

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

MINUTES – March 11, 2020

Pledge to the Flag.

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

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea

- He is working on moving forward with the VB's wish to pass a Moratorium on building/permitting in the MUW (mixed use waterfront) zoning in the village as discussed. The form 239 has been sent to the County Planning Board for review. The SEQR is ready to review with the VB after receiving word from the County. Public Hearing will be scheduled then.
- He has been working on a proposed short-term rental law with Trustee Serrago. Village Board discussed it. Need to schedule a public hearing for that as well.
- Bonding for the DPW garage project is ongoing.
- Conveyance of Community Center to the Town was discussed again.
- Reviewed Farmers's Market Rules and Regulations. Everything looks good.

2. DPW Director Anthony Proper

- Cleanup day is scheduled for April 18th.
- He would like permission to mulch the brush pile behind the Firehouse. **A MOTION** was made by Trustee Scott, seconded by Trustee Serrago, all in favor, to contract mulching the brush pile behind the firehouse at a cost of \$2500.00. Cost is shared with the Town of Athens.
- Starting April 7, 2020 DPW begins working 4 day work weeks, 10 hour days.
- He will be putting the leaf loader on the truck to do some spring cleanup for residents since the early snow in November prevented people from cleaning their yards and removing leaves.
- Brick row sidewalk cost was discussed

3. Assistant Fire Chief Wayne Butterworth

- Ladder testing will take place on March 23rd.
- Submittal of grant.

4. Chief of Police Roger Masse – no show.

Liaison to the police department Trustee Lasher informed the VB that the new police car is at the dealership ready to be delivered. The Chief of police will need a check from the Clerk-Treasurer before delivery. The Attorney stated that the voucher should have three signatures.

5. Code Enforcement Officer Mike Ragaini. No show.

6. Northdome Operations Manager Seth Mann. Provided a monthly report to the VB for operations at both WWTP's and the WFP.

AWQR was discussed and noted that it needs to be available to the water users by May 31, 2020. Certification needs to be sent in by then as well.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Facility Use Application & Outdoor Entertainment Application. Applicant: George Greiner- Greene County Cruisers. **MOTION** made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Serrago, all in favor, approving application as submitted, pending proof of insurance coverage.
2. Permit to Peddle Application. Applicant: Mr. Ding-A-Ling. **MOTION** made by Trustee Scott, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor.

PUBLIC:

Jason Preisner, representing Lamont Engineering, attended the meeting to review and discuss with the VB the Bid Summary Sheet. The Bids were opened, reviewed and the results were given to the VB. The VB has 60 days to award the bid. Mr. Preisner advised the VB to postpone passing the Resolution that was prepared and placed on the agenda this evening. Reason being is that the archaeological study is not complete. The holdup is that the state is waiting to hear back from the Indian Nation regarding the dig and how far they would like to take it.

It was also noted that radiant heat may be added to this project as we go forward.

Trustee Scott thanked Jason for his work on the project and noted that this the furthest that going forward with a new DPW garage has gone.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meeting held on February 26, 2020 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Scott
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
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, with the exception of Lamont Engineering, until Mayor can review:

GENERAL - Abstract #2018, vouchers numbered #9919481 through #9919502 in the amount of \$40,917.97

WATER – Abstract #10469, vouchers numbered #9919508 through #9919511 in the amount of \$9,660.94

SEWER- Abstract #10453, vouchers numbered #9919504 through #9919507 in the amount of \$21,627.22.

Offered by: Trustee Serrago
Seconded by: Trustee Lipsman

Record of vote: All in favor.

3. Proposed Resolution Authorizing the Village bid for lawn care services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board authorize that the Clerk-Treasurer publish the notice to bid for lawn care services for the 2020 season:

Offered by: Trustee Scott

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

4. Proposed Resolution Authorizing that the Village of Athens Adopt the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge

WHEREAS the Village of Athens (hereinafter “local government”) believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments and is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy –independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come,

WHEREAS, we are committed to appointing a Climate Smart Communities Coordinator and creating a task force to pursue certification.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Village of Athens, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the NYS Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

Build a climate smart community.
Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
Decrease energy use.
Use climate-smart materials management.
Implement climate-smart land use.
Enhance community resilience to climate change.
Support a green innovation economy.
Inform and inspire the public.
Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge:

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

5. Proposed Resolution Authorizing the Village Board to Form a Task Force and Appoint a Coordinator to this Task Force (full RESOLUTION attached)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Athens, having taken the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Pledge, is appointing a Coordinator and Task Force with the purpose of taking climate mitigation and adaptation actions and pursuing certification as a NYS Climate Smart Community.

The Village of Athens Board of Trustees appoints Trustee Josh Lipsman as the Climate Smart Coordinator. Duties related to this position include chairing the CSC task force, working with the task force to complete climate mitigations and adaptation actions, coordinating the submission for CSC certification and serving as a liaison between the CSC task force and Board of Trustees.

Furthermore, the Village of Athens authorizes the formation of a Climate Smart Communities task force, which will assist the coordinator in completing climate mitigation and adaptation actions, providing community education and compiling documentation for the certification;

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Serrago

Record of vote: All in favor

6. Proposed Resolution Appointing 3 New Members to the Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board appoint the following new members to the Steering Committee:

Mike Pirrone

Annika Vogt

Sarah Grinberg

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Serrago

Record of vote: All in favor

7. Proposed Resolution Awarding Contracts For the Construction of the DPW Garage

TABLED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. NYS Public Service Commission. Re: CASE 10-T-0139. Notice of Information Forums and Public Statement Hearings and Notice of Procedural Conference.
2. NYS Board on Electrical Generation Siting and the Environmental. CASE 17-F-0619. HECATE Energy Greene 2 LLC and HECATE Energy Greene 3LLC Ruling on Party Status, Ruling awarding intervenor funding and Ruling adopting protective order.

3. AVFD. Water Rescue Team. Re: Request to have concession stand during Friday night concerts.
4. Kevin Roth. Re: NYSDOT oversight in regard to Athens Stevedoring Project.
5. NYS Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment. Re: Copy of letter sent to Hecate Energy Greene 2 LLC and Hecate Energy Greene County 3 LLC in regard to deficiencies in application.
6. Town/Village Assessor. Re: Notice concerning the examination of assessment inventory and valuation data.
7. Greene County Treasurer Tax Department. Re: Greene County tax foreclosures.
8. Andrea Smallwood. Re: copy of letter sent to Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation. DEC/ Athens Stevedoring & Environmental Development, LLC (Proposal #19PR04724).
9. Mark Levanway. Re: Proposed C&D processing facility and also copy of letter written to NYSDEC regarding proposed project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proposed law for waterfront moratorium. Clerk noted that she has no copy of the law.
2. Proposed law for short term rentals.
3. Radio station live streaming public meetings.
4. Tentative Budget.
5. DPW garage appraisal.
6. Brock Juusola. Re: Delaware Engineering- Infrastructure Study. A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Delaware Engineering at a cost of \$500.00 to complete an infrastructure study which would create a master plan for projects that should and need to be completed on infrastructure throughout the village.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Comprehensive Plan Update. Notes from the joint Town/Village meeting will be put on the village website.
2. Cultural Center Lease.
3. Policy for Memorial park benches/trees. A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Serrago, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, accepting and approving pending application for a memorial bench for Crider/Gildersleeve to be placed in the riverfront park for a fee of \$1600.00. The policy and application will be provided by the Mayor.
4. Farmers market update.
5. Northdome contract
6. AWQR 2019.
7. Community Center expenses/building update.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:00PM

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Wynne

