

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – June 20, 2023

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on June 20, 2023, at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Michael N. Pirrone with the Pledge of Allegiance, at Athens Community Center at 2 First Street, Athens.

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: Attorney George McHugh; Financial/Budget Officer Don Pierro; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Mike Campbell; Theresa Cardinale; Fran McCusker; George Greiner; Hailee Dickson; Becky Pine; Russ Nadler; M. K. Garvey; David Barnes; Michael Barnes; Paula Butler; Robert Brunner; and Ed Bloomer.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary Brandow to approve the following vouchers which were audited by the Board prior to the meeting.

General Abstract #12, vouchers #273 through #304 inclusive for \$33,356.18.

Highway Abstract #11, vouchers #102 through #111 inclusive for \$17, 431.35.

Trust and Custodian:

1. **Deschaine Café**- Abstract #3, voucher #5 for \$75.00.
2. **FreePoint Solar** – ZBA- Abstract #6, voucher #8 for \$750.
3. **9071 Rt 9W-Stay @ Lina** – Abstract #4, voucher #5 for \$112.50.

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

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of June 5, 2023, as read. Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Departmental Narratives:

The Highway Office continues to perform their routine road maintenance, schedule, and book applicable contractors for their previously planned major projects. Always providing aid and information and addressing any other related matters. (Highway written Report.)

The Assessor's office continues to accept questions, provide aid, and address any other related matters. The office continues to give as much time as needed to all residents.(Assessors written report.) Final numbers will be ready July 1st.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported that 3 building permits were issued.

There were 15 building inspections. There were several building inquiries. Three of the inquiries were about the reopening of the old Green Lake Resort.

One Certificate of Occupancy was issued. Two certificates of Compliance were issued.

There were 3 Certificates of Occupancy search requests. There was 1 Short Term Rental at 73 Lisa Lane. One firework permits for Sleepy Hollows annual celebration.

Violations: 1540 Leeds Athens Road, violation of Property Maintenance Code of New York State, Chapter 3 General Requirements, 304.7 Roads and drainage, 305.3 Interior surfaces.

Roof leaking into home and damaged the interior ceiling and walls of the kitchen and children's bedroom with evidence of a type of black mold. Tenant claims of health issues from mold for her and children.

May 11, 2023, there was an Athens Town court hearing with the homeowner attending. Hearing moved to June 1, 2023, that the homeowner failed to appear to.

The Stop Work order for Green Lake Road was removed after the owner had satisfied the violations of the decks built, A building permit was issued.

Financial/Budget Officer Don Pierro reported that all financial activity for January 1st through May 31, 2023, has been recorded on the General Ledger with no exceptions.

Annual Excise Tax (Form 720) was prepared and filed with the Department of the Treasury for the average number of staff on the MPV policy for the year ending 2022.

The Annual PERMA Payroll audit was reviewed and verified with no exception.

The Summary of Cash and a Combining Balance Sheet are updated and attached to the rear of the monthly Statement of Activities Report.

All Bank Statements and Cash Reconciliations were completed for the month ending May 2023 with no exceptions noted.

The next annual payment of \$65,137.15 including principal and interest will be made in September 2003 for the single piece of bonded indebtedness.

The preparation and filing for the current year ARPA Funds and Greene County ARPA Funds were accepted without exceptions.

Final Settlement payment to the Law Firm “Monaco, Cooper, Lamme & Carr” (Counsel or Sleepy Hollow) was paid in full.

The Panning and preparation for the 2024 Budget is continuing with weekly meetings and analysis with the Supervisor. On May 1st we received the updated “Tentative” Roll totals from the Town Assessor for the Taxable Assessed Valuation numbers. We will receive a Valuation update effective July 1st also per the Assessor and update the various Tax Calculations accordingly.

The monthly Retirement Report was prepared, filed timely, and accepted as submitted without exceptions. (These reports are now digital.)

Supervisor Pirrone reported that the Speed Limit reduction request for County Route 57 (Farm to Market Road) from the Village limits to the Coxsackie Town Line, reducing the speed from 55 mph to 45 mph, has been sent into Greene County Highway Department for their disposition.

He has contacted Hillsdale Supermarket, Inc. regarding operating an “IGA” supermarket in Athens. He is waiting to hear from them.

Supervisor Pirrone presented a Proposed Local Law entitled: “Town of Athens Wireless Communication Facilities Moratorium Law,” to the Board for their review.

On the motion of Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2023-36** was adopted:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens has proposed a local law entitled “*TOWN OF ATHENS WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES MORATORIUM LAW*”, in an effort to temporarily restrict the development of wireless telecommunication facilities so that the Town Board may consider enactment of land use regulations to encourage appropriate development of wireless telecommunications facilities that is consistent with the Town’s land use development and zoning objectives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a public hearing is hereby scheduled for July 17, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Athens Town Hall, 2 First Street, Athens, NY 12015, to receive comments from the public regarding proposed **Local Law No. 4, of 2023**, a Local Law to institute a six (6) month moratorium to temporarily restrict the development of wireless telecommunications facilities so that the Town Board may consider enactment of land use regulations to encourage appropriate development of wireless telecommunications that is consistent with the Town’s land use development and zoning objectives; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to publish appropriate notice for the public hearing.

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

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to **appoint resident David Barnes** to the Athens Citizens Committee to **serve on the Telecommunications Tower Citizens Committee (Code 162)**.

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

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to **appoint resident Michael Barnes** to the Athens Citizens Committee to **serve on the Telecommunications Tower Citizens Committee (Code 162)**.

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

Supervisor Pirrone informed the Board that Mr. Doyle, of Flint Mine Solar, is waiting for supplies.

Resident Becky Pine asked, that now the committee has been chosen, what happens now.

She was informed that the first meeting of the Telecommunications Tower Citizens Committee will be held the week after July 4th. Attorney George McHugh will be assisting them. He will also have some templates that they can use to make decisions.

The Solar Moratorium Citizens Committee list needs to be updated.

Attorney McHugh informed the Board that Supervisor Pirrone worked with Flint Mine Solar and received \$120,000 in impact fees to be used toward legal costs.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.