

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – March 7, 2022

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on March 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Michael N. Pirrone with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House at 39 Third Street.

The following people were present: Supervisor Pirrone; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Court Clerk Marcia Puorro; Town Justice Tim Mercer; Nolan and Susan Pazin; Mary K. Garvey; Town Justice Connie Pazin; Planning Board Scott Fischer; Villages Trustees Nancy Poylo and Gail Lasher; Court Clerk Ruth Wittlinger; Robert Brunner and Patrick Doyle of Flint Mine Solar.

After auditing the Abstracts below, Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve them for payment:

General Abstract #5, vouchers #72 through #109 inclusive for **\$55,111.75**.

Highway Abstract #5, vouchers #28 through #35 inclusive for **\$9,018.12**.

Trust & Custodian Abstract #2, vouchers #2 through #3 inclusive for **\$532.00**.

This motion was carried: Ayes-5(Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Scott Fischer, Town Planning Board Chairman came before the Board with several copies of the Town of Cocksackie's Zoning Code for information to share with the Town Board.

The section was Commercial event venue, which talks about restaurants with banquet facilities; parking provided for on -site parking.

Scott said that their code also covers things like tiny homes, Air B-n-B's, and wedding venues.

The applications must go to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Currently we have no control over the codes. He suggested that the Board look at Cocksackie's Zoning Code and adopt several of these sections. The Town could take control of noise levels, hours of operation, this would address everything.

Town Board minutes of the last meeting were reviewed by the Board.

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the Town Board minutes of February 21, 2022, were approved as read. Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Senior Court Clerk Marcia Puorro presented booklets to Board members so they could follow her explanation of the different areas that she spoke about in the Annual Justice Report for 2021. Also present with her, were court clerk Ruth Wittlinger; Judge Constance Pazin and Judge E. Timothy Mercer. Marcia explained that the clerks had to take an online "sexual harassment course," as well as any other update courses that the State requires. She outlined the money that came in monthly and how it was distributed, between the State, Town, and County. (This money was received from traffic violations as well as small claims court.)

At the conclusion of her report, Marcia passed around a sign in sheet for her records and advised the members of the Board that they were welcome to come to view the Court in session at any time.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow, the following **RESOLUTION #2022-24** to approve the Town of Athens Justice Court **Annual Report for 2021 as presented**. Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

The Board reviewed the Town Clerk's cash book for 2021.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to approve the Town Clerk's cash book for 2021 as presented. Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Old Business:

Trooper Brinkerhoff Race, April 9 and 23.

Spring Cleanup Day in April

Surplus Truck-Auctions International- The highest bidder on used surplus truck, failed to secure financing for the purchase. Auctioneer attempted to negotiate with 2nd & 3rd bidders; however, bidders proposed additional discounts which were rejected. Rebidding process will be restarted.

Town Training for Athens Planning & ZBA Committee Members: March 29 & 31, 6:00 to 8:00 pm. AT American Legion Post TGM 187

Air Quality Study-seems to be thoughts of requesting the Village for Participation. (Sharing Costs?)

Supervisor Pirrone advised the Board that someone will be looking at the chimney, and someone will be coming to look at the boiler on the furnace.

Supervisor Pirrone told the Board that Whitbeck Benedict & Smith, LLC are reviewing the latest correspondence from Flint Mine Solar's legal counsel. The Road Agreement is still in progress. The Pilot has not been received yet. The IDA is still working on this.

Patrick Doyle, of Flint Mine Solar, informed everyone that they (both the IDA & Flint Mine) need to finalize details.

The IDA will have escalation figured in for each year.

Mr. Doyle talked about the Host Agreement between Flint Mine Solar and the Towns of Cossackie and Athens. These will have escalation built into them as well. He also said that with all the agreements that he has been part of, there have been NO Host agreements when there has been a Pilot. This was the first.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to go into Executive Session to go over legal issues. Ayes-4 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-1(Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time-7:59 pm

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to adjourned Executive session and reconvene the regular meeting. Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 time-8:17pm

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to approve hiring three data collectors without a motion. Ayes-4 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini Spinner) Noes-1 (Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

As there was no further business to come before the meeting, **a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Anthony Paluch** seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini.

Ayes-5(Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 P. M.