

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – August 7, 2023

The meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order at the Athens Town Hall, on August 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Michael N. Pirrone, with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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: Barbara Trembacz; Karen Dudley; Connie Pazin; Hailee Dickson; Becky Pine; Larry Farrell; Tom Satterlee; Theresa Cardinale and Fran McCusker,

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow *to approve the following vouchers that were audited by the Board prior to the meeting.*

General Abstract #14, vouchers #351 through #375 inclusive for **\$6,530.88.**

Highway Abstract #13, vouchers #121 through #132 inclusive for **\$10,523.47.**

Trust & Custodian:

2% Fire District- Athens-\$1,335.93 Abstract #1, Voucher #1

Leeds- \$ 445.31 Abstract #1 Voucher #2 Total check was \$4,048.27.

West Athens Lime Street- \$2,267.03 Abstract #1 Voucher #3

ZBA- Free Point Solar- Abstract #7, voucher#7 \$3,420.00.

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

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini *to approve the minutes of July 17, 2023.* Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Michael N. Pirrone gave the Supervisor's Report: He made several visits to Schoharie tpk. culvert replacement site. (This is a 5ft. by 12 ft. flat galvanized steel culvert to help keep storm water contained and flowing correctly.)

He reported that the equipment rental company had advised him that the piece we were using was a newer model, and our rental insurance premium did not cover the cost of the rental. This was taken care of as soon as he got back to the office.

According to the newspaper, FreePoint Solar was not happy with their application being denied for a solar site on Potic Mountain Road. They will Appeal the ZBA's decision.

A F.O.I.L. request has been received from a New Baltimore Resident Harold Vadney, on Attorney McHugh's hours of employment with the Town of Athens.

Mr. Vadney also Foiled the Dog Control Officer's (Sherry Vieta) employment hours and her monthly reports etc.

Both of these FOILS are being answered.

Supervisor Pirrone informed the Board that there may be a change in the way Town Justices will be chosen, and what the requirements for the position will entail. The NY State passed the Law, the NY Assembly's law is still in the Committee. If passed it will go before the Governor for signing. (Villages and Towns with high caseloads, will have to have an Attorney, admitted to practice law in this State for at least five years, as of the date they commence the duties of office.) This will start with one hundred towns or villages with the highest volume caseloads as

determined by the office of court administration in consultation with the division of criminal justice services. The initial determination shall be based on the sum of cases from 2018 and 2019.

Town Justice Connie Pazin suggested that the Town Board pass a resolution stating that they are NOT in favor of this change. She presented the Supervisor with a sample resolution.

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini has been having issues with a Contractor who has been putting the rush on his work.

Capital District YMCA, Greene County Branch will be sponsoring its annual “Greene Y Tri” in Sleepy Hollow Lake on Saturday September 9, 2023, starting at 8:00 am. It will consist of a 350-yard swim in Sleepy Hollow Lake. Followed by a 12-mile bike ride going around the outside of Sleepy Hollow Lake; followed by a 5K run inside Sleepy Hollow Lake. They are asking for support from the Town.

The Assessor has received 10 tax grievances and one Article 78 (700 Flats Road). They are continuing to update their files, adding pictures, verifying data, filing etc.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner *to approve the Town Clerk’s Report for July, as presented*. Ayes-5 (Pirrone; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Supervisor Michael N. Pirrone informed the Board that he will be meeting with the Village Mayor, Amy Serrago, on Wednesday night.

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 7:15 pm.