

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – February 12, 2020

PRESENT: Mayor Stephan Bradicich, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Robert Scott, Trustee Amy Serrago and Trustee Dr. Josh Lipsman

Pledge to the Flag.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- **Tal Rappleyea** – Village Attorney – absent.
- **Anthony Proper** – DPW Director

Mr. Proper updated the VB on the DPW garage project. Archaeologist's have been completing the required digs. They have found nothing so far.

Mr. Proper would like permission to purchase 4 fire hydrants (replacing 4 hydrants) from Vellano Brothers for a total cost of \$23378.00. The money was budgeted last year for the current year.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Scott, seconded by Trustee Serrago, all in favor approving purchase of 4 hydrants from Vellano Brothers at a cost of \$23387.00.

Mr. Proper would also like to purchase 4 tires (state bid) at a total cost of \$1680.00 for the F450 Truck. Again, the money has been budgeted.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Scott, all in favor approving purchase of 4 tires from Van Kleek's tires at a cost of \$1680.00.

Trustee Lasher mentioned that a resident on Union Street complained to her about the drainage. The VB discussed budgeting for projects like this and the Brick Row project.

- **David Disbrow – Fire Chief. Wayne Butterworth Assistant Chief Filled in**

Provided a report of activity and expenses for the VB.

The Department would like to order the remaining sets of turnout gear as discussed previously. 2 Sets will be purchased.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Serrago, seconded by Trustee Lipsman, all in favor to purchase 2 sets of turn-out gear for the Athens Volunteer Fire Department.

- **Chief of Police Roger Masse – absent**
- **Mike Ragaini – Code Enforcement Officer**

The Mayor discussed the status of several properties with the Code Enforcement Officer:

Warren St. – CEO stated the owner will be boarding up the property

Montgomery St. – CEO sent a violation notice and they did some clean up. The Mayor noted that it is not cleaned up much- stay on it.

Washington St. Automotive garage – CEO asked if he should write a ticket again. Mayor stated yes – 2nd violation. Be sure to document.

Second St. – Neighbor issue. Mayor instructed CEO to meet with the Village Attorney concerning this issue.

Trustee Lasher asked the CEO if he would look at the property next to the Food Studio. There is a safety issue with the rotting bilco door. They were cited once before and it is in bad shape again.

- **North Dome operations- Seth Mann and Joe Myers**

Provided monthly report for both WWTP's and the WFP.

They also noted that the Annual contract for services has expired and they provided the new contract for signature.

They Mayor stated that he will review and get back to them.

PUBLIC:

1. *Ed Carey, representing Good Energy, L.P.* attended the meeting as the Village's Administrator of the Community Choice Aggregation Program.

The VB discussed the public education component of this program going forward.

It was also noted that the paperwork for filing as such is up at the New York State Public Service Commission and should be finalized soon.

An informal public information meeting will be scheduled prior to the February 26th VB meeting (6:00PM).

APPLICATIONS:

1. WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION APPLICATION. Applicant: Claudio Multari. 171 Schoharie Tpk. **RESOLUTION** made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Scott, all in favor approving application as submitted.
2. FACILITY USE APPLICATIONS:
 - Applicant: D.R. Evarts Library (gym) - change of date for previous application. Approved. **MOTION** made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Serrago, all in favor.
 - Applicant: Athens Presque Ballet (gym) Extension approved. **MOTION** made by Trustee Serrago, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on January 22, 2020 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Serrago

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

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 vouchers as presented:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Lipsman

Record of vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign Contract for Archaeological services

WHEREAS the construction of a new dpw building requires that an archaeological dig be performed on the site, and

WHEREAS the Engineer has recommended Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc. after researching responsible archaeologist's that perform such tasks,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to sign contract with Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$5,900.00:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Lipsman

Record of vote: All in favor

4. Proposed Resolution Naming the Street Between the Two Buildings Identified as Catskill Mountain Housing

WHEREAS the street recently paved by the Village of Athens and located between the two buildings identified as Catskill Mountain Housing has no name, and

WHEREAS in order to receive proper funding from CHIPS and also be identifiable to the 911 system that street requires a proper name,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve naming the street Rivertown Lane going forward:

Offered by: Trustee Scott

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

5. Proposed Resolution Approving the 2020 Trooper David Brinkerhoff Memorial Race Series

WHEREAS this is the 16th consecutive year the Capital Bicycle Racing Club has held this Memorial Race Series which runs through portions of the Village of Athens, and

WHEREAS the Club has asked for the help of the APD for traffic control at intersections in the village,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve and support the 2020 Trooper David Brinkerhoff Memorial Race Series on April 7th and April 14th in the village of Athens pending proper insurance certification;

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

6. Proposed Resolution Approving EJ Arthur Elementary School 5k Marathon

WHEREAS the PTO for the Edward J. Arthur Elementary School has asked permission from the Village to hold their 6th Annual 5k fun run/walk on April 25th, 2020,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve and support the 6th Annual Family Fun 5k run/walk fundraiser sponsored by the Edward J. Arthur Elementary School on April 25th, 2020;

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

7. Proposed Resolution Approving Additional Members to the Steering Committee

WHEREAS the Steering committee for the update of the Comprehensive Plan has additional members that would like to be part of the committee,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves the following additional members:

Christian Pfister
Ellen and Merrill Roth
Paul Salvino
Ron Puhalski
Nancy Poylo

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

8. Proposed Resolution Approving Date for Joint Village/Town Meeting

WHEREAS the process of completing the update on the Comprehensive Plan requires that there be a joint meeting of the Town and Village of Athens, including appointed

representatives of various committees and departments, be published and scheduled in an open forum,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approve scheduling a joint Town of Athens/Village of Athens meeting at the EJ Arthur Elementary School on March 5, 2020 from 6:30PM to 8:00PM;

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman
Seconded by: Trustee Serrago
Record of vote: All in favor

9. Proposed Resolution Approving services provided by J. Meyers Lab

WHEREAS the village requested quotes be requested for lab services for the water department, and

WHEREAS only 2 quotes were received and Meyers Lab was the lowest price,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VB approve Meyers Lab as the service provider for lab work with the WFP;

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman
Seconded by: Trustee Serrago
Record of vote: All in favor

10. Proposed Resolution Approving the allocation of money to Labarge Engineering

WHEREAS there are 5 solar projects in the town of Coxsackie and 2 of those projects are close to Sleepy Hollow Lake, and

WHEREAS that is relevant to the Village of Athens in that these projects could possibly cause shoreline erosion on Sleepy Hollow Lake thereby creating hazardous condition for village residents and,

WHEREAS it has been suggested by Labarge Engineering that the village be registered as an interested party, along with the village and town of Coxsackie, through the permitting process to ensure the safety of the Village and,

WHEREAS costs for such venture may be reimbursable through the state as intergovernmental funding,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the village allocate \$9500.00 for engineering services provided by Labarge group to register the village of Athens as an interested party in all developments in these solar projects ;

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman
Seconded by: Trustee Serrago
Record of vote: All in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Greene County Economic Development, Tourism & Planning. Re: Notice of Public Hearing on 8-year and Annual Review of Agricultural District No. 124.
2. Edward J. Arthur Elementary School. Re: 6th Annual Family Fun 5k Run/walk fundraiser.
3. NYSDOH. Re: Monitoring Notice- 2020.
4. NYS Office of the State Comptroller- Justice Court Fund. December 2019 statement.
5. Town of Athens Assessor. Re: New Construction/Demolition.
6. Town of Athens Assessor. Re: Date Collection Project in Athens.
7. Freeman Howard Attorneys at Law. Re: Brian Swardstrom and Peter Spears. Rescind.
8. PERMA. Re: Front Desk Safety & Security Workshop.
9. Marshall & Sterling – Traci Kane, CPCU - Re: Contract for police at the School.
10. Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc. Re: Invoice and contract for services.
11. Appolo Heating, Inc. Re: Renewal contract for Athens Firehouse.
12. Athens Volunteer Fire Dept. Re: Easter Egg Hunt. Motion made by Trustee Serrago, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, approving their request for monetary support of \$300.00

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tree Committee update
2. DPW Building- change in bid opening and archaeological dig update
3. Comprehensive Plan Update:
 - Joint Village/Town meeting scheduled
 - Steering Committee additional members
 - Public input process plans
4. Teamsters Audit for payroll is being conducted
5. Financial Reports distributed to all VB members
6. Budget requests for department heads have been sent out

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Monty Jordon
2. Palmateer sewer hook-up
3. Memorial Park Bench

Trustee Serrago noted that she met with Trustee Lasher and they reviewed other community's policies on AirBnB's.

The Clerk-Treasurer noted again that the lease for the Fire Protection Contract with the Town has not been updated since 2018. The Town has paid the amount noted in the old contract this year, however the lease does need to be re-negotiated, renewed and signed by both parties.

The Clerk-Treasurer also noted that line items for the community center expenses are over-budget since the VB had anticipated conveying the building to the town 6 months into the village's fiscal year. That time has past.

The Mayor noted that he has spoken with Town Supervisor Rob Butler about finalizing the conveyance of the building and noted that final approval of conveyance of the building is dependent upon village approval of design of village space.

He also mentioned that he will discuss building expenses with the town as it was thought that the town was willing to share expenses if the conveyance was not timely.

The Village Board discussed the progress that the Farmer's Market has made for this Spring at the Riverfront Park.

ADJOURNMENT:

9:25PM

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Serrago

Record of vote: All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Wynne