

VILLAGE OF ATHENS MINUTES – June 10, 2020

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

ABSENT: Trustee Amy Serrago

Pledge to the Flag.

Meeting held @ 6:30pm via Zoom

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87518514488>

Dial-in: (646) 558-8656, ID# 875 1851 4488

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Tal Rappleyea – Village Attorney

- The terms of the Cultural Center lease were discussed. The Attorney stated that the terms were up to the VB but otherwise it looks fine and authorized the Mayor to sign it.
- No news on the conveyance of the Village building to the Town.

2. Anthony Proper – DPW Director

- The new International dump truck will be here tomorrow
- 5 N. Church Street- there is not enough bluestone to replace their sidewalk section. It will have to be concrete.
- Alleyway between Vernon Street and Greenwich street has branches from Willow tree that should be removed. Falling on road. Mayor questioned ownership but if they are a hazard - remove.
- Requested permission to rent an excavator for one month at a cost of \$2,000.00 in order to lay pipe for water and sewer at the DPW garage construction site. A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, granting permission.

Mr. Proper noted that they are still having serious issues with the pickup truck. It is very dangerous to drive because it keeps 'locking up'. He thought that after having the transmission fixed it would take care of the problem but it hasn't.

Trustee Scott noted that they have received a price of \$41,000.00 from Crossroads Ford for the Ford350 pickup truck. It's a good price and just what they need.

Mayor Bradicich mentioned looking at Auctions Unlimited for a used pickup truck. He also mentioned getting 2 quotes on new vehicles.

Trustee Scott advised against buying used vehicles, especially on a municipal auction site as they are usually another municipalities headache. He also noted that the current pickup truck has 95,000 hard miles on it and has too many issues to put more money into in his opinion.

Discussion ensued regarding a new DPW truck and it's cost. The Village is again saving money this year on labor for the DPW since they have lost another employee.

Mayor Bradicich noted that he would look into passing a Resolution to transfer money from the laborers line item on the budget to the DPW equipment reserve fund for this purchase.

It was also noted that once the Village receives the new International Dump Truck they can sell the old one and use the proceeds to pay for the new pickup truck.

3. Wayne Butterworth – Fire Chief

- A/C issues at the firehouse but it is covered under warranty so it will be taken care of.
- Ladder/hose testing completed.
- 2 new sets of gear have arrived.
- Drills have started again and annual maintenance of apparatus will begin.
- Seeking approval to purchase 2 radios for a total of \$3992.48 to come out of equipment line item and installation cost of \$1500.00 to come out of repairs line item. A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Scott, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor approving purchase.
- Informed the VB that the AVFD has started a new truck committee. Trustee Lipsman inquired as to whether there should be a Trustee on the committee?
- Trustee Lipsman asked if the AVFD were still planning, as had been discussed, on burning the dilapidated house at 90 N. Franklin Street down as part of a drill. Fire Chief Butterworth stated 'no', after further review this cannot be done as there is no burning in the village. Trustee Lipsman noted that if that is the case then another avenue will have to be taken to remedy the situation.

4. Roger Masse – Chief of Police. Absent

- Trustee Lasher, as liaison, spoke on his behalf. Discussed the new portable radar units. The VB has to decide which they would like to purchase. Single pole-mounted units had been budgeted.
- Trustee Lipsman noted that on the Police Dept. report it notes that there was an arrest made. He inquired as to what it was for. He noted that as a Trustee It would be helpful to know what that arrest was for.

5. Mike Ragaini – Code Enforcement Officer. Absent and no report.

6. North Dome operations- Water and WWT facilities - Seth Mann

- Provided a monthly report to the Village Board.
- A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, to purchase 2 replacement communication cards for the raw water pump (\$841.00 plus \$250.00-\$300.00 installation fee) and 1 replacement communication card for the back wash pump (\$305.00).
- The VB discussed the cost for a new SCADA system again. Costs for service to the current system vs. purchasing a new one should be analyzed again. Mayor noted that he would like to get Delaware Engineering back involved with the SCADA system at the WFP.

Trustee Lipsman suggested that due to the fact that some department heads are sending their reports to their liaisons only and some are sending them to the Clerk and some to the Mayor perhaps it would be a good idea to have all department reports go through the Clerk's office.

Mayor Bradicich agreed.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Facility Use Application. Applicant: Mary Warshaw. A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Scott, all in favor approving application as submitted.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from Village Board meetings held on May 13th and the 27th, 2020 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: All in favor

2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payment of Vouchers as Presented on Abstracts

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approve payment of the following vouchers as presented:

GENERAL FUND – Abstract #2028, vouchers numbered #9919705 through #9919722 in the amount of \$19,956.91.

WATER FUND – Abstract #10476, vouchers numbered #9919723 through #9919725 in the amount of \$10,179.97.

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10460, voucher number #9919726 in the amount of \$8242.50.

Offered by: Trustee Scott

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Approving Local Law #4 establishing a Conservation Advisory Council of the Village of Athens, pursuant to Section 239-x of the General Municipal Law.

(see attached Resolution)

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

4. Proposed Resolution Rescinding Climate Smart Community Task Force

WHEREAS, the Village Board had previously created a Climate Smart Community Task Force by Resolution at VB meeting held on March 11, 2020 and,

WHEREAS, the enactment of Local Law #4 creating a Conservation Advisory Council would create a council that would be redundant with this community task force and,

WHEREAS the Village had appointed Trustee Lipsman as coordinator to this task force and now will transition to the role of Advisor/Chair to the Conservation Advisory Council,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board agrees to rescind previous Resolution passed on March 11, 2020 creating the Climate Smart Community Task Force in favor of the enactment of Local Law # 4 creating a Community Advisory Council:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: All in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Jane Cole Raftery. Re: Public Comment- Inquiry as to whether the VB will issue a statement in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NYSEDA grant - revised contract just received this week. Requires electronic signature.
2. DPW Garage:
 - a. Lamont Engineering. Quotes for radiant floor heating. Cost to include future radiant floor heating is \$39,494.00. Will move forward with that expense as they have omitted the generator at a cost of \$17,000.00.
 - b. Lamont Engineering. Copy of letter from NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation- part of the SEQRA process – ‘no effect’ letter.
3. DPW pickup truck – also discussed possibility of putting a down payment down and leasing vehicle.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Conservation Advisory Council Law.

Local Law was passed per above. Discussion ensued regarding publicizing the need for committee members. Communications committee will be informed on what to publicize and it was agreed to give 42 days to find members for the VB to approve.

2. Re-opening NY.

Mayor Bradicich thanked Trustee Lasher for her help in work done with the re-opening committee.

The Mayor has also reached out to local restaurants to help with Supervision and Control Plans and SLA Applications.

The Mayor also noted that he sent the Town Supervisor information on the village plan for opening up the Village Building.

The VB discussed the future of VB meetings.

3. Community Choice Aggregation.

The Mayor has met with Trustee Serrago to start an outreach program for the Community Choice Aggregation Program to inform residents of the program.

ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION was made by Trustee Scott, seconded by Trustee Lipsman, all in favor to adjourn meeting at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Wynne