

RESOLUTION NO. XX

**A RESOLUTION of the VILLAGE OF ATHENS TRUSTEES SUPPORTING
the RESTORATION of the HUDSON-ATHENS LIGHTHOUSE and
FUNDING UNDER the NYS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND**

WHEREAS, the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society is applying to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) for a grant under Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993 for conducting work to make the restoration of the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse (HAL) "shovel ready"; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse has been an important, unique, and beloved site since 1874, interwoven into Athens history; and

WHEREAS, HAL is an iconic, scenic feature viewed from our waterfront, our park, local businesses, and other vantage points; and

WHEREAS HAL has long charmed Athens residents and visitors who treasure rich and entertaining visits to and presentations about the Lighthouse to learn about its history, the experiences of lightkeepers and their families living in it, and the ecology of the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, the Athens community continues to affirm and celebrate the diverse values that HAL continues to provide to our quality of life and identity as particularly recognized in our *Comprehensive Plan* and our *Local Waterfront Revitalization Program*; and

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

WHEREAS, 148 years of Hudson River currents, ice, and increasingly deeper navigation channel dredging have severely damaged the HAL's underwater wooden piles foundation and threatening the Lighthouse's continued existence; and

WHEREAS, restoration of HAL's foundation is a massive undertaking logistically and financially but critically necessary to secure the structural integrity of HAL for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Proper & O'Leary Engineering's 2020-21 structural analysis and subsequent work plan requires further preparation to make restoration work "shovel ready";

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 hereby does approve and endorse the application of the Hudson-Athens Lighthouse Preservation Society for a grant under Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993.

Dated: June 23, 2022

Amy Serrago, Mayor, and for the Trustees of
the Athens Village Board