

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

MINUTES- May 23, 2018 6:30PM

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Alberti, Trustee Marla Butler, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Stephan Bradicich and Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea.

ABSENT: Trustee Shannon Spinner

Pledge to the Flag

PUBLIC HEARING:

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

"...The Public Hearing is being held for the purpose of hearing public comment on the proposed adoption of local law #7 of 2018 to repeal local law #5 of 2018..."

The Mayor explained that on or about March 28, 2018 the VB enacted local law #5 of 2018 entitled "Override of the tax levy limit Established in General Municipal Law §3-c." based upon the then apparent need for such override and requirement that such law be enacted prior to the adoption of the 2018 budget.

As the budget was adopted it was realized that there was no need to have this law in place since the tax levy was not going to be higher than that allowed by the State. In order for the residents to 'reap' the benefit of staying under the tax cap Local Law #5 must be repealed. The proposed local law #7 will repeal local law #5 of 2018.

The Mayor asked three times if there were any public comments.

No Public Comment.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Butler, all in favor, to close the Public Hearing and resume the regular work meeting.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

OPEN REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC:

1. *John Pieruzzi, representing APAC*, attended the meeting to ask the Village Board's permission to use the Riverfront Park for the 2018 summer concert series. APAC has submitted their facility use applications for the use of Riverfront Park. The schedule was also submitted to the VB.

Mr. Pieruzzi also asked for 2 more port-o-lets in the park from June 22, 2018 through August 31, 2018 and also for extra police coverage for their Friday night events.

The VB thanked APAC for their dedication to the program and will provide the extra port-o-lets and the APD will be notified by the liaison that the Friday night events will be beginning.

(RESOLUTION follows)

2. *Tracy Testo, representing Columbia and Greene County Cooperative Extension*, attended the meeting to review with the VB the project that they are working on on behalf of the Village of Athens in partnering with a non-regulatory branch of the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Watershed program.

She noted that they have been working on a resiliency project for the past 5-6 years. A component of the project this year, with the approval of the village, is to complete a Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool Document. This document is basically an excel spreadsheet that is a checklist of what the village has and does not have to address climate change or climate adaptation in their policies.

Ms. Testo explained that this tool can be used as a reference guide for the office and also be published on the website for residents to access.

Once completed this can be used to obtain points leading to a 'Climate Smart Certification'. Receiving this certification allows municipalities to get funding or financial assistance through grant programs for certain projects. And 'yes', there is money put aside for grants of this nature.

The VB is interested in going forward with this.

Ms. Testo stated that a lot of the information for completing this project will be found on the local and state website. They will do a lot of the legwork first and then they will reach out to perhaps a 'point person' to complete the project.

Ms. Testo stated that she will be back after the Summer.

The VB thanked her for coming.

APPLICATION:

1. FACILITY USAGE- Riverfront Park. APPLICANT: Greene County Cruisers. **MOTION** made by Trustee Bradicich, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, approving the facility usage application as submitted.

MOTIONS and RESOLUTIONS:

- 1) Proposed Resolution approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on May 9th, 2018 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich
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 – Abstract # 1964, vouchers numbered #9917852 through #9917878 in the amount of \$21,344.00

WATER – Abstract #10423, vouchers numbered #9917879 through #9917882 in the amount of \$1974.64

SEWER – Abstract #10405, vouchers numbered #9917883 through #9917887 in the amount of \$5594.90

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

3) Proposed Resolution approving adoption of Local Law # 7

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board Approve the adoption of local law #7 of 2018 to repeal local law #5 of 2018, known as the ‘Override of the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c’;

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

4) Proposed Resolution approving service agreement with Aramark

WHEREAS the Village of Athens has been under contract with Aramark for services rendered at the Community Center building for bi-weekly floor mat replacements and broom and mop replacement, and

WHEREAS, the service has been more than satisfactory, the current agreement is expiring and there will be a slight decrease in the price as per this agreement;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves of the Mayor signing the service agreement as presented;

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

5) Proposed Resolution to hire another part time police officer

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Chief of Police that the Village hire Nathan Webster as a part time police officer from the list of certified names as requested from the Greene County Civil Service Commission;

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

- 6) Proposed Resolution approving the Fireworks application for the Athens Street Festival

BE IT RESOLVED, that the VB approve the application submitted by the Athens Street Festival committee to hold a fireworks display on the night of the Street Festival;

Offered by: Trustee Butler
Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich
Mayor Alberti votes aye
Trustee Lasher abstains

RESOLUTION carries

- 7) Proposed Resolution approving the facility use and outdoor entertainment permit applications as submitted by the Athens Street Festival Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve the applications for outdoor entertainment and facility use (Riverfront Park) as submitted by the Athens Street Festival committee;

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

- 8) Proposed Resolution approving the Athens Volunteer Fire Department's request to host the 130th Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Association Annual Convention

BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve, pending submission of application, the AVFD's request to host the Greene County Volunteer Fireman's Association annual convention starting September 4th and ending September 8th, 2018;

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

- 9) Proposed Resolution approving the facility use and outdoor entertainment permit applications as submitted by APAC

BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve the applications for outdoor entertainment and facility use (Riverfront Park) as submitted by the Athens Performing Arts Committee (APAC)

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

- 10) Proposed Resolution suspending the 'open container law' and the 'no smoking' ban in the Athens Riverfront Park

BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve suspending the open container law and the ‘no smoking’ ban in the Athens Riverfront Park on Friday evenings while concerts are being held as per APAC’s application for usage;

Offered by: Trustee Butler

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

11) Proposed Resolution lifting the ‘open container law’ on the day of the Athens Street Festival in certain areas

BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve, as is customary, on the day of the Athens Street Festival lifting the ‘open container law’ from east of State Route 385 to the River from Third Street on the south end and just past the Stewart House on the North;

Offered by: Trustee Bradicich

Seconded by: Trustee Butler

Record of vote: All in favor

12) Proposed Resolution to send Anthony Coons a letter regarding the Athens Garden Club’s planned work

WHEREAS, the VB has been made aware of the fact that the sign for the village (‘welcome’) and flower bed at the North end is in need of care and has been neglected for some time, and

WHEREAS, the Athens Garden Club has asked the VB several times for their support in pursuing cleaning up this area, and

WHEREAS, the adjoining property owner claims that he owns that property and does not want the garden club on there, and

WHEREAS, the NYS Highway Department of Transportation is adamant that that land is not owned by the adjoining property owner but that it belongs to the village,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VB send a letter to the adjoining property owner informing him that the Athens Garden Club has received a Highway work permit to clean both garden beds and that if there is a question to please contact NYSDOT

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich

Record of vote: All in favor

13) Proposed Resolution to move forward with Columbia and Greene County Cooperative Extension’s Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool project for the Village

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VB move forward in working with Columbia and Greene Cooperative Extension’s project to complete a Climate Smart Resiliency Planning Tool (CSRPT) for the Village of Athens

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich

Record of vote: All in favor

14) Proposed Resolution to terminate contract for the purchase of Peckham (DBTL property)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve terminating the contract for the purchase of the aforementioned property based upon the results of the appraisal.

Offered by: Trustee Bradicich

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Lightower. Re: change of name.
2. Greene County Women's League. Re: Cancer patient aid.
3. Athens Volunteer Fire Department. Re: Convention

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Lease check has been received from the Town.
2. AVFD- we have not received check for propane or half the cleaning expense.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Recreation program. Re: Director has accepted job.
2. Water and sewer relevies being processed. Tax warrant awaits signature.
3. Athens Garden Club. Re: Highway work permit received- inquired about North end?

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

A MOTION was made by Trustee Butler, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, to enter into executive session at 7:35PM to discuss the hiring, firing or disciplinary action of an employee

A MOTION was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Butler, all in favor, to exit Executive Session and resume the regular work meeting

ADJOURNMENT:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Butler

Record of vote: All in favor