

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – January 21, 2019

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on January 21, 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; Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey. (Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow & Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell were absent.)

These people were also present; Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka and Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini.

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

General Abstract #2, vouchers #29 through #45 inclusive for \$15,007.75.

Highway Abstract #2, voucher #17 for \$6,981.40.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini went over his monthly report for December 2018. He informed the Board to how many and the types of phone calls he had received. He also advised them of a sign permit issued for Access Physical Therapy & Wellness on Route 9W. He also received several complaints: 1 for 12 Dawn Drive for cutting wood for profit in Hamlet. And 2 an in ground pool with no fencing. (The owner came in for a building permit for the fence.)

Payment was received for Short Term Rental Law Violation for 51 Thorpe Road.

The Annual Code Enforcement Report Showed the following:

47 – Building Permit fees collected	\$13,006.10
3- Septic Permit fees collected	135.00
6- Demolition Permit fees collected	400.00
4- Certificate of Occupancy fees collected	120.00
1- Temp Certificate of Occupancy Fee collected	30.00
9- Certificate of Compliance fees collected	270.00
58-Title Search Requests fees collected	2,320.00
2- Short Term Rental Certificates fees collected	200.00
1- Fireworks Permit fees collected	100.00
1- Sign Permit	122.50

Total amount of fees collected \$15,927.50.

Building Permit fees valued at \$4,695,000.18.

Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Michael Strenka informed the Board he has been busy getting bank rec's for December done so the Accountant can do have everything to do the W2's. He will have December's Supervisor's Report ready in February and the January one shortly after that.

Supervisor Butler informed the Board that Capital Bicycle Racing Club's 16th annual race will be held on April 6th and April 13th, 2019. Supervisor Butler is generally the contact person and he will advise the club it is okay.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to approve the minutes of January 7, 2019 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Brandow) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler announced that we received notification from the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment, RE; Intervenor Funding. It stated that the Town of Athens was awarded Pre-application Intervenor Funding of \$8,750, in the Application of Flint Mine Solar LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to Article 10 for construction of Solar Electric Generating Facility located in the Towns of Cossackie and Athens, Greene County.

Supervisor Butler received a letter from the State of NY Unified Court System reminding him of the requirement of auditing the court records and dockets, and that it is entered into the minutes of the Board's proceedings as a resolution. A copy then needs to be sent to the state. Our scheduled date to audit these books is March 4, 2019.

Copies of the postcard, advertising for volunteers for the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Board of Assessment and Review and Community Foundation Advisory Board were handed out to Board members for review. These are to be mailed out to home owners.

On the motion of Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2019-17** to adopt the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy; was adopted: The Town of Athens (the "Town") is committed to the safety and security of our employees. Workplace violence presents a serious occupational safety hazard to our officials, employees, and clients. Threats, threatening behavior, or acts of violence against Town employees where any work related duty is performed will be thoroughly investigated and appropriate action will be taken, including summoning appropriate law enforcement authorities when warranted. All employees are responsible for helping to create an environment of mutual respect for each other as well as Town residents and clients, following all policies, procedures and program requirements, and for assisting in maintaining a safe and secure work environment.

This policy is designed to meet the requirements of NYS Labor Law §27-b and highlights some of the elements that are found within our Workplace Violence Prevention Program. The process involved in complying with this law included a workplace evaluation that was designed to identify the workplace violence hazards our employees could be exposed to. An Authorized Employee Representative will, at a minimum, be involved in:

- The evaluation of the physical environment;
- The development of the Workplace Violence Prevention Program; and
- The review of workplace violence incident reports at least annually to identify trends in the types of incidents in the workplace and review of the effectiveness of the mitigating actions taken.

All employees will participate in the annual Workplace Prevention Training Program.

The goal of this policy is to promote the safety and well-being of all people in our workplace. All incidents of violence or threatening behavior will be responded to immediately upon notification.

All Town employees are responsible for notifying their Department Head or the Town Supervisor of any violent incidents, threatening behavior, including threats they have witnessed, received, or have been told that another person has witnessed or received.

Adopted: Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstention-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. *to go into Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations and personal issues.* Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstention-0 Time: 7:25 pm

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. *to come out of Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting.* Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstention-0 Time: 8:10 pm.

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 Councilman Michael Ragaini. Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstention-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.