2016 & 2017 report requested by NYS Building and Codes Department.

He has been working with property manager Audrey Lent in bringing Owen Lipstein's short term rental house at 216 Route 385 in Compliance.

**Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka** presented Board members with copies of the March Supervisor’s Report. He then reviewed it with them.

**Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr.** made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini *to approve and accept the Supervisor’s Report as presented*. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes- 0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

**Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell** handed out his Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway moneys for 2019 for the Board members to review. He informed them that he would be receiving \$14,000 less in aid from the State this year.

**On the motion of Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr.** seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow the following **RESOLUTION #2019-22** to execute the Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys was adopted as follows:

Agreement between the Town Superintendent of the of Athens, Greene County, New York, and the undersigned members of the Town Board.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that moneys levied and collected in the Town for the repair and improvement of highways, and received from the State for State Aid for the repair and improvement of highways, shall be expended as follows:

1. GENERAL REPAIRS. The sum of **\$144,350.00** shall be set aside to be expended for primary work and general repairs upon **31.17 miles** of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or renewals thereof.

OIL & STONE PROJECTS FOR 2019

Road Name	Length	Width	SY	APP Rate	Oil	Gal.	Price	P/G tot.	Oil	Stone type	Tons
Buttermilk Falls	6800’	22’	16625	0.4	CRS2P	6650	\$2.19	\$14,563.50		1A’s	208
Cold Springs	2450’	18’	4900	0.4	CRS2P	1960	\$2.19	\$4,292.40		1A’s	62
River Road	1760’	18’	3520	0.4	CRS2P	1408	\$2.19	\$3,083.52		1A’s	44
No. Vosenkill	14835’	22’	36265	0.4	CRS2P	14506	\$2.19	\$31,768.14		1A’s	519

Oil Cost	\$53,707.56
Rubber tire roller w/o operator	\$5,000.00
Washed 1A Stone Cost	\$11,000.00
Oil and Stone Project -2019	\$69,707.56

Total Road Work \$69,707.56

The remaining fund in DB 5110.4 will be used for Diesel fuel, equipment repair, EZ Pass, Gas, Tires, Sign, Drainage, uniforms and general repair on the remaining town roads.

The above resolution was adopted as follows: Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

**Mr. Farrell will sweep Union Street** for the Brinkerhoff Bicycle Race.

**He and some of the Highway Crew** will help at the Annual Spring Cleanup Day to be held on April 20 at the Athens Fire House on Third Street.

The Sheriff’s Department will be there from 10 am to 12 noon to collect any unwanted and unused medications.

The Board members reviewed the Town Clerk’s monthly report.

**Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr.** made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow *to accept the Town Clerk’s Report as presented*. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

**Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr.** made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini *to approve the minutes of March 18, 2019 as read.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler reported that letters were being sent to two members of the planning board, who haven't been attending to see if they were still interested.

Patrick Doyle of Flint Mine Solar came before the Board next. He informed them that Scoping is the next phase, and it is based in SEQRA. HE Stated that they have a contract with NYSERDA. A wetland Impact will be done.

Discussion followed.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting **a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr.** seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.