

RESOLUTION NO. XX

A RESOLUTION of the VILLAGE of ATHENS TRUSTEES SUPPORTING the RESTORATION of the HUDSON-ATHENS LIGHTHOUSE

WHEREAS, the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse (Lighthouse) has been an important, unique, and beloved site since 1874 that distinguishes the Village of Athens; and

WHEREAS, the Lighthouse is a welcome scenic feature viewed from the south entrance to the Village, from the waterfront that defines the Village, and from miles both directions on the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS Athens residents and visitors have long delighted in the charm of the Lighthouse in the close-by viewshed, treasuring enriching visits to it as school children and/or adults learning about its history as a navigational aid, the experiences of lightkeepers and their families living in the Lighthouse, and gaining appreciation for the ecology of the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, the Athens community continues to affirm and celebrate the diverse values that the Lighthouse continues to provide to its quality of life and identity as particularly recognized in the 2020 *Town/Village Comprehensive Plan* and the 2004 *Village of Athens Local Waterfront Revitalization Program*; and

WHEREAS, the Lighthouse continues to provide critical navigational guidance to Hudson River vessels small and large as well as recreation, year-round beauty, and other opportunities to experience our area's grand River heritage connected to our signature Lighthouse; and

WHEREAS, 147 years of Hudson River currents, ice, and dredging have severely damaged the Lighthouse's underwater foundation wooden pilings and above water primary lighthouse building threatening its continued existence; and

WHEREAS, restoration of the Lighthouse foundation and its primary building is a massive undertaking logistically and financially but critically necessary to preserve it; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society engaged P & O Engineering in 2020 to conduct a total assessment of the underwater foundation and the primary Lighthouse building that has resulted in a comprehensive work plan to restore and secure the future of the Lighthouse; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Athens cannot imagine looking to the Hudson River and not seeing the Lighthouse;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Athens supports and endorses the restoration of the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village of Athens supports and endorses the application by the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society to secure a 2021 Historic Preservation Grant from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

AMY SERRAGO, Mayor

June 9, 2021