

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

Minutes – September 12, 2018 – 6:30PM

Pledge to the Flag

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

PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing by having the Clerk-Treasurer read the notice that was published in the newspaper regarding proposed Local Law #7 of 2018 amending the local law establishing that the Village Zoning Board of Appeals require training of its members.

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

There were no comments or questions.

PUBLIC HEARING was closed at 6:33PM by Motion made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor.

OPEN REGULAR MEETING

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. *Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea*

Heines property was discussed. Mr. Heines has received his DMV permit and is now licensed in the State.

NYSDOL penalized the village for their lack of WPV training. The fine has been lowered to \$100.00.

A Public Hearing will be scheduled for the only member of the Planning Board that has not received the training specified in the law. The member still can provide proof of training at or before the Public Hearing.

2. *DPW – Anthony Proper*

Hydrant flushing will take place the week of October 1st, 2018.

The 1998 Dump truck is over at Ben Funk for repairs. An itemized list of work to be done on the vehicle totals \$2362.00. **A MOTION was made by Trustee Spinner, seconded by Trustee Bradicich, all in favor, to repair the truck for the amount specified.**

Discussion on trees. 3 dead by Van Ettens will be taken down. Tree root may need to be cut outside of Rive Gauche. Tree cutting and trimming will take place next week.

Changes to the ‘Snow emergency’ signs were also discussed.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Bradicich, seconded by Trustee Butler, all in favor to enter into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** to discuss the potential hiring, firing or work history of a particular employee (6:54PM).

A MOTION was made by Trustee Bradicich, seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor, to exit **EXECUTIVE SESSION** and resume the Regular Meeting at 7:24PM.

3. *Fire Department – Assistant Chief Wayne Butterworth attended the meeting in the absence of the Fire Chief.*

The Fire Department thanked the Village Board, the Athens Police Department and the Village DPW for their help and support at the Greene County Firemen's convention.

Pagers and radios were discussed at length. The County has notified all agencies that they have up to 90 days to get their pagers 'up to par' with the new communication system (using high band). Assistant Chief Butterworth informed the VB that they will need to purchase pagers immediately and radios switch out later. The County is switching to highband in 60-90 days. Radios will switch over next year.

AFC Butterworth noted that he had 2 quotes with him this evening (NICOM and River Valley Radio). The Department would like to go with the Swissair radios as they are better quality and provide more options. They do not recommend the cheaper ones.

The AVFD is asking to purchase 45 pagers.

Trustee Butler questioned why they need to purchase 45 pagers.

AFC Butterworth replied that there are 40 active members and they would like to have 5 emergency pagers on hand.

Trustee Bradicich stated that he would like to see more purchasing options before making a decision.

Trustee Spinner questioned the percentage of active members that actually attend the fires. Wouldn't it be better to spend the money on the better pagers for those members that are actually attending fire calls. In order to spend this amount of money on pagers perhaps a real number of those active members that actually participate should be determined.

Discussion continued regarding 'active' members.

It was discussed to provide the chiefs with the higher performance pagers and other members the cheaper pagers.

Trustee Lasher also questioned the number of pagers requested to purchase and if this would be the last of the need for upgrade since the radios/pagers were upgraded several years ago. Will this be 'it'. It seems that we are spending money every year on pagers or radios and then they are no good.

Mayor Alberti informed the VB that a decision needs to be made tonight. We have a time 'crunch' and need to get going on the purchase before the radio signal changes. The quote was for 25 pagers at \$10,875.00.

Discussion ensued on the need for these pagers and radios and the cost for them.

The Clerk-Treasurer stated that there is \$27,000.00 in the current budget allotted for equipment. They have 'earmarked' \$5,000.00 for some turn out gear already, leaving \$22,000.00 for purchasing equipment. Why don't they use that money towards the purchase of the pagers? That would deplete the line item for equipment this year. When it is time for radios perhaps budget next year or use money from the Reserve Fund.

AFC Butterworth replied that that could be done.

AFC Butterworth also asked that the VB approve a training class for divers and tenders. There is money in the budget line item for training.

4. *Code Enforcement Officer – Mike Ragaini*

Discussed an abandoned house on S. Franklin Street.

Discussed Heines property.

DBTL property and possible buyer that proposes to use the property as commercial.

5. *Police – Roger Masse – no show*

6. *Water & Sewer – Northdome*

Seth Mann attended the meeting and provided the VB with a report on all three plants and activity for the month.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Riverside Park. Applicant: APAC - reschedule date September 14, 2018
2. Gym. Applicant: Travel Baseball practice
3. Riverside Park, Village Building. Applicant: Athens Cultural Center- Victorian Stroll

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on August 22, 2018 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Bradicich

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 approve the payment of vouchers as presented:

GENERAL FUND – Abstract #1974, vouchers numbered #9918115 through #9918143 in the amount of \$61,586.17

WATER FUND – Abstract #10432, vouchers numbered #9918144 through #9918150 in the amount of \$14,749.51

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10412, vouchers numbered #9918151 through #9918155 in the amount of \$11,183.16

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

3. Proposed Resolution Adopting Local Law #7 of 2018

WHEREAS, the Village Board has held a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on the proposed law amending the local law establishing a village zoning board of appeals to require training;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves adopting Local Law #7 of 2018 requiring that members of the Zoning Board of Appeals obtain the necessary training as set forth in the New York State Village Law:

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Trustee Bradicich votes aye
Trustee Lasher votes aye
Mayor Alberti votes aye
RESOLUTION passes

4. Proposed Resolution approving application for use of the Riverside Park

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves use of the Riverfront Park by APAC as submitted on their application:

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

5. Proposed Resolution approving application for use of the gym

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves use of the gym by the Outlaws as submitted on their application:

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

6. Proposed Resolution approving application submitted by the Athens Cultural Center for use of village facilities

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves use of village facilities by the Athens Cultural Center for the Victorian Stroll as submitted on their application:

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

7. Proposed Resolution to purchase pagers for the Athens Volunteer Fire Department

WHEREAS, the AVFD has been made aware of the fact that the County will be switching communications over to Broadband within 90 days making communication for the AVFD impossible or ineffective, and;

WHEREAS, the Department has researched their needs and as a result, provided 2 quotes and feels that the purchase of Swissair pagers is the most effective pager;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve the purchase of pagers at a cost not to exceed \$22,000, monies to be taken from the equipment line item of the current Budget:

Offered by: Trustee Butler
Seconded by: Trustee Spinner
Trustee Lasher votes aye
Trustee Bradicich votes no
RESOLUTION passes

8. Proposed Resolution authorizing training for AVFD

WHEREAS, the AVFD has money in the current budget for training and would like to send a few of their members to diving and tending training;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve training as requested by the AVFD for divers and tenders:

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

9. Proposed Resolution hiring two part-time police officers for the Village of Athens

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve the hiring of Jessie Vail and Daniel Rifenburg as part-time police officers for the Village of Athens Police Department:

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

10. Proposed Resolution to keep the DPW Supervisor as Working foreman

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board has approved the current DPW Supervisor to stay on as a 'Working Foreman' for the Village of Athens DPW, pending stipulations as put forth by the Village Board:

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

11. Proposed Resolution approving tree committee request to plant trees in the Village

WHEREAS, the 'Tree Committee' has received an anonymous donation from the 'Friends of Athens' for \$5,000.00 to plant trees;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve the tree committee use the \$5,000.00 to plant trees in the village this year pending VB approval as to where they will be planted:

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services. Re: Payment processed for \$1294.42 – winter storm.
2. NYMIR. Re: Accounting statement for the year 2017.
3. PERMA. Re: 2018 Fall Educational Conference.
4. Athens Cultural Center. Re: Victorian Stroll.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. PESH – WPV penalty

NEW BUSINESS:

1. gym schedule.

ADJOURN: 9:25PM

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

Mary Jo Wynne
Clerk-Treasurer

