

Athens Village Board Meeting
January 22, 2020

Pledge to the flag

Present: Mayor Stephan Bradicich, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Amy Serrago, Trustee Rob Scott, and Trustee Dr. Joshua Lipsman

Public:

Monty Jordan- Mr. Jordan appeared about his property located at 82 River Road, a 4.5-acre parcel of land. Mr Jordan said that sometime around 2005 the road direction changed as the Town changed it. After the change occurred he started getting bills from the village for taxes. He feels his parcel is in the Town. He has approached the County, however, the County did tell him to come before the village board.

Tal Rappeleyea the village attorney said that Mr. Jordan should have a title search or a survey done. This would show and explain the changes. He said there is not enough information presented for the village to make a decision on this. He also said that Town and County lines need sufficient evidence to be changed.

Wayne Butterworth- Wayne came in for the firehouse, as the furnace needs to be replaced. The current furnace is 17 years old. Part of the unit in the furnace has a crack. Repairing the unit would cost \$6725.00 and the cost for a new one with the air conditioning unit would be \$9395.00. The air conditioning unit that is there now cannot be worked on any longer as there is a new law regarding R22. Wayne said he spoke with Dave and believes there is money in the budget.

Frank Pedatella- Mr. Pedatella appeared to say he would like to start a committee for the DPW garage. He stated that the garage needs to have radiant heat and now would be the time to do this. He said they could do the work for free and the village would not have to bid out for everything.

Mayor Bradicich said for the firehouse furnace that \$9000.00 could come from Building and Grounds and \$395.00 could come out of equipment repair.

A **RESOLUTION** was passed to approve the furnace and air conditioning unit be installed using \$9000.00 from building and grounds and \$395.00 out of miscellaneous repairs of equipment deemed necessary by the Chief.

Offered by Trustee Lipsman
Seconded by Trustee Serrago
All were in favor

A **RESOLUTION** was passed to accept the Minutes for the Village Board Meeting held on January 8th, 2020.

Offered by Trustee Lasher
Seconded by Trustee Scott
All were in favor

A **RESOLUTION** was passed to approve the Vouchers as presented with one change being made to the Drug testing bill (change of Mayors name)

General Fund-Abstract# 2014, vouchers #9919344-9919368 in the amount of \$21,194.23

Sewer Fund-Abstract#10450, vouchers #9919380-9919386 in the amount of \$9874.05

Water Fund-Abstract#10466, vouchers #9919369-9919379 in the amount of \$19,641.02

Offered by Trustee Serrago
Seconded by: Trustee Scott

All were in favor

A **RESOLUTION** was passed to change Village Elections from March 17th to March 18th, 2020 due to St. Patrick's Day falling on that Tuesday.

Offered by Trustee Iasher

Seconded by Trustee Serrago

All were in favor

APPLICATIONS:

An Application to use the Riverfront Park and gazebo for a wedding was submitted by Crystal Covell and Kevin Murphy on May 8th, 2020 from 8am-8pm. There is no charge as the applicants are from the Town.

A **RESOLUTION** was passed to let Crystal Covell and Kevin Murphy use the park for a wedding on May 8th from 8am – 8pm

Offered by Trustee Josh Lipsman

Seconded by Trustee Scott

All were in favor

Kathy Jackson submitted an application on behalf of the DR Evarts library to use the gym on February 14th

at 8pm for set up until February 15th at 3pm for an event the library is hosting.

A **RESOLUTION** was passed For Kathy Jackson to use the gym On February 14th, 8pm to February 15th at 3pm for an event they are hosting.

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
All were in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

Julie McQuire would like to put up a memorial bench in the park in memory of a former Athenian.

Mayor Bradicich feels this is a good idea. He said that there needs to be some kind of plan for this. Mayor Bradicich said he would like to take 6 weeks to make a decision and come up with an application for requests. He asked the clerk if there was any kind of plans for the park and the clerk said she would pull them so he could look at them.

Andrew Lord is interested in purchasing the DPW building.

Mayor Bradicich said Mr. Lord is interested in purchasing before the DPW is out, but said this may be a liability issue.

Trustee Lipsman said maybe the village could get more than market value. He said he has also spoken to someone that is interested.

Mayor Bradicich said it would either be listed or put up for auction.

Attorney Rappelyea said which ever will get the best offer.

Mayor Bradicich said he would speak with the realtor on Second Street.

Trustee Lipsman said we could end up with a bidding war.

Mayor Bradicich said that he would speak with Andrew.

Trustee Serrago asked how you could list while they are still in the building. She wanted to know if this would be a liability.

Mayor Bradicich said he will find out the appropriate time to and maybe we could sell and use towards the DPW.

Capital Bicycle Racing Club sent information on the Memorial Race for this year.

Trustee Lasher said that she would let Chief Masse know about this.

The NYS Board of Electrical Siting and Environment sent a letter on the Hectate project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Lipsman spoke about the Steering Committee and stated that he has been working with the consultant. He said that there will be many hearing so that there will be a lot of public input. He said that 2 separate letters were sent out to 15-20 people. He said there was no limit, but didn't want to have too large of a group. The list would need to be approved by the village board. He gave a list of 9 names that have committed so far. The first meeting will be on 01/30/2020 at 6:30pm.

A RESOLUTION was made to accept the following 9 people to the Steering Committee:

Dr. Joshua Lipsman
Robert Butler
Laurel Wolfe
Diana Abadie
Carol Bernard
Todd Bernard
Paul Kim
Tom Satterlee
Sheila Brady

Offered by Trustee Serrago
Seconded by Trustee Lasher
All were in favor

Trustee Lipsman will email the people and also remind the people he has not heard from.

Trustee Serrago said that Janine and Melissa from Crossroads will be at the first meeting, but is not sure if they will stay.

Mayor Bradicich said that the NYMIR check was added to the budget and he will speak with Mary Jo about it.

Trustee Scott said that the clerks would like another recorder, as this one is no good.

Mayor Bradicich said to get a new one and he told Trustee Scott to reach out to Mr. Pedatella as he does believe in getting the radiant floor for the DPW garage.

Trustee Serrago brought up the e-mail for the police department and said to try G Suite as it is cheaper.

Mayor Bradicich said that right now the police are using personal e-mail to conduct business.

Attorney Rappeleyea said that personal e-mail is foil able.

Trustee Serrago said that it is \$6.00 per year per user.

Mayor Bradicich said to see what Catskill and Cocksackie use. He also said to see if NYCOM has any recommendations.

Mayor Bradicich looked into the Air B and B, they cannot tax, but can have a registration fee.

Trustee Serrago asked what constitutes someone to have to register? Are there any pertinent codes?

Mayor Bradicich said how do we enforce this?

Trustee Serrago said that counties have deals with Air B and B's.

Trustee Lasher and Serrago will work on the Air B and B information.

Trustee Lipsman spoke about the HeatSmart program and said he could have someone come and speak on this. They will come and give advice and guidance.

Trustee Serrago said it would be an educational opportunity.

Mayor Bradicich told trustee Lipsman to have someone come and speak.

Trustee Lipsman said that a resident complained about Brick Row and said it was hard to shovel sidewalks because of the material they are made of. He said that Brick Row has requested for years to get better sidewalks.

Trustee Serrago asked what they were made of.

Wayne Butterworth of DPW said they are made out of blacktop.

Wayne explained what would need to be done at Brick Row.

Mayor Bradicich will speak with Jason about sidewalks and the DPW and will get a quote for a 5-10 year plan. Mayor Bradicich said he would also speak with the developer across the street and maybe get this out of him.

Trustee Lipsman said he spoke with Delaware and NYS Dept of Transportation about doing the backbone work on 385. (Water, sewer, storm etc...)

Mayor Bradicich said he spoke with Jason and NYS Dept of Transportation and there is money available for planning.

Trustee Lasher said the police car would be here in February.

Attorney Rappeleyea looked into tax incentives for improvements and it is limited to Villages with 65,000 people in it. He also said the RFP was complete for bonding of the DPW.

A **RESOLUTION** was made for the Village Attorney to go out for bid for bond of the DPW garage

Offered by Trustee Lipsman
Seconded by Trustee Lasher
All in favor

Mayor Bradicich said he asked to be debriefed on the BOA grant. He said the other applicants showed greater need and economic distress.

Mayor Bradicich said he also met with Karl of Greene County Pathways, Tim Mercer, and Sam Gruber. We spoke about social media and police training. Greene County was the worst in NY for overdose and deaths. Athens had the highest rate for death. The first responders are the police dept with Narcan. There needs to be a policy and training. Maybe a Town Hall at the firehouse with info for people that may need it. Maybe, a Town Hall, Community Day/Wellness day.

Trustee Lipsman said he has a background in Health

Mayor Bradicich said he would put Trustee Lipsman on the team.

Mayor Bradicich said he meets with Joe Merlino next week and the planning board next month. There will be 20-24 subdivisions and engineering assessments.

He said that he spoke with Maggie and it is not historic there.

Also, mentioned was that the street between the Rivertown Senior Housing buildings needs to be named for 911.

Attorney Rappelyea said that a resolution would need to be done in order to do this.

A few names were mentioned

Mayor Bradicich would like to discuss the 2nd meeting in February.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm

Offered by Trustee Serrago
Seconded by Trustee Scott
All were in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn M. Palmateer

