

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD

July 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on July 21, 2025, by Supervisor Michael Pirrone 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 present: Supervisor Michael Pirrone, Council Members Tami Bone, Karen Haas, Anthony Paluch and Becky Pine.

The following Town Officers were present: Town Clerk Phyllis Dinkelacker, Deputy Supervisor Gail Lasher, Town Attorney George McHugh, and CEO Albert Gasparini.

The following people were in attendance: Janet Paluch, Eugene Paluch, Jen Mosher, Jody Pindt, Nancy Poylo, Mike Campbell and James O’Connell.

The minutes from: June 23rd were presented to the Town board.

A motion was made by Haas and seconded by Bone to approve the minutes. Motion carried: Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No’s – 0.

VOUCHERS

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

<u>General 2025 Abstract # 13</u>	Vouchers	#284 – 294	\$15,303.00
<u>Highway 2025 Abstract # 01</u>	Vouchers	# 13 - 106	\$82,967.30

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk presented her report for the month of June.

A motion was made by Pine and seconded by Bone to accept the Clerk’s report. Motion carried: Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No’s – 0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT – Was presented by supervisor Pirrone. see attached.

ASSESSOR – Ms. Dawn DeRose. See attached.

Assessor reported that she has not received any permits from the Village Code enforcement officer(s). Supervisor Pirrone said he will address this with the mayor.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Albert Gasparini See attached.

TOWN SUPERVISOR – Supervisor’s report see attached.

Supervisor Report: Legal Items

FreePoint Solar, LLC. et al. v. Town of Athens Zoning Board of Appeals. SNY, COA Decision, June 18, 2025: Motion for leave to appeal denied with one hundred dollars costs and necessary reproduction disbursements.

Town attorney reported that himself, Supervisor Pirrone, John Dowd and the Chairs from the Planning board and the ZBA had a conference call discussing how to proceed going forward.

Board member Pine inquired about Flint mine.

Supervisor Pirrone reported that there is nothing going on with Flint Mine, he is keeping in touch with Patrick Doyle.

Supervisor Report: General Items.

-Peckham, Schoharie Turnpike odor issues. The Supervisor continues to aid in the resolution of this issue, initiating on August 14, 2023, and continuing onto the present day, Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 3:29 AM. Peckham managers responded with information & kept us apprized. Coordinating a Business Meeting with Peckham Team & Town Council, tentative date Monday, August 18, 2025, 6:00 pm.

-Greene County Ambulance Review Study Meeting will be Wednesday, August 13, 2025.

-Green Lake Resort, Planned Unit Development Project: wanted to let you know that we finally signed an LOI with a 5-star wellness resort from the Caribbean and we have 60 days to finalize our joint venture agreement.

-NYSDOT, Region One, Culvert Project, Route 385, Corlaer Kill, 2026 year.

-NYS Department of Labor-Bureau of Public Works & Prevailing Wages: Yearly visit to advise of Article 8, adhering to prevailing wages law.

-Resident communication of road debris, potholes, sharp stones, jagged asphalt in the CHPE construction site Leeds-Athens Railroad Crossing. The supervisor investigated the issue, advise CHPE jurisdictional stakeholders. Issue resolved to resident satisfaction via written communication to Supervisor.

New Business:

-Discussion: Greene County Athens Meal Delivery Site. Building Condition Assessment Proposals. The supervisor sought RFPs from five (5) firms, received two (2). RFPs attached for consideration.

There was discussion on the use of the building and what it would mean to the Town to move forward.

The two proposals received were from MJ Engineering for \$7,800.00

Delaware Engineering for \$7,000.00

The Board preferred not to use Delaware engineering.

A motion was made by Haas and seconded by Pine to have the Town Attorney renegotiate with MJ Engineering to lower their price to \$7,000.00. If they MJ Engineering agree the Board agrees to move forward with the Inspection.

Motion carried. Ayes - 4,(Bone, Hass, Pine, and Pirrone), No's – 1 (Paluch)

-Discussion: Business meeting with Peckham Industries Management Team and the Town Council on August 18.

A motion By Pine 2nd By Haas that our next meeting August 18th, 2025 will be held at the Athens Senior Center with Peckham.

Motion carried Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0.

Note: Peckham will be there, and the public will be allowed to ask questions and comment.

-Discussion: Preliminary expenses for Building Lift System, equal participation with Village. Relocation of Fuel Tanks, Estimated at between \$7,200 to \$ 8,000. Reimbursement from Court System Grants.

A motion was made by Pine and seconded by Haas that the Town pay Half of preliminary expense for the lift, to move the fuel tank not to exceed \$4,000.00 and to pay half of the engineering cost Which is \$441.00(\$882.00).

Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0.

-Discussion: Alison Dooley is willing to continue working for Athens remotely as she is. If so, will retain the town laptop to perform her job functions. Ms. Dooley employment records show honesty, trustworthy & hard-working person with incredible knowledge and experience in the world of assessments.

A motion by Pirrone and second by Pine to allow Ms. Dooley to work remotely from out of state.

Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Pine, and Pirrone), No's – 1(Paluch).

-Greene County cooperative purchasing program.
Town Action: Authorizing the TOA to Adopt, Accept & Participate with Greene County Resolution 216-25, Awarding Bids for Propane, when deemed prudent & beneficial by Town of Athens Highway Superintendent.

Motion By Pine seconded By Bone to adopt Greene County Resolution 216-25.

Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0.

-Greene County cooperative purchasing program.

Town Action: Authorizing the Town of Athens to Adopt, Accept & Participate with Greene County Resolution 222-25, Awarding Bids for # 2D Diesel Fuel, when so deemed prudent and beneficial by Town of Athens Highway Superintendent Farrell.

Motion By Pine seconded By Paluch to adopt Greene County Resolution 222-25.
Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0

-Greene County cooperative purchasing program.

Town Action: Authorizing the Town of Athens to Adopt, Accept & Participate with Greene County Resolution 223-25, Awarding Bids for Gasoline, when so deemed prudent and beneficial by Town of Athens Highway Superintendent Farrell.

Motion By Pine seconded By Bone to adopt Greene County Resolution 223-25.
Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0:

Old Business Issues:

Board Haas mentioned that she feels that we should look more into a noise ordinance. She realizes it would be hard to enforce. What do the other towns do? Town Attorney McHugh will draft an ordinance.

Town Council Concerns:

Board member Pine asked if the County has a cooperative purchasing program with a company that provides fuel oil?

Supervisor will look into it.

Public Concerns:

-Resident Jen Mosher: She mentioned that she had submitted a FOIL. T
The Town Clerk acknowledged the FOIL request and let her know that she would have to wait to get the information requested until the Town Bookkeeper(HR) gets back from vacation and should respond to her FOIL request by August 8th.

Ms. Mosher inquired about a complaint that was made about 20 Lime Kill Rd.
Supervisor Pirrone informed her that the complaint went to the Code Enforcement Officer

Ms. Mosher asked what the process was for a complaint? If the Dog control officer goes to the property, does she send in a report to the board?

Supervisor Pirrone explained that the laws from Ag and markets is followed. In this case there is nothing in writing yet, but DCO Vieta did communicate with Supervisor Pirrone.

Ms. Mosher asked if the dogs were licensed, was it a kennel.

Town Clerk Dinkelacker will verify if the dogs are licensed tomorrow.

CEO Gasparini said that it was not a kennel just animals in a fence in area. He was not able to access the property as he could not reach the homeowner.

CEO had reached out to the DCO, and she said she did visit the property and was going to do a report.

-Resident Janet Paluch inquiring about the Green Lake Resort.

Supervisor Pirrone explained that 2 gentlemen came to the planning board a few months ago and told the planning board what their plans were for the property, however they have not been back to the Planning board.

-Resident Jody Pindt, inquiring what the speed limit is in the village on North Vernon St.? People speed up and down the street.

Supervisor Pirrone let her know that this would be a Village issue told her she would need to reach out to them.

Ms. Pindt also, due to personal experience, said that you should take both tanks out at the same time. It can be an environmental nightmare if the tank(s) leaks.

-Resident Michael Campbell advise the board there is a way to cut off the top of the tank and abandon it in place.

Community Information: All Dates Subjected to Change.

Jul 24: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Jul 24 to July 27: Greene County Youth Fair.

Aug 4: No Town Meeting. Approving of Voucher Obligations.

Aug 13: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.

Aug 13: Greene County EMS.

Aug 18: Peckham Industries Business Meeting. Senior Center, 2nd Street.

Aug 18: Town Board Meeting. Senior Center, 2nd Street.

Aug 28: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Sep 1: Labor Day. Town Office Closed.

Sep 3: **Wednesday**, Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Sep 6: YMCA Triathlon Event.

Sep 9 to Sep 20: Supervisor Pirrone Out of Town.

Sep 10: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.

Sep 10: Greene County EMS.

Sep 15: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Sep 25: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Oct 6: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Oct 8: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.

Oct 8: Greene County EMS.

Oct 13: Columbus Day. Town Office Closed.

Oct 20: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Oct 23: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Nov 4: Election Day.

Being no further business to be brought forward

A Motion was made by Pine and second by Bone, to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Motion carried: Ayes - 5,(Bone, Hass, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's - 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Dinkelacker
Town Clerk