

Village of Athens Board Meeting
November 8, 2023

Present: Mayor Serrago, Trustee Lasher, Trustee Scott, Trustee Lipsman, and Trustee Phoenix.

Department Heads:

Northdome-Joe Myers- Joe said that compliance was good for October. He said that the water treatment plant was almost back to normal. He said there have not been any callouts. He said he has been working on the chlorine containment system, he mentioned it is outdated. He said he spoke with the campground, and he would like to do a hydrant flush next week. He asked the DPW to help with this. He said if it was not too cold, he would like to do from the plant to Dogwood. He said the flows at the wastewater treatment plant were not terrible, a little bit up, maybe because of water main breaks. He said they are working on some preventative maintenance.

Trustee Lipsman asked about the inspection report and the list of items that they spoke about. He said that you would have that together for this meeting. Joe said that he would like to get with Jason and put it together. Trustee Lipsman also asked about the asset management plan.

DPW Supervisor Sprague said that he has a ZOOM meeting with Jason tomorrow as they are looking for a map of the village's lines. He said that Jason will send them.

Trustee Lipsman said that Delaware may have some sophisticated maps.

Chris Sprague said that Jason has, but not for the water system.

Joe Myers said that asset management is a very labor-intensive project to put together. He said that a survey may have been done by Delaware, maybe Brach.

DPW-Chris Sprague- He said that the storm drain on Union Street was complete. Everything is half grass seeded and driveways are blacktopped, and they have skim coated to Vernon Street. They will finish down to 385. He said the docks will be out on Tuesday as he ordered the machine to take them out at the park and the kayak launch. Chris said that the company that did the brush pile last year

should be cheaper this year as the pile is smaller. He said the DPW will be doing leaves until it snows. He said that he signed himself and the guys up for a snow and ice seminar, it will also teach on rationing salt and safety. He said he has an asset management meeting tomorrow at 1pm. He said he would like to see money set aside each year in the amount of \$25000.00 for new fire hydrants. He said he would still like to do it because of the water main breaks. He would like to see valves all over the village.

Mayor Serrago said the hydrants are good and is in favor of the valves.

Chris said that FW Webb came out with a representative from Kennedy hydrants, Muhler and Kennedy hydrants are both good. Kennedy said you don't have to pull out of the ground to fix. Muhlers are soldered with lead. He said both have been in business forever.

Athens Fire Department-Antonio Fuentes- Antonio said that they received an estimate from Surrano and Sons for the boiler and chimney repairs. He said they also have All phase. Surrano and sons came in at \$1971.00 if you'd like to approve him tonight. That was the second quote.

A **MOTION** was made to have Surrano and Sons work on the chimney at the firehouse. Offered by Trustee Phoenix, seconded by Trustee Scott and all were in favor.

Antonio also said that the fire department is looking to get a forestry grant. He said it is a matching funds grant, and we are going to make a list at the end of the month for brush equipment.

Athens Police Department-Sgt. Ruso- Jeff spoke about getting quotes to outfit the new truck. He had one for \$8600.00 and another for \$5100.00. He said if they do the \$5100.00 estimate Wayne from the DPW could do the lighting. This would be for the cost of the outfitting items only.

Mayor Serrago said that the board did know that the outfitting would need to be done. She said she is not sure the board discussed the money part of this. She said we will find the money in the budget.

A **MOTION** was made to spend the \$5100.00 on the items to outfit the new Police Truck. Offered by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Lipsman and all were in favor.

Jeff said the State contract for ammunition was going up, so he would like to buy \$1951.12 worth from Eagle Point.

A **MOTION** was made to purchase \$1951.12 worth of ammunition from Eagle Point. Offered by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Scott, and all were in favor.

Code Enforcement-Jeff Ruso- Jeff said a lot of violations have been corrected and they are preparing for court on a few that were not taken care of. He said there are no new violations. He said that he attended an energy code training. He went over a few things he learned at the training.

Nancy Poylo asked Jeff about a pink house on North Warren Street that has been empty for 2 years. She said the property is not being maintained.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes from Village Board Meetings

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approve Minutes from Meetings held on October 11, 2023 and October 25, 2023:

Trustee Scott abstained from the October 25th approval of minutes as he was not here. Mayor Serrago asked that corrections be made to the 25th and the 11th meetings . She read these changes to the clerk who said the changes will be made.

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: all were in favor.

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

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

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: all were in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Approving ARPA FUND EXPENDITURE ATTESTATION

WHEREAS, the Village received \$100,000.00 from Greene County per Resolution No. 328-22 American Rescue Plan Act on October 19, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the County requires that the village attest to the fact that expenditures have been made in accordance with what had been approved for, that being water filtration plant repair and upgrades, and

WHEREAS, a list of expenditures will also be provided along with this RESOLUTION

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board attests to the fact that monies given to the village from the county under the American Rescue Plant Act have been expended as required:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Lipsman

Record of vote: all were in favor

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Sandwich Boards on sidewalks-There was a discussion on the sandwich boards and their placement on the sidewalks. Many different points were made and it was decided this would not be resolved this evening. The Mayor will discuss with the Village Attorney and revisit in the New Year.
2. Plan for Recreation program- A discussion took place on the Summer Recreation Program. The State is calling it a camp. Trustee Scott will look into this further.

Trustee Scott- He only had recreation to discuss tonight.

Trustee Lasher- She brought up that the lights are still being left on at the Van Loon house.

Nancy Poylo said she spoke with Tim Albright and the lights are on timers.

Trustee Lipsman said a letter written by the Mayor to that group may work.

Trustee Phoenix- She mentioned that the Village did a great job with Halloween. It was a great night with decorations and participation.

Trustee Lipsman- He congratulated everyone on the Town elections yesterday. Congrats to those who won and the new board. He mentioned the Decarbonization Grant is due by December 21st.

Trustee Lasher said the Cultural Center is interested in this Grant.

Trustee Lipsman said he would like a few ideas for several buildings. He also mentioned the Tree Grant. He said there is no match required.

Mayor Serrago brought up the complaint at 7 North Church Street and asked for any ideas on how this should be handled. There was a brief discussion on this. Mayor Serrago is going to talk to the Village Attorney about this and revisit. She asked the clerk when the Port A Potties would be removed.

Mayor Serrago also said that there was an application from the County for someone to name their private road. The 3 name choices are:

1. Hoot Hollow
2. Sweet Sap Forest
3. Wooshy Woods (which is the person's first choice.)

A **MOTION** was made to let the owner pick the name they would like.

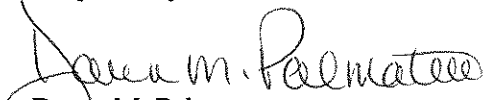
Offered by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Lipsman, and all were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

A **MOTION** was made to adjourn the meeting at 8pm.

Offered by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Scott, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted



Dawn M. Palmateer
Deputy Village Clerk