

**REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD**

August 5, 2024

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on August 5, 2024, by Deputy Supervisor Gail Lasher at 6:00pm and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was held at the Athens Municipal Building, 2 First St.

**The following Board members were in attendance:** Council Members Tami Bone, Mary Brandow and Becky Pine.

**Others in attendance:** Deputy Supervisor Gail Lasher, Town Clerk Phyllis Dinkelacker, Town Attorney George McHugh.

**The following people were in attendance:** Theresa Cardinale, Fran McCusker, M.K. Garvey, Katherine Daly (from the Daily mail)

**VOUCHERS**

**The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid.**

<b><u>General 2024 Abstract # 15</u></b>	Vouchers 308 – 338	\$31,184.27
<b><u>Highway 2024 Abstract # 15</u></b>	Vouchers 97 – 104	\$22,833.12

A question was asked about the Office of the State Comptroller's Justic Court Fund invoice. We have April's and June's invoices. Was May's paid already? Town clerk will investigate it and get the information back to the bord.

**MINUTES FROM:** June 17, 2024 were distributed. A motion was made by Pine and seconded by Bone to approve the minutes.

Motion carried. Ayes – 4, No's – 0, Abstentions/Absents – 1

**TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT:** Town clerks report for the month of July was distributed. A motion was made by Bone and seconded by Brandow to accept the clerk's report. Motion carried. Ayes – 4, No's – 0, Abstentions/Absents – 1

**Supervisor Report: Legal Items:**

- FreePoint Solar, LLC. et al. v. Town of Athens Zoning Board of Appeals. Appellate Division, Third Dept.-Case/Docket No.:CV-24-0711.  
Town of Athens, Special Counsel, John Dowd, Dreyer-Boyajian has filed our Respondent Brief for the case. Awaiting determination from the NYS Supreme Court-Appellate Division.
- Hailee Dickson, et al. v. Town of Athens Zoning Board of Appeals, et al. NYS Supreme Court, Greene County-Index No.: EF2024-400.
- APO Sleepy Hollow Lake, Inc., et al, Plaintiffs (Index No. EF2023-573, Dtd. August 11, 2023) – vs Greene County Industrial Development Agency, et al.
- Town Attorney McHugh-Town Board legal update & explanations.

**Supervisor Report: General Items:**

- Received a response from the Greene County Planning Board regarding the Town Referral for the Amended Solar Local Law. The County's response is "No Action". The Town Planning Board has not responded to this issue. All council members have received information.
- Town Clerk to set Public Hearing for Amended Solar Local Law for August 19. C. Meeting Rene Van Schaack, Greene Cty. IDA, Council Woman Becky Pine on August 12, regarding CHPE project.
- Meeting with Paul Salvino regarding Rivertown Senior Housing Development Fund, Inc. Pilot agreement, on August 13.
- Planning meeting with Catskill Supervisor Patrick McCulloch for the Leeds VFD budget review, TBD.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Town Action: To waive the NYS Hunting and Fishing Licenses, 6 NYCRR Part 177 Sporting License Printing and Mailing Fee, incurred by the Town. See supplemental information. No Town Board action will follow up if the proposed regulation is passed.
- Town Action: With Towns relationship to the WALs Fire District with the residents of the Town, the services provided, the goodwill & the partnership we share, Supervisor Pirrone is concurring with CEO Gasparini's suggestion that the Town authorize the Building Department to waive the Building Permit fee of approximately \$10, 500. +/- We personally think that this is a small gesture, which would be agreeable to all Athens residents.

Formal Resolution Attached.

- Town Action: Town Resolution # 2024-25 agrees to submit a joint application, with the Village of Athens, to the Greene County Administrator available ARPA funding of \$ 25,000, each (total of \$ 50,000). for upgrades to the Athens Green Playscape Area, as described.

Formal Resolution Attached.

- Town Action: To Authorize the Town Clerk to Contract with Ruby D'S cleaning services, as outlined in their proposal, 3 persons, total of 40 hours' time, cost of \$ 5,000. The services are not within the scope of the janitorial services provided by the Landlord. The Town Clerk & staff are working diligently to clean, remove & improve the working environment of the office spaces. No Town Board action taken. Being the project would cost more than \$5,000.00. Tabled until other bids are received.

- Town Action: To Set Public Hearing for Amended Solar Local Law # 3. No Action by the Town Baord this was done at the last meeting by motion. Public hearing notice was sent to the newspaper on 8/6/2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- It appears possible for the town and the village to jointly own the real property and bond future renovations and additions. Recommends that the town and village consider Bond Counsel Chris Chale engaging her firm to draft an IMA for this purpose. Attached please find her email and attachment.

The Town supervisor and the Village mayor along with their lawyers will be meeting about this on 8/13.

-Town Board Video Conferencing consideration can be allowed, provided the conditions have been satisfied.

-Employee Dental & Vision Policy. The policies are employee only plans. No participation in the Town required. Please consider & advise.

-Even Year Election Legislation, Proposed Public Hearing, Mandatory referendum, and Local Law, Change the Term of Supervisor, Town of Athens.

**Planning Board items of concern**

-Update to Code, Fees, Fine schedules.

-Committee to do codes.

-Additional, alternate members.

-Code book (Hard Copy).

-Attendance & Training., Maps

Becky is the liaison and would like to address this further.

**Town Council Concerns:**

**Public Concerns:**

**Community Information:**

Aug 13: Code Review Committee. Municipal building

Aug 14: Zoning Board of Appeal. Municipal Building

Aug 19: Town Board meeting. Municipal building.

Aug 22: Planning board meeting. Municipal building.

Aug 24: Town & Village Yard Sale Day.

Sep 3: Tuesday Town Board meeting. Municipal Building.

Sep 7: Greene County YMCA Triathlon. Sleepy Hollow Lake.

Sep 10: Code Review Committee. Municipal Building.

Sep 11 Zoning Board of Appeals. Municipal Building.

Sep 13: Annual Senior Citizens Day. Historic Catskill Point.

Sep 16 Town Board meeting. Municipal Building.

Sep 26: Planning Board meeting. Municipal Building.

Being no other business to come before the Board.

**A Motion was made** by Bone and second by Pine to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm.

Motion carried. Ayes – 4, No's – 0, Abstentions/Absents – 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Dinkelacker  
Athens Town Clerk

8/3/2024 6:33 PM

# Town of Athens, NY & Town Council Meeting

Municipal Building, 2 First Street

Gail Lasher, Deputy Supervisor, Presiding.

Agenda MONDAY, August 5, 2024 @ 6:00pm

Please Sign In, No Sign in-Not Included in Minutes.

- **PLEDGE.**

- **VOUCHERS:** To Approve the Vouchers audited by the Town Board for payment.

Motion By                      2<sup>nd</sup> By                      AIF

EXCEPTIONS NOTED:

**PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:** To Approve the Minutes of the meetings of July 17, 2024.

Motion By    2<sup>nd</sup> By    AIF

EXCEPTIONS NOTED:

- **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:** To accept Town Clerk Report for the month of July.

Report Attached.

Motion By    2<sup>nd</sup> By    AIF

EXCEPTIONS NOTED:

NYS Hunting and Fishing Licenses, 6 NYCRR Part 177 Sporting License Printing and Mailing Fee. This rulemaking adopts a regulation to allow License Issuing Agents (LIAs) and license fulfillment centers to levy a nominal fee for the printing and/or mailing of plain paper hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses.

The Town Clerk is responsible for the Printing of Hunting and Fishing Licenses on plain paper, as authorized by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

The Clerk can collect only the cost of the License, not the cost of printing it.

NYS DEC is proposing a change in regulation that would allow agents (Town) to pass on the plain paper printing cost of the License to the purchaser. Should this NYS DEC regulation pass, the Town Clerk wishes to determine if the Town Council

wants to follow the prescribed regulation or concede to waiving the printing cost for the purchaser.

Attached: & 6 NYCRR 177, Express Terms  
& 6 NYCRR 177, Regulatory Impact Statement

Of Note: The Regulatory Impact Statement, Paragraph # 5, Local government mandates: The proposed rule does not impose any mandates on local governments.

#### Supervisor Report: Legal Items

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4. Town Attorney McHugh-Town Board legal update & explanations.

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- B. Town Clerk to set Public Hearing for Amended Solar Local Law for August 19.
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**New Business:**

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See supplemental information.

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Motion By

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### Old Business Issues:

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1. Update to Code, Fees, Fine schedules.
2. Committee to do codes.
3. Additional, alternate members.
4. Code book (Hard Copy).
5. Attendance & Training., Maps

- **Town Action:**

Motion By

2<sup>nd</sup> By

AIF

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