

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING  
JULY 28, 2021

Present: Mayor Serrago, Trustee Lasher, Trustee Gabrielle, Trustee Poylo, and Trustee Lipsman

Meeting began at 6:30pm

**Public Hearing** on NY Stretch—Mike DeWein attended from North Branch Services

It was discussed that the Historic District would be exempt from the NYS Stretch Code. Opting out of clean air ventilation systems and the heat or energy recovery ventilator.

A **MOTION** was made to close the public hearing by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Lasher.

The regular board meeting began.

**APPLICATIONS**

1. Outdoor entertainment Permit for the Lighthouse Church was submitted for their harvest Festival.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Poylo, seconded by Trustee Gabrielle allowing the Lighthouse Church to use the park for their Annual Harvest Festival.

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the minutes from the Village Board Meeting held on July 14, 2021 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Gabrielle  
Seconded by: Trustee Lipsman  
Record of Vote: all were in favor

2. Proposed Resolution Authorizing and Supporting Environmental Protection Fund Grant

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of Athens hereby authorize and strongly supports the application of Office of Parks, Recreations, and Historic preservation (OPRHP), Environmental Protection Fund Grants for Park, Preservation, and Heritage (EPF) to be made by the Village for funding to acquire 133 N. Washington Street, Athens N.Y. as parkland; and further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy if this Resolution shall be filed with the Village Clerk, the Clerk of Greene County Legislature; the NYS Assembly, the NYS Senate; and the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

Offered by:  
Seconded by:  
Record of Vote:

The Board decided not to move forward with this tonight. Mayor Serrago met with Parks and Recreation and Scenic Hudson. There has not been a phase II study yet. The option to buy runs out in September

and the acquisition money is more than the village anticipated. Scenic Hudson is committed to buy. There is a grant offered by Parks and Recreation, but not moving forward until next week.

3. Proposed resolution to adopt the NYS Stretch Code sans ventilator

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the NYS Stretch code becomes Local Law #4 and will be implemented 12/1/21 and enforced by code

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: all in favor except Trustee Poylo who abstained.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Boy Scout Troop #45 RE: Eagle Scout  
Addison will be honored at the AVFD on 8/28/21
2. Greene County Planning Board Re: Ellen Rettus Planning Achievement Award  
Mayor Serrago will post this
3. Coxsackie-Athens Central School District Re: Memorandum of Understanding requires Mayor's Signature  
  
Chief Masse expected a \$4,000.00 increase and will not sign until resolved.
4. NYMIR Re: Acknowledgement of receipt of Notice of Claim-APO Sleepy Hollow Lake
5. Coxsackie-Athens Central School District Re: Building Use during times of crisis  
The contact will be changed to the Mayor and will be signed
6. NYS Board on electric Generation Siting and Environment Re: Case 18-F-0087 Flint Mine Solar LLC.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Marijuana Legalization  
If the board opts out it is permanent. If the Board opts in they need to consider the zone, hours of operation, and building size. Maybe form a committee? There is a petition process to get on the ballot and must be 20 percent of voters. Revenue is 4 percent sales tax between county and village, but percentage is uncertain.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that it was decided to form a committee to investigate the issue of Marijuana Legalization.

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Poylo

Record of Vote: all in favor

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**DPW—Anthony Proper**

DPW purchased new signs for the Athens Street Festival at a price of \$300.00 and he spoke about snow removal.

**Fire Department-Wayne Butterworth**

One of the fire trucks broke and cost \$3,000.00 plus labor to have fixed.

**Village Attorney-Tal Rappleyea**

He said that the local law exemptions have been filed. The police reform recs have been returned. He also said that the escrow language was agreed on for the Brick Row project, but there has been no response. Replenishment amount was changed from \$7.5 to \$2.5. he said the Community Center discussion is ongoing. He also said that the Athens Gen Timeline is 03/23.

Mayor Serrago asked about Murphy Drive

**Trustee Poylo-**

Spoke about the open meeting laws.

**Trustee Lasher-**

She said that Rob Butler is not onboard with the wind study. She said that the CEO computer is down and out for repairs. The SAM.gov info was sent to Mary Jo by Roger. Rick Deyo is retiring and the APD has another officer lined up. She said that the flag vandalism is still under investigation.

**Trustee Lipsman-**

The CAC/Tree Committee submitted an application to be a Tree City USA. Two signs will be posted by the DPW. He also said that the CAC submitted an annual report. The Clean Energy Committee NY Stretch Code will give us 1200 points and there will be CEO training in September. He is also working with 2 solar companies that residents can opt in on and he is waiting on the CHGE to provide the go ahead for the electric charging station.

**Mayor Serrago-**

She stated that there will be some COVID restrictions at APAC. Mask will be required, there will be announcements during the concert. Marya will donate masks and she will speak with Carol Bernard.

She said that the CDBG was sent Monday with the recorded hours.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Gabrielle, seconded by Trustee Lipsman to adjourn tonight's meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

These minutes were typed from notes taken by Trustee Poylo as the Deputy Clerk was absent from the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn M. Palmateer  
Deputy Clerk