

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

MINUTES - August 9th, 2017 6:30PM

Pledge to the Flag

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Alberti, Trustee Marla Butler, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Shannon Spinner and Trustee Robert Scott.

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea was also present.

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

1. Village Attorney – Tal Rappleyea:
 - Still pursuing abandoned properties (St. Pierre, Maurer and Florak)
 - Heines Violation
 - Miller/Wheat Street property deed
 - Vendor law

2. Fire Department Chief - Adam Greco:
 - Straightening out the radio situation in the new rescue truck
 - Pursuing ‘Swift Water Level II’ training for 15 guys. The cost will be \$1500.00 and he will provide formal quote to the VB as requested by the Mayor
 - Athens Volunteer Fire Department will be receiving the ‘Greene County Firefighter of the year award’ for their swift water rescue team.
 - Lights at the firehouse were discussed with the VB

3. Code Enforcement Officer – Mike Ragaini No Show

4. DPW Director - Anthony Proper:
 - He has received a quote from Woodwaste reduction to provide tub grinding services behind the firehouse for \$3500.00. Waiting for a quote from Van Etten.
 - Parking across from the Bank is still an ongoing problem. The ‘no parking’ signs are not working. State recommends that delineators be put up to correct the problem. Mr. Proper stated ‘something should be done before someone gets hurt pulling out of Second St.’ VB discussed it further.
 - DPW has been alerted to a roof leak at the Cultural Center. The rubber roof, which has not been on that long, has a big leak. Ms. Pfister will contact the contractor that installed it.
 - Flushing hydrants this month.
 - The road paving project is delayed until early September due to the rain this summer.
 - Quote received to remove stump on S. Franklin St. in the amount of \$350.00 by Jeremy Copplestone.

- Working on drying beds at the WFP . They have installed 300 ft. of pipe and 1 valve in each of the 2 drying beds. The town of Athens will be able to help dig out the beds mid- September.

5. Chief of Police - Roger Masse:

- Introduced Steven Place to the Village Board – he would like to be sponsored by the VB to attend a Police Academy
- The AED is in – PBA has donated \$1,000.00 toward the purchase of this item
- Security of the building was discussed
- Mayor/Trustee Lasher asked the Chief about getting the ‘speed trailer’ temporarily from Catskill

6. VRI – Seth Sheridan and Dale Post:

- forms to submit DMR’s electronically have been sent to DOH.
- Received 1 estimate to complete masonry work at the WWTP from Full phase Masonry. Looking for other quotes.
- General Control Systems submitted another estimate for the ‘backup computer’. The price this time is quite a bit higher than the original price given to them in April. The Mayor asked what the difference was. Seth said they told him it had to do with the server and data transference. Current proposal is \$5500.00. Former proposed cost was \$3381.00
- WFP – Still trying to schedule the maintenance of the valve with Ross Valve.
- SCADA is operating well
- Lead/copper sampling of 10 tier 1 households has to be completed by the end of September per NYSDEC. Must be homes built between 1982-1986 (prior to solder being banned in water service installations). VRI is working on it.
- DEC took samples of Hollister Lake water. DOH states that there is blue/green algae formations (a bacteria) in the water. It is not a safety concern since the water is chlorinated and tested. However, a conversation will follow with them regarding management of weed control at the lake.

The VB discussed harvesting options with VRI and then discussed ‘copper sulfating’ after the harvesting was completed.

Dale mentioned that he spoke with a contractor (Solitude Lake Management) regarding harvesting the lake. It should be done twice a year. Their cost would be \$1600.00 per day and also a \$3000.00 mobilization fee to move equipment onsite and offsite. Not sure how many days it will take.

Looking for more contractors/businesses that provide this service. Called a few local vendors on a smaller scale.

The Mayor mentioned 'Aquatic Weed Harvesting' as an option.

Dale mentioned that he received estimates for the Carbon filters that need to be replaced at the WFP.

The Mayor reiterated that replacing the filters should be a priority.

The Dam inspection is scheduled for next week with Woight Engineering.

PUBLIC:

1. *George Grainger, member of the American Legion*, attended the meeting to inform the VB of two upcoming events.

The first event will be a 'Flag Retirement Ritual' to be held on October 14, 2017 at 10:00 AM. Everyone is invited to attend.

The second event will be held during Athens Yard Sale Day (August 26, 2017). They will be having a 'helmet drop' which is basically a 'tag day' where they will be asking for donations. They would like to stand at the head of Second Street somewhere between the hours of 10:00AM and 2:00PM.

Mr. Grainger noted that he will inform Chief of Police Roger Masse and Fire Chief Adam Greco.

MOTIONS and RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on July 26th, 2017 be approved:

Offered by:

Seconded by:

Record of vote:

Tabled until next meeting

2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payment of Vouchers as Presented

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board Approves payment of the following vouchers as presented:

GENERAL – Abstract #1935, vouchers numbered #9917086 through #9917114 in the amount of \$38,555.12

WATER – Abstract #10399, vouchers numbered #9917120 through #9917123 and vouchers #9917128 through #991730 in the amount of \$5,899.36

SEWER – Abstract #10384, vouchers numbered #9917117 through #9917119, and vouchers numbered #9917125 through #9917127 in the amount of \$18,302.98

YOUTH – Abstract #83, voucher #9917116 in the amount of \$423.00

Offered by: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee Spinner
Record of vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Approving Removal of Tree

BE IT RESOLVED, based upon the health and complaints regarding tree located in front of Property located at the corner of Second Street and S. Franklin Street that the VB authorizes the DPW to put it onto their work schedule to remove the tree:

Offered by: Butler
Seconded by: Spinner
Record of vote: All in favor

4. Proposed Resolution Approving the Removal of partial sidewalk in front of Adam Greco's house:

WHEREAS, a request was made by Adam Greco at the last VB Meeting to have the sidewalk removed in front of his house due to his homeowners insurance stating that it was a tripping hazard and

WHEREAS, the Village Attorney has taken a look at the section of sidewalk in question and reviewed the Village Code as well, and upon his recommendation,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the sidewalk located at 1 Union Street in front Adam Greco's house may be removed;

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Scott
Record of vote: All in favor

5. Proposed Resolution Approving the appointment of Steven Place from the Civil Service list

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of Chief of Police Roger Masse that the Village Board Appoint and sponsor Seven Place to attend a Police Academy

WHEREAS, the Village is under no financial obligation to pay for the academy or hire him as a police officer if, and when, he completes the training;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village will sponsor Steven Place from the Civil Service list;

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: All in favor

6. Proposed Resolution Approving request made by residents on Third Street to remove a tree and close the road,

WHEREAS, residents located at 7 Market Street (Jared Borelli and Allison Clogg) have notified the VB that on August 14th, 2017, a tree on their property, near the street will be removed and that;

WHEREAS, they are requesting in the best interest of public safety to block traffic on that road during the process at the contractors direction;

BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approves their request to close Market Street between Franklin St. and Church St. while removal of the tree is taking place

Offered by: Trustee Scott
Seconded by: Trustee Spinner
Record of vote: All in favor

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Vendor permits
2. DPW Contract

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Renewal of BAN for WFP – sludge/drying bed project- The Bank of Greene County has been awarded the BAN at a rate of .93%. National Bank of Coxsackie bid at 1.60%. Closing will be on Monday, August 14th, 2017.
2. Complaint: Jeanette Helseth

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Jared Borelli & Allison Clogg. Re: Tree removal

OTHER BUSINESS:

Trustee Lasher informed the VB that she has met with the Planning Board in regard to the community sign which the Street Festival is having made for the purpose of advertising community events.

The Chairperson, Margaret Moree noted that it may be time for the VB to take a look at all of the Village's 'signage' especially along Route 385. Some signs may be obsolete (DARE), in disarray etc.

Trustee Lasher inquired of the VB as to whether they have the authority to take them down?

The Mayor stated that he will check with NYSDOT.

Trustee Lasher also noted that the VB has not formally recognized the 'tree committee' as of yet.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Scott, formally recognizing that the VB is establishing a tree committee so that the VB can move forward
Trustee Spinner votes aye

Mayor Alberti votes aye
Trustee Butler votes nay

Mayor Alberti noted that he has been in touch with DEC regarding the formation of the tree committee and proposed tree legislation. DEC suggested that the Village Board touch base with Cornell Cooperative Extension and get them involved as well perhaps as a member of the committee.

The VB discussed the WFP and WWTP and VRI.

Trustee Spinner will invite Northdome to the next Public Meeting in August to discuss their company and pricing.

Trustee Scott noted that he completed the 'lock out/tag out' information for the equipment for the DPW. He handed it over to them and they can now contact PESH to let them know that everything is up to date and they can come back and inspect it.

Trustee Butler informed the VB that the signage at the WFP needs updating due to the fact that people were found paddleboarding on Hollister Lake. They apparently must have thought it was a different body of water per their gps maps.

Trustee Butler also mentioned that she has touched base with Central Hudson Representative Pete McFarland (Forestry Foreman) because they are planning to do some tree trimming in the village in the near future. She informed Trustee Lasher that they would be meeting soon if she were interested in attending. Mr. McFarland thought it would be good to get together with a couple VB members. Trustee Butler thought so as well so they do not 'hack' away at the tree limbs.

ADJOURNMENT:

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Scott
Record of vote: All in favor
8:45 PM

Mary Jo Wynne
Clerk-Treasurer