

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2018 6:30PM

Pledge to the Flag

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

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. *Tal Rappleyea – Village Attorney*

The Village Attorney informed the VB that he has received the draft contract from Lamont Engineering for services to be provided in reviewing the former Peckham property owned by DBTL as a possible site for the DPW garage.

Engineer Jason Preisner will be visiting the site tomorrow to see that the Phase II Environmental is correct and that the structural on the building is ok.

Mr. Rappleyea also discussed the D.R. Evarts Library building with the VB. If the VB is still wanting to pursue deeding the building over to the Library, as is what should have been done when the library became it's own district, then the VB must first pass a local law. Secondly the deed has to contain a reverter clause –meaning that if the building is ever not used for a library then it must be reverted back to the village.

The Heines property – Mr. Rappleyea has spoken to Mr. Heines Attorney. The Attorney will get on him to do more clean up.

The Maurer property is still being processed. All family members have signed off on the property but there are three banks holding mortgages that have been sold and resold. The Process servers are still working on it.

The local law for the tax cap override was also discussed. A Public Hearing should be scheduled at the next meeting for the purpose of passing this local law. The VB may not need to override the tax cap but it is good to put it in place in case you need to.

Discussion of Appraisers for the Peckham property was discussed as well. Mr. Rappleyea will contact Hilco Appraisal.

2. *Adam Greco – Fire Chief*

Fire Chief Greco notified the VB that the Airpaks are on the way and that fundraising has been going on for the scheduled Firemen's Convention.

The Mayor reminded the Chief about the Budget request.

The Chief said that he was 'on it'.

3. *Anthony Proper – DPW - no show*
4. *Mike Ragaini – Code Enforcement Officer – no show*
5. *Roger Masse – Police Chief - Thomas McGuinness attended instead of the Chief*

The APD has requested the names of 3 officers from the Greene County Civil Service List. The Chief told him that the VB was aware of this request.

The VB agreed that they were aware that the Dept. is looking to hire.

Trustee Lasher asked if those off the list had prior training?

Officer McGuinness stated that one did – but two do not. The two are still in the Police Academy.

Mayor Alberti asked if the Chief has already interviewed the candidates?

Officer McGuinness replied 'yes'.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor, to accept their names off the list provided by Civil Service and appoint them to the positions of police officers for the Village of Athens.

The VB also discussed the fact that they were all Athens residents.

Trustee Lasher also informed the VB that car306 is 'on it's last legs'. We'll have to discuss a new car at budget time.

They Mayor mentioned, and the VB agreed that perhaps it was time for an SUV.

Trustee Butler mentioned the number of cars needed by the APD.

Trustee Lasher noted that they need the three vehicles for the parades or festivals.

The Mayor asked Officer McGuinness if the department has been looking for grants to apply for to purchase a new vehicle.

Officer McGuinness informed the VB that the department is meeting this week to discuss grant opportunities.

6. *Seth Mann – North Dome Operations, Inc.*

Provided the Village with the February 2018 Operations Report for the WFP and both WWTP's.

He noted that compliance was met for the month at all of the plants.

He also informed the VB that the sludge press at the WWTP is fixed and operating optimally every day.

North Dome Operations, Inc. has also received training from Jason Preisner of Lamont Engineering on operation of the new drying beds at the WFP.

Flow audits require the Mayors Signature. Completed.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Facility Use Application – gym. Applicant: Stacey Nelson – Stacey’s Building Blocks, LLC. Nursery school.
2. Permit to Peddle. Applicant: Mr. Ding-A-Ling.

MOTIONS and RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on February 28th, 2018 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 vouchers as presented:

GENERAL FUND – Abstract #1957, vouchers numbered #9917660 through #9917673 in the amount of \$12,281. 10.

WATER FUND – Abstract #10416, vouchers numbered #9917681 through #9917683 in the amount of \$3,224.68.

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10399, vouchers numbered #9917674 through #9917680 in the amount of \$14,724.84

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Spinner

Record of vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Approving application for usage of the gym

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approve the application for usage of the Community Center gym as specified in application submitted by Stacey’s Building Blocks, LLC:

Offered by: Trustee Butler

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: All in favor

4. Proposed Resolution Approving Vendor Permit Application

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approve the 'Permit to Peddle' application as submitted by Mr. Ding-A-Ling for the period of April 1, 2018 through October 2018:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Butler

Record of vote: All in favor

5. Proposed Resolution Approving the lease agreement with the Town of Athens

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the lease agreement with the town for a period of two years beginning January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019:

Offered by: Trustee Butler

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: All in favor

6. Proposed Resolution appointing members to the tree committee

BE IT RESOLVED that the following members be appointed to the tree committee until the organizational meeting to be held on April 2, 2018:

Mary Ellen Gallagher

Stephan Bradicich

Robert Butler

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Butler

Record of vote: All in favor

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tim Watkins & Carol May. Old Firehouse on N. Franklin St.
2. Town lease.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Peckham Property on Route 385.

The VB discussed the Peckham Property and the possibility of purchasing it for the DPW garage.

Trustee Lasher asked how much tax revenue the village will lose if they take this property off the tax roll?

The Clerk-Treasurer stated 'a little over \$5,000.00.

The VB discussed options for the DPW garage. The completion of an appraisal of the old Peckham property will give the VB an idea of how valuable the

property is for private party development. Also, how much of the property is 'developable' considering the wetlands, tank removal etc?

The issue of insuring the building in this location was mentioned. A quote will be requested.

Sale of the old DPW garage was also discussed.

A new DPW garage was also discussed. Cost for that would be considerably higher than the garage at the Peckham property.

2. Budget- Tax Cap

The Budget for the Fire Department was discussed. Because of the County switching the radios/pagers and frequencies of their signals the village fire department will have to purchase 5 additional radios this coming year. The VB had already moved \$10,000 from the line item for equipment this year to purchase the pagers in the future.

Trustee Butler asked if the Department had a choice in the matter.

Mayor Alberti and Trustee Lasher stated 'no'. Unfortunately when the County makes these decisions there are no choices for local fire departments.

3. Recreation Program

Trustee Butler discussed the Recreation program. She will be reaching out to the Director to try and get the counselors together for paperwork and so forth. Last year things started a little late.

The Clerk-Treasurer also mentioned that according to PESH all employees for that program must be trained in Work place violence.

4. Tree Committee appointments

5. USDA Rural Development. Inspection completed

The Clerk-Treasurer noted that the inspection was a 'smashing success'. USDA is also encouraging communities to refinance their LTD that they hold with USDA for a cheaper interest rate if they can. At budget time the VB should consider this.

Financial Reports for the month of February were distributed to all VB members.

Trustee Lasher updated the VB on the 'Community give back program' run through the Street Festival committee. The 'historical flags' to be hung up on street poles up Second Street were chosen as the project to pursue. They are looking for historical pictures to be placed on the flags.

Trustee Lasher also asked if it were possible to have the village dig an 18” trench from the new sign across from Stewarts to the WWTP garage in order to put electric in the trench so that a spotlight may be placed before the sign so that it be illuminated at night?

The VB agreed that that would be fine.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Greene County Department of Human Services. Re: Older American Month – May

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00PM

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