

The Organizational meeting of the Athens Town Board was held at the Town Clerk's Office on January 6, 2020, and was called to order by the Honorable Town Justice Constance Pazin at 6:58 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr.; Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilman Anthony Paluch; Councilwoman Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda Stacey. (Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow was absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Don Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Judge Constance Pazin; Marla, Clare Jane & Tatum Butler; George F. Stacey; Melissa Ragaini; Michael, Jr., Paula, Michael, Nicholas & Daniel Ragaini; Jason Spinner; Tammi Jo, Coby & Craig Farrell; John P. and Marilyn Farrell; Town Justice E. Timothy and Carrol Mercer; Marianne Koch; Vee Carl; Robert Brunner; Lynn J. Brunner; Barbara Trembacz; Fran McCusker; Theresa Cardinale and Patrick Doyle.

The first order of business was the swearing in of the newly elected officials.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. was sworn in for a **term of 2 years**, by Town Justice Constance Pazin, with Rob's Tatum holding the Bible.

Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey was sworn in for a **4 year term**, by Town Justice Constance Pazin with Linda's husband George holding the Bible.

Councilman Michael Ragaini was sworn in for a **4 year term** by Town Justice Constance Pazin with Mike's daughter Melissa holding the Bible, accompanied by Mike's son Michael, Jr. and grandsons, Michael, Nicholas, and Daniel.

Councilwoman Shannon Spinner was sworn in for a **4 term** by Town Justice Constance Pazin with her husband Jason holding the Bible.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell was sworn in for a **4 year term** by Town Justice Constance Pazin with his sons Coby and Craig holding the Bible.

Town Justice E. Timothy Mercer was sworn in for a **4 year term** by Town Justice Constance Pazin with his wife Carrol and mother Marianne holding the Bible.

The following bills were audited prior to the meeting and ordered paid;

2019-General- Abstract #25, vouchers #472 through #485 inclusive for \$5,128.41.

2020-General-Abstract #1, vouchers #1 through #18 inclusive for \$18,409.91.

2020- Highway-Abstract #1, vouchers #1 through #11 inclusive for \$11,927.21.

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION # 2020-1** to adopt the following **Rules of Procedure for Board Meetings** was adopted:

1. upon entering the site of the Athens Town Board meetings, ALL CELLULAR PHONES, NON-EMERGENCY SERVICE PAGERS and ANY OTHER SUCH ELECTRONIC DEVICES SHALL BE SET TO FUNCTION IN A WAY IMPERCEPTIBLE TO ANY OTHER PERSON PRESENT.
2. All meetings will begin at the same, routine, and normal time, as legally posted in compliance with the New York State Public Officer's Law, following a routine agenda as adopted both by tradition and vote of the Town Board.
3. No additional matters are to be considered until each matter on the prepared agenda has been acted upon by the Town Board. Therefore all department heads are encouraged to remain until the adjournment of the meeting.

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4. To foster an element of sincere mutual respect, no demonstration, inappropriate applause or verbal support, booing, or any such disruptive response, which would interrupt the civility and formality of a Town Board meeting, will be tolerated. Any person or group persisting in such action will be asked to leave the meeting, with the concurrence of a majority vote of the Town Board.

5. Anyone wishing to be placed on the agenda to address the Town Board on a particular issue shall contact the Town Clerk at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting, giving their name, address, and the topic wished to be discussed. Citizens are encouraged to limit their presentations to seven (7) minutes, and to present to the Town Board supporting documentation as deemed appropriate to their position. Not allowing a petitioning citizen to address the Town Board is recognized as a serious matter, and if deemed appropriate, shall only be agreed to by a majority vote of the Town Board.

6. Any person addressing the Town Board shall direct his/her comment to the Supervisor and Town Board, and not engage any Town Board Member, department head, or other member of the audience in a debate. Questions shall be directed to the Supervisor who may choose to defer the question department head or other Board member. Some questions may be tabled for future research, at which point the Supervisor will answer the citizen with a reasonable time frame for a final response.

7. A time will be allotted at each meeting for the assembled public to comment upon or to ask further questions of the Supervisor regarding any of the discussions which had taken place at this meeting. A 15 minute limit per topic from the floor.

8. At no time may any of these provisions, as adopted, be modified without a majority vote of the Town Board.

This resolution was adopted as follows: Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0
Absent-1(Brando) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2020-2** to accept the proposed **2020 Salary Schedule** was adopted as follows: Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0
Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-3** authorizing the Highway Superintendent the expenditure of funds as needed for the purchase of small tools or on parts as per Town Law #52, Articles I & II without prior Board approval was adopted. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **Resolution #2020-4** to establish the mileage reimbursement at the IRS recommended rate of use for the use of Employees own vehicle on Town Business. (January 15, 2020- 57.5) Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2020-5** authorizing Petty Cash Funds for Town Justice Constance Pazin; Town Justice E. Timothy Mercer; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey at \$100.00 each was adopted. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION 2020-6** authorizing a petty cash drawer for the Town Clerk at \$100, and a petty cash drawer of \$125 for Tax Collection. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-7** establishing the regular meetings for 2020 as follows was adopted. Held the First and Third Monday's of each month at 6:45 p.m. at the Town Clerk's Office. Unless otherwise advertised. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2020-8** designating the National Bank of Cocksackie as the Official Depository for the Town of Athens. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION#2020-9** designating the Catskill Daily Mail as the Official Newspaper for the Town. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2020-10** establishing March 2, 2020 as the date to audit the Justices Books and Town Clerks cash book. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-11** Designating the Town Clerk as Registrar of Vital Statistics and Deputy Clerk as the Deputy Registrar. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2020-12** to adopt a sixty (60) day extension to send the Annual Financial Report to the State Comptroller, if needed. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-13 Designating the Firm of Pattison, Kosky, Howe, & Buccio as the Town Accountants, was adopted.** Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini the following **RESOLUTION #2020-14 to adopt the current Employee Handbook with Amendments was adopted.** Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-15 Designating Robert F. Butler, Jr. as Delegate and Michael Ragaini as Alternate to the Association of Towns Annual meeting held in NYC in February, was adopted.** Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded Councilman Anthony Paluch to make the following yearly appointments;

Town Attorney	Whitbeck Benedict & Smith LLP
Bookkeeper/Budget Officer	Donald Pierro
Deputy Supervisor	Michael Ragaini
Tax Collector	Linda M. Stacey
Deputy Town Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector	Gail Stacey
Code Enforcement	Albert Gasparini
Dog Damage Control Officer	Albert Gasparini
Consolidated Health Secretary	Albert Gasparini
Consolidated Health Member	Stephan Bradicich (Mayor)
Consolidated Health Chairman	Robert F. Butler, Jr. (Supervisor)
Consolidated Health Officer	Dr. Stephen G. Hassett
Senior Court Clerk	Marcia Puorro
Court Clerk	Vincenzina R. Carl
Historian	Lynn J. Brunner
Dog Control Officer	Sherry Vieta
Clerk to Assessor & Code Enforcer	Peggy Pieruzzi
Planning Board Chair	Hal Brodie
Zoning Board Chair	TBD
Secretary to Planning & Zoning	Margaret (Peggy) Snyder
Flint Mine Siting Board	Mike Pirrone
Town & Village Comprehensive Plan	Thomas Satterlee
Town Representative to ACF	TBD- Supervisor's Appointment

These appointments were carried: Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

2020 Athens Community Foundation: Leo Palmateer has 1 more year remaining on his current term which expires 12/31/2020; He would like to step down as he has been on the Board since the beginning.

Councilwoman Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini to **reappoint Edward Bloomer to the board for a two year term, expires 12/31/2021.** Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to **reappoint Thomas Satterlee as a member of the Planning Board for a seven (7) year term beginning 1/6/2020 to 12/31/2026.** Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to reappoint Gerald Bunting and Kevin Forbes for one (1) year each as Alternates to the Planning Board, 1/6/2020 to 12/31/2020. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to reappoint Eric Nelson and Scott Leggio as Alternates to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a one (1) year term 1/6/2020 to 12/31/2020. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to appoint the following committees read by Supervisor Butler.

Joint Landfill	Mary Brandow	Anthony Paluch
Village & Town	Robert F. Butler, Jr.	Shannon Spinner
Special Projects	Michael Ragaini	Mary Brandow
Ambulance	Phyllis Dinkelacker	
Reserves	Mary Brandow	Don Pierro
Insurance	Robert F. Butler, Jr.	Don Pierro
Medical Insurance	Robert	Don
Planning	Shannon Spinner	Michael Ragaini
Zoning	Mary Brandow	Anthony Paluch
Highway	Anthony Paluch	Shannon Spinner
Building	Robert F. Butler, Jr.	Michael Ragaini
Code Enforcement	Micheal Ragaini	
Bookkeeper	Mary Brandow	
Assessor	Shannon Spinner	
Fire Contracts	Robert F. Butler, Jr.	

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

Bookkeeper Don Pierro went over the Supervisor's Report for December.

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner to accept and approve the Supervisor's Report for December as presented. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2020-16** to transfer \$75,000 out of highway equipment reserve to wheel loader funding, subject to a Permissive Referendum was adopted. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to accept the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler called resident Robert Brunner up to the Council Table to speak to him about data collection. He wants to get started. Supervisor just found out by letter that Mr. Daoust can't do it.

Supervisor Butler informed the Board that he will be meeting with the Mayor with a drop dead date for an answer on the takeover of the building.
Discussion followed.

On the motion of Councilman Michael Ragaini seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. the following **RESOLUTION #2020-17** to approve and accept the Collective Bargaining

Agreement By and Between the Town of Athens and the Teamsters Local 294 Highway Unit for 6/1/18 to 5/3/2021 was adopted. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0

As there was no further business to come before the meeting **a motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Shannon Spinner** seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch. Ayes- 4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-1(Brandow) Abstentions-0
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.