

**VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – April 25, 2018**

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Alberti, Trustee Marla Butler, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Shannon Spinner and Trustee Stephan Bradicich

PUBLIC HEARING opened.

A Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on proposed local law #6 authorizing the conveyance of certain real property to the D.R. Evarts Library.

The Mayor asked the Clerk-Treasurer to read the notice that was published in the newspaper regarding tonight's public hearing.

The Mayor noted the history behind passing this law. The library has been it's own taxing district for several years, and as such, should own the building. This makes it easier for the Library Board to receive grant funds and it becomes one less building that the village is responsible for.

The Mayor added that he is unsure as to why it had not been done at the time that the library became it's own taxing district as it should have been. Basically, the VB is just completing the process.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the public?

Mary Ellen Gallagher asked if this is considered a gift or a sale?

The Mayor answered that it was merely a transfer of property from one municipality to another.

A reverter clause will be in the deed guaranteeing that the library would have to give the building back to the village if for any reason the building were to no longer be a library.

No other comments or questions from the public.

MOTION made to CLOSE the PUBLIC HEARING by Trustee Spinner, seconded by Trustee Bradicich at 6:40 PM.

OPEN REGULAR MEETING

PUBLIC:

1. Charles Miller. Re: Wheat Street –no show
2. *Mary Ellen Gallagher, member of the newly formed Tree Committee*, attended the meeting to introduce the other tree committee members to the VB.

Ms. Gallagher mentioned that Trustee Bradicich spoke to her about some trees that had been bought to his attention through the DPW as needing 'attention' due to their health. Those three trees are located on S. Church St., Warren St. and Market St.

Mayor Alberti stated that these trees were discussed months ago as being a safety issue and therefore a problem.

Discussion ensued about the process of 'who notifies who' when trees are questionable.

Trustee Bradicich stated that all he is asking is that the Tree Committee be consulted in these matters, unless there is an emergency, for recommendation.

The Mayor reiterated that his intentions are clear that safety of people and property are the priority when it comes to tree maintenance.

Ms Gallagher noted that now that there is new legislation we will be able to clarify these issues as we now have the avenues of communication established.

The VB and Ms. Gallagher also discussed the river birch in the Riverfront Park. The tree has become a problem due to the fact that when the DPW puts the docks in an out of the water the tree makes it very difficult and unsafe.

Possible solutions for this problem were discussed such as replanting it somewhere else and also possible trimming. Ms. Gallagher stated that perhaps the arborist that is conducting the tree survey this summer can offer some suggestions.

Mayor Alberti thanked the Tree Committee for attending the meeting this evening.

APPLICATION:

APPLICANT: Lighthouse Church - Athens Riverfront Park.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor to approve the application as submitted by the Lighthouse church, restrictions being that no noise made before 11:00 as specified.

MOTIONS and RESOLUTIONS:

1) Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meetings held on April 11, April 18 and April 25, 2018 be approved:

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

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 FUND – Abstract #1962, vouchers numbered #9917771 through #9917789 in the amount of \$8602.38

WATER FUND – Abstract #10421, vouchers numbered #9917790 through #9917793 and #9917796 in the amount of \$2058.05

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10402, vouchers numbered #9917794 through #9917795 in the amount of \$114.49

Offered by: Trustee Spinner

Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich

Record of vote: All in favor

3) Proposed Resolution Approving donation of a park bench for the Riverfront Park

WHEREAS, a former resident has offered to donate a park bench to the Athens Riverfront Park in memory of her late husband, Joshua Lackie, former owner of Cameos Restaurant in the village,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the donation of a park bench from Jessica Lackie to be placed, as directed by the Mayor, in the Athens Riverfront Park:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Spinner

Record of vote: Trustee Butler votes aye

Trustee Bradicich votes no

Mayor Alberti votes aye

RESOLUTION passes

4) Proposed Resolution approving passing of Local Law #6 of the Village of Athens conveyance of village owned library building

WHEREAS the Village Board enacts this law(as attached) to create authorization to convey real property located at 80 Second Street, Athens, NY to the D.R. Evarts Athens Library and,

WHEREAS, the Village Board authorizes the Mayor to execute all documents necessary to complete this transaction and,

WHEREAS, such deed of conveyance shall contain a reverter clause wherein the ownership of such real property shall automatically revert back to the Village of Athens in the event the real property or building located thereon shall no longer be used as a public library

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves passing local law #6 of the Village of Athens for the conveyance of the village owned library building;

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich

Record of vote: All in favor

5) Proposed Resolution approving candidates from the Civil Service list as per Chief Roger Masse

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has recommended to the VB to hire the following candidates from the Civil Service List for appointment as part time police officers for the village:

Matthew Putnam
Colin Miller

And, WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has also recommended to the VB to appoint the following candidates for sponsorship to the Police Academy from the Civil Service List:

Kayla Barkman
Wency Hernandez
Joseph Caputo
Charles Cole
Warren Graff

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

6) Proposed Resolution to change the VB Meeting date from June 13 to June 12

WHEREAS, a scheduling conflict has been identified for the first VB meeting for the month of June, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor has asked to change the regularly scheduled meeting, and the VB approves, from June 13, 2018 to June 12, 2018:

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

7) Proposed Resolution to adopt the Village of Athens Budget for fiscal year June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019

WHEREAS, the Village Board has reviewed the appropriations and revenues for the upcoming fiscal year and,

WHEREAS, the public hearing has been held and further review of the Tentative Budget has been completed and adjustments have been made and,

WHEREAS, the tax cap override law, which had been passed, will be repealed and a public hearing will be scheduled to do as such;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Athens Budget for fiscal year June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019 be passed with a tax rate of 6.47 per thousand:

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

8) Proposed Resolution to purchase a kayak launch from ezdock

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the kayak launch on Fourth Street is in poor shape and in need of replacement and,

WHEREAS, several different types of launches were reviewed and it was found that this particular one from EZ Dock was the most practical and economical for the space,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Athens approves the purchase of a Kayak Launch from ezdock in the amount of \$2549.00 to replace the launch that is deteriorating and in poor shape. Monies will be taken from the reserve account for the Waterfront Park:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Tentative Budget discussion

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Interview with potential new Recreation Director – Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 4:15
2. Resignation. Kelly Raver – Athens Dog Park

Financial Reports for the month of March have been distributed to all VB members.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Butler, seconded by Trustee Bradicich to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:10PM to discuss Personnel issues, including the hiring, firing or financial or medical history of a particular person or corporation.

A MOTION Was made by Trustee Bradicich, seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor, to exit EXECUTIVE SESSION and resume the Regular VB meeting at 8:43PM.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:45PM

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

Mary Jo Wynne
Clerk-Treasurer