

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD

November 6, 2025

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on November 6, 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 Senior Center, 39 Second St., Athens, NY

The following Town Board members were in attendance: Supervisor Michael Pirrone, Town Board members Tami Bone, Karen Haas, and Becky Pine. Absent: Tony Paluch

The following Town Officers and Appointees were in attendance: Town Clerk Phyllis Dinkelacker, Deputy Supervisor Gail Lasher.

The following people were in attendance(signed in): James O'Connell, Michael Campbell, Britt Palmateerr, Robert Brunner, Eddie Lunzo.

Public Hearing: To be held on November 6, 2025 @ 6:00 pm, for the Purpose of Reviewing the Preliminary 2025 Budget. Copies of the Preliminary Budget will be made available @ the Town Clerk Office for Public Inspection during Normal Office Hours. Pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law of the State of New York, the following salaries are proposed: Town Justices-2, \$ 38,007; Town Supervisor \$ 14,709., Town Council Members-4, \$ 5,018.50. (each); Town Clerk \$ 45,050.; Highway Superintendent \$ 74,000. All interested parties are invited to attend.

A motion to open the public hearing was made by Pine and seconded by Haas. Motion carried: Ayes's – 4 (Bone, Haas, Pine, and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain - 1(Paluch).

Discussion on preliminary 2026 budget followed:
Legislator O'Connell let the board know that the County would be paying(\$33,112.00) the ALS (paramedic service) and reimbursing the Town part of the(\$54,090.00) BLS (ambulance service). The town should be receiving official notification.
Board member Pine suggested that the budget be approved as presented.
Supervisor Pirrone will make the appropriate changes for the next meeting.

There was a question regarding \$11,000.00 charged to account 1355.4 Reval Data collector. Was there a reval this year?
No, the money was for grievances.

There was a motion by Haas and seconded by Bone to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene it on November 17, 2026.
Motion carried: Ayes's – 4 (Bone, Haas, Pine, and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain - 1(Paluch).

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES: A motion was made by Bone and seconded by Haas to Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 20th was made with one correction, change the date in this section to approve the meeting minutes of October 6, 2025 not October 20, 2025.
Motion carried: Ayes's – 3 (Bone, Haas, and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain -2(Paluch and Pine).

VOUCHERS

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

<u>General 2025 Abstract # 21</u>	Vouchers	435 – 464	\$ 3,931.67
<u>Highway 2025 Abstract # 21</u>	Vouchers	159 - 174	\$46,335.25

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT: The Town Clerk distributed her report for October 2025.

A motion was made by Pine and seconded by Bone to accept the Clerk's October report. Motion carried: Ayes's – 4 (Bone, Haas, Pine, Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent -1 (Paluch).

Note: there will be an adjustment due to a check being returned nonsufficient funds.

Supervisor Report: Legal Items

July 18, 2025, Teleport Communications Group, Inc. v. The Assessor of the Town of Athens, et al. Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Greene-Index No.: EF2025-660. Notice of Petition Under Article 7 of The Real Property Tax Law of New York State for Review of Tax Assessments. 2025 Assessment Roll Taxes for the Year 2025/2026. Tax Map IDs: 622.89-0000-744.790-1881, 622.089-0000-744.790-1882, 622.0890000-744.790-1883.

Supervisor Report on Current Business Items:

- Peckham, Schoharie Turnpike odor issues. Odor complaints on Nov. 6, Nov 3, Oct 24, Oct. 21, Oct 11, Oct. 3, 2025; Sept. 29, 2025; Sept 22, 2025. Town has received information and reports that track various conditions, date, time of odor complaints and other information.
- Greene County Ambulance Review Study, No further action.
- Athens Rivertown senior center building, awaiting confirmation of meeting with Shaun Groden, administrator and Amanda Lyons, ED, Human services
- Mountaintop Supervisors & Mayors Meeting, November 24, Town of Ashland.
- NYSDOT, Region One, Town of Athens, Culvert Project, Route 385, Corlaer Kill, 2026 year.
- NYSDOT, Region One, Village of Athens, Pavement Corrective Maintenance, Route 385, RM385-130-1051 to RM 385-1301-1065, 2026 Year.

New Business:

-Discussion of proposed Local Law for "Battery Energy Storage Systems."
 Board member Bone asked about just saying "NO" to B.E.S.S.
 Supervisor Pirrone mentioned, the Town Attorney has recommended it to have a law in place regarding Battery Energy Storage System.

We have had a draft law on the B.E.S.S. We just need to review it, make any changes, and approve it.

-Discussion of proposed Local Law for "Noise."
 It was requested that the clerk resend the Noise proposed law.

-Discussion: To Acknowledge the Agreement of the Amendment to the June 15, 1994, Agreement Between the Town of Catskill & The Village of Catskill for Leachate Processing.
 Town Action: The Town Board of the Town of Athens does hereby Acknowledge Their Agreement with the Amendment to the June 15, 1994 Agreement Between the Town of Catskill

& The Village of Catskill For Leachate Processing as follow: 1. The Village will charge the Town of Catskill a processing fee of & .08 cents per gallon for the first & second years from date of agreement; and then \$.10 cents a gallon for the third & fourth years from date of agreement. Thereafter, any changes in rate must be agreed upon in writing by all parties.; 2. Add new Paragraph 13 "EXTENSION". This Agreements is hereby extended from the expiration date of April 1, 1996, until such time as the NYS DEC deems no further action is required pursuant to paragraph 12 of the 1993 Agreement with all other terms of the Agreement in full force and effect.

Motion By Pine and seconded Bone to acknowledge the changes to the Joint landfill agreement, as noted.

Motion carried: Ayes's – 4 (Bone, Haas, Pine, and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain - 1(Paluch).

-Discussion: Greene Couty Paramedics Advance Life Saving Services

Town Action: To Authorize the Supervisor to Accept the 2026 Agreement for Greene County Paramedics Advance Life Saving Service for the year 2026 at a cost of \$33,112. Payment will be made in three (3) installments.

No action taken due to the county paying for this service.

-The supervisor mentioned that the bookkeeper has been investigating alternative investment opportunities. Current option is a six(6) month CD with a 3.55 APY.

Ms. Kratz will look into more options.

-Discussion relating to report of data gathered from Peckham's complaint log. Peckham will continue to monitor, record, and report data and report this information to us.

Peckham is reaching out to their third-party engineering firm to understand their timing relative to identification of potential infrastructure improvements that may help[mitigate the situation and potentially be constructed over the upcoming Fall/Winter shut down and prior to start up next construction season.

It was mentioned that someone should have a meeting with the Peckham representative(s), and they can explain as to how exactly their monitoring system works and how that when some of the complaints are made their system is not picking up anything.

Mr. Brunner asked if Peckham's monitoring system is live or is the data pulled when a complaint comes in?

It is not live.

Mr. Campbell asked if anyone has made a complaint to the EPA.

The Town has not but Board member Pine has made complaints personally.

Town Council Concerns:

-Board Member Pine inquired about the moratorium for Data Storage that was first discussed in August.

-Discussion on finding a Town Attorney for 2026 as Mr. McHugh has resigned, effective the end of this year. What is the procedure?

Public Concerns:

GC Legislator O'Connell said that he would set up a meeting for the Town supervisor and GC Administrator Groden regarding the Rivertown Senior Center building.

Mr. Campbell asked if there is any information about the solar project on Center Rd?

Mr. Pirrone answered it is moving through the planning board.

Community Information: All Dates Subjected to Change.

- * Nov 6: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Nov 11: Veterans Day. Town Offices Closed
- * Nov 12: Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Nov 17: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Nov 20: Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Nov 24: Mountaintop Supervisors & Mayors, Town of Ashland.
- * Nov 27: Thanksgiving Day. Town Offices Closed.
- * Dec 1: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Dec 10: Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Dec 15: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Dec 18: Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Dec 24: Christmas Eve, Half Day Holiday. Town Offices Close at 12:00
- * Dec 25: Christmas Day Holiday. Town Offices Closed.
- * Dec31: New Years Eve, Half Day Holiday Town Offices Closed.
- * Jan 1: New Years Holiday. Town Offices Closed.
- * Jan 5: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- * Jan 8 to Jan 20: Supervisor will be out of Town.
- * Jan 21: Wednesday, Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Being there is no other business to come before the Board.

A Motion was made by Bone and Pine to adjourn the meeting at 6:48pm.

Ayes's – 4 (Bone, Haas, Pine, and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain -1(Paluch).

Respectfully submitted.

Phyllis Dinkelacker
Athens Town Clerk

EXCEPTIONS NOTED:

New Business: Discussion relating to report of data gathered from Peckham's complaint log. The report is the complaints vs the wind direction & complaints vs the timing of the day. Peckham will use this data to choose the infrastructure projects that would have the greatest impact for odor mitigation. The Reports shows the correlation between the complaints & a "hit" from a monitor. Please note in the excel sheet the value 1 or 0 is just a yes or no - correlates or doesn't correlate. Peckham will continue to monitor, record and report data in this manner.

In further efforts to control the odors, Peckham is reaching out to their third-party engineering firm to understand their timing relative to identification of potential infrastructure improvements that may help mitigate the situation & potentially be constructed over the upcoming Fall/Winter shutdown & prior to start-up next construction season.

Old Business Issues:

Town Council Concerns:

Public Concerns:

- **Town Action: Move to Executive Session**
Motion By **2nd By** **AIF**
EXCEPTION NOTED:

- **Town Action: To Adjourn from Executive Session.**
Motion By **2nd By** **AIF**
EXCEPTION NOTED:

Account Description	Fee Description	Account#	Qty	Local Share
Building Permits	Building Permit	B2555	5	1,794.75
			Sub-Total:	\$1,794.75
Conservation	Conservation	A1255	9	32.75
			Sub-Total:	\$32.75
Demo Permit	Demolition	B2590	1	100.00
			Sub-Total:	\$100.00
Dog Licensing	Female, Spayed	A2544	5	55.00
Dog Licensing	Female, Unspayed	A2544	5	80.00
Dog Licensing	Male, Neutered	A2544	1	11.00
Dog Licensing	Male, Unneutered	A2544	9	144.00
			Sub-Total:	\$290.00
Marriage Lic.	Marriage License Fee	A 1255	5	87.50
			Sub-Total:	\$87.50
Misc Clerk/Registrar Fee	Marriage Transcript Fee	A1255	4	40.00
			Sub-Total:	\$40.00
Misc Code Fees	Municipal Search	B2770	12	1,725.00
Planning Board Fees	Lot Line Adjustment	B 2115	1	150.00
Town Clerk/Registrare Fees	Death Certificate/Copies	A1255	6	60.00
			Sub-Total:	\$1,935.00
			Total Local Shares Remitted:	\$4,280.00
Amount paid to:	NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program			48.00
Amount paid to:	NYS Environmental Conservation			561.25
Amount paid to:	State Health Dept. for Marriage Licenses			90.00
Total State, County & Local Revenues:	\$4,979.25		Total Non-Local Revenues:	\$699.25

To the Supervisor:

Pursuant to Section 27, Sub 1, of the Town Law, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and true statement of all fees and monies received by me, Phyllis Dinkelacker, Town Clerk, Town of Athens during the period stated above, in connection with my office, excepting only such fees and monies, the application of which are otherwise provided for by law.

Supervisor

Date

Town Clerk

Date