

Village of Athens
2 First Street, Athens, NY 12015
Monthly Meeting, July 26, 2017

Members Present: Mayor Peter Alberti, Trustees Robert Scott, Marla Butler, Gail Lasher, Shannon Spinner and Acting Secretary, Peggy Snyder

Pledge to the Flag

A valid quorum was present for voting purposes.
Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Alberti

Public Meeting:

1. Stephen Bradicich: Tree Committee, spoke on behalf of the newly forming Friends of Athens Committee which will file to become a 501(c) 3 organization. Stephen had met with the Mayor, Trustee Lasher and Mark Levanway on Monday to review what the committee would like to do to help in the Village. They would only be looking at trees on Village property and not privately owned property. They would like to preserve the historic trees in the Village by doing inspections for disease and damage and then trimming and removal if necessary. They would be strictly a volunteer group of people who reside in the Village who have a passion to see Athens be successful. They would also like to utilize help from DEC in forming this group and learning what can be done. Information from the group on what they are proposing has been distributed to the Trustee's for their review.
2. Mary Ellen Gallagher: Tree Committee, stated she would like to help with this committee and keep the area beautiful. She has talked to Mary Kranarchek at DEC and they are willing to come before the Board and explain some the different ways that DEC can help and the value of trees in a community. They could join Tree City USA and DEC can help them with programs and resources.
3. Ashley Gritman: Tree Committee, not present
4. Adam Greco: Athens Fire Department, they would like to send the new truck out for lettering. They have gotten several bids with \$2300 being the lowest and \$5,000 the highest. This is for both sides, back and front of the truck, it is a wrap. The lowest bid in the amount of \$2300 is from Next Gen Sign out of Hudson. A motion was made by Robert Scott and seconded by Shannon Spinner to have the fire truck lettered by Next Gen Signs for the amount of \$2300. Vote 5-0, Motion carried. The Fire Department will be attending the Columbia County convention in Stockport on Saturday and taking the ladder truck and M-25. They have also teamed up with American Red Cross to install smoke detectors in homes in Athens Fire District for free. Adam will send the information to the Mayor so it can be put on the Village website. Adam also mentioned the sidewalk in front of his home and that Attorney Rapplyea is going to look at the sidewalk and check on the Code to see if the sidewalk can be taken out. Adam's insurance company wants it removed because of the tripping hazard.

Motions and Resolutions

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on July 12, 2017 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee Spinner

Record of vote: 5 -0, Motion carried

2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payment of Vouchers presented

BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board Approves payment of the vouchers as presented.

Offered by: Trustee Spinner

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of Vote: 5 -0, Motion carried

Old Business

1. Vendor Permits

- Attorney Rapplyea has written a new paragraph to be added to section 188-1 and he will review this with Mary Jo and a public hearing will be held next month

2. DPW Contract

- All adjustments have been made as requested.
- A motion was made to accept the Teamsters contract by Trustee Butler and seconded by Trustee Scott. A roll call vote was taken by the secretary.
 - Trustee Butler – Yes
 - Trustee Scott – Yes
 - Trustee Lasher – Yes
 - Trustee Spinner – Yes
 - Mayor Alberti – Yes
 - Vote of 5-0, Motion carried

3. Brush Pile

- Trustee Butler stated that contractors have been dumping their construction debris at the brush pile site so it has been shut down. After some discussion about solutions Trustee Scott will talk to Anthony about when they will start using the chipper and to open the gate Monday through Thursday. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

New Business

- Food Pantry
 - Totally moved out of premises, renovation work to be done.
- Renewal of BAN for WFP – sludge/drying bed project
 - Mary Jo has renewed
- Williamson Law Book – contract for water/sewer software support
 - Distributed the contract to be reviewed by the Trustees
- Lighthouse Church – Request to use the Riverside Park, August 12, 2017 for Community outreach of Praise & Worship. 2 pm to 2:30 pm.
 - A motion was made by Trustee Butler and seconded by Trustee Spinner to approve with the correction of the time to be 2 pm to 5 pm instead of 2:30 pm. Record of Vote 5-0 Motion carried. Mayor Alberti will speak with Anthony regarding electric being shut off afterwards.

Communications

1. NYSDOT: Re: SFY 2017 Funding
 - *Mayor Alberti has completed the paperwork on snowstorm Stella for \$10, 473.74 and has submitted. FEMA will reimburse up to 75% and the State up to 5%.*
2. Salt shed
 1. *Trustee Scott will check with Anthony about specs on salt shed. If anyone would like to view the salt shed at Sleepy Hollow they can contact Mike Pirrone. The salt shed will be placed behind the firehouse. Trustee Lasher will talk to the Town and see if they are interested in the leftover sand/salt mix.*
3. Greene County Planning Department
 - *Looking for nominations for achievement award, must be filed by September 6th.*

Trustee Reports

1. Trustee Lasher:
 - The building permit for the sign for the street Festival has been approved. This sign can be used to announce community events also.
 - Trustee Lasher will ask the Police Department for the workers at the new bakery to put cones up in roadway when working.
2. Trustee Spinner:
 - The street light near her home has been repaired and now working.
3. Trustee Scott
 - The lawn mower is now broken from use at the sewer plant, he will talk to Joe at VRI since it is in their contract for repairs to equipment.
 - Looking into getting the speed trailer positioned at edge of Village. Speeding between the morning hours of 6 am and 7 am, going well above 25 mph.
4. Trustee Butler
 - The summer recreation program is going well.
 - Asked if there is a liability on tripping hazard from tree heaving sidewalk, the tree appears to be healthy, get recommendations on what can be done with tree to keep it but avoid hazard.

Mayor Report

- Mayor Alberti reported that he, Town Supervisor Butler and Legislator Hatton met with representative from Senator Amedore's office on accidents on Howard Hall Road and Route 385. Discussion was had to have State DOT and Highway Department work to move the intersection to the top of the knoll for sight of both directions. DOT looking to get grant funding for infrastructure work and resurfacing of Route 385.

Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Lasher and seconded by Trustee Spinner, Vote 5-0, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm by Mayor Alberti.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Snyder
Acting Secretary