

Village of Athens Board Meeting

July 26, 2023

Present: Mayor Serrago, Trustee Lipsman, Trustee Phoenix, Trustee Lasher, and Trustee Scott

Meeting began with the pledge to the flag at 6:30pm

PUBLIC:

Whitney Parshall

Ms. Parshall was present to speak about 7 North Washington Street. She said this property has been vacant for at least 30 years. She said that it was bought to relocate her mother-in-law. She said she hired a plumber and was told by Code Enforcement she would need an engineer. The estimate for this all was about \$17,000.00. She said that the DPW has come out to the property a few times and she was told the lines from the house to the main would be her responsibility. She said that it was never discussed that there would be a connection fee. Most recently she said they had told her it would be \$4,000.00 to connect to the water system. She said she has nothing in writing. She said these additional fees are devastating. She said the conversation she had with the DPW was totally different than what her plumber had. She said she would like clarity in writing and who is supposed to do what. She said she has a lot of money going out to save this property.

Mayor Serrago said that this is not a new hookup for water and sewer. She said anything from sidewalk to the main is the property owner's responsibility.

DPW Supervisor Sprague said that the homeowner will have to pay the fees for work done and he thinks it may be around \$3000.00. He said he has estimated a little higher as he is not sure yet what the cost will be. He also said this line has not been used in years and he does not know what they are getting into.

Mayor Serrago said that any work done by the DPW would have a fee as the line will need extensive repairs, but not an application fee. She said we cannot give a written estimate at this time as we do not know what exactly needs to be done.

Ms. Parshall said that there were 2 different conversations. She said the plumber and the DPW need to be on the same page.

DPW Supervisor Sprague said that he can meet with the plumber.

Mayor Serrago asked the Supervisor about how many hours of work and manpower would be needed for this job. She said that we can give a rough estimate within a week or two, but once the job is started it opens a can of worms.

Kathy Jackson

Ms. Jackson was present to explain geocaches. She said the library would like to put some around the Village. It is like a Scavenger hunt.

Mayor Serrago said she will put this in the newsletter.

The board said this could be approved to do in the Village.

Carol Pfister—not present

APPLICATIONS:

1. Facility Use Application-Rainey Field. Applicant: Dana Brown/Jess Peters-Camley. Co-ed softball
A **MOTION** was made to allow the use of the field.
Offered By: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee Phoenix
Record of Vote: all are in favor.
2. Outdoor Entertainment Permit Application. Applicant Seconds
A **MOTION** was made to allow music outside on the date asked for.
Offered by: Trustee Phoenix
Seconded by: Trustee Lipsman
Record of Vote: all were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes for the Village Board meeting held on June 28th and July 12th, 2023, be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Scott
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
Record of Vote: all were in favor.

2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payment of the Vouchers as Presented on the Abstracts

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve the payment of vouchers as presented:

Offered by: Trustee Phoenix
Seconded by: Trustee Scott
Record of Vote: all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. NYSDOT-CHIPS STATEMENT
2. Coxsackie-Athens School District. Re: Building Use --The gym is closed so Mayor Serrago will speak with Randy Squier about an alternative
3. DOL-Division of Safety and Health Re: Violation—The Village Attorney asked that a copy be sent to him as this is the second notice. The fire Chief said that the repair person had to order the parts.
4. Morton Salt. Re: NYS Buy American Salt Act.
5. Tooher and Barrone, LLP. Re: Treetopia –Copy sent to the Planning Board
6. Capital district YMCA- Michele Johnson. Re: Annual Greene Y Tri – Trustee Lasher said she will speak with Chief Masse

7. Philip Wingfield. Re: Leah Rhodes Sidewalk—She has a slate sidewalk. The mayor has asked the DPW to look at it to see if the Village can help.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Greene County Department of Human Services-Maureen Murphy. Re: MOU (use of the firehouse in case of emergencies) Signature of Mayor required
2. Set a Public Hearing date for amendment to lawn care law---Set the date for August 9th. The Mayor said that fines need to be set for offenders and the length of the grass to be cut needs to change.

Mayor Serrago said she will be taking home the proposed sidewalk dining and will read it over.

Trustee Phoenix:

Said she has received one estimate for the front door and is waiting on the second to compare.

Trustee Lipsman:

He said that the Tree Management and the inventory is done. He had copies and left some in the Village Office. He also left a Green Binder in the office with the information. He also mentioned that he has forwarded some possible sources of funding to clean up Hollister Lake. He also mentioned Green Purchasing.

Trustee Scott—had nothing

Trustee Lasher:

She mentioned the roof at the Cultural Center. The DPW Supervisor said the issue is the flashing.

Mayor Serrago:

She said she has all the information to Hinchey's office for gym repairs. She said she spoke to Jason from Lamont and the board must pass a SEQUR.

A **MOTION** was made to allow The Village of Athens for a SEQUR to have repairs made to the gym/multipurpose room.

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of Vote: all are in favor

The Mayor said that the changeover for the new email has been made and the entire board must start using. She said the Police Department has their own already. She also said there has been an issue with Stella's and APAC about parking earlier in the day as APAC starts setting up early. She said she will let them work this out among themselves. She said if anyone has any ideas for the situation to let her know.

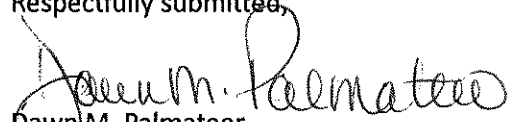
Supervisor Sprague said that the line painting people would be coming to paint the handicap area by Michael Blacks and Josh Lipsman.

A **MOTION** was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm.

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Scott
All were in favor to end the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dawn M. Palmateer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dawn M. Palmateer

Deputy Clerk, Village of Athens