

MINUTES – VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 28, 2024

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Meeting held in the Athens Village Community Center at 6:00PM

PRESENT: Mayor Amy Serrago, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Josh Lipsman and Trustee Joey Dillberg.

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea was also present.

Clerk-Treasurer MJ Wynne was also present for the purpose of taking minutes.

ABSENT: Trustee Alison Phoenix

PUBLIC:

1. *Jason Preisner, representing Lamont Engineering*, attended the meeting to provide the village with a status report on all of the village's ongoing projects:

Water project

Wastewater project

Community Center gym rehabilitation

Community Center rehabilitation Study

Hollister Lake weed harvesting project

Discussion ensued regarding each project.

2. *Patrick Gillespie, resident of Second Street*, attended the meeting for the purpose of discussing the water/sewer bill he receives from the village quarterly. He doesn't understand what the abbreviations mean. It doesn't include anything other than gallons used.

Recently Mr. Gillespie came to the Clerk's office and was given a water budget and also received answers to the questions he had regarding his water bill.

Mr. Gillespie stated he later spoke to DPW Super Sprague on the street where he explained everything about water billing and budgeting to him and now, he is 'all good'.

Jason Preisner, Lamont Engineering noted that billing software for water and sewer is limited as to what it prints out on the bill and the office doesn't have a lot of control over that. The application software prints the actual bill. The office/metering software provides the data.

3. *Kathy Jackson, representing the DR Evarts library*, attended the meeting due to the fact that she has submitted an application for water hookup as part of the renovations at the Library. They require a different hookup due to the new sprinkler systems.

DPW Super Sprague noted that the library currently has a ¾" line and they need a 4" line for the proposed sprinkler system.

Ms. Jackson also noted that they are required to complete a flow test ASAP.

DPW Super Sprague informed the VB that the flow test disrupts the water system which has had a lot of stress on it lately and he would like to do the flow test in conjunction with the hydrant flushing scheduled for the first week of October tentatively.

Jason Preisner (Lamont Engineering) stated that they may be able to do the flow test. He also noted that it may not be necessary as there was one completed a couple of years ago and that may suffice. He will check.

Discussion of costs related to the flow test and the work for the water line ensued.

DR Evarts will pay for the application fee and the village DPW will provide labor.

4. *Richard Greene, resident of N. Montgomery Street*, attended the meeting to revisit his curb issue discussed at a VB meeting previously after the road had been paved in front of his house last year.

Mr. Greene asked if there were any progress with replacing the curb or should he just put in landscape stone?

DPW Super Sprague discussed the problem with the curb and stated that he would take care of the problem and to give him a little time.

5. Sandra Strauss. Re: Fluoride
NO SHOW

6. *Ralph Vendresco, village resident*, attended the meeting to follow-up on his previous visits regarding delinquent properties. It doesn't look like anything has happened. Has there been any progress?

Mayor Serrago asked the Village attorney if she could speak on behalf of an ongoing case?

Village Attorney stated 'no'.

Mayor Serrago stated that she is pleased with how things are progressing with one case in particular and reiterated that these matters take time.

The Village Attorney stated that the biggest problem is being worked on.

Mr. Vendresco asked if he should fill out a complaint form?

Reply is 'yes' that would be a big help.

Mr. Vendresco noted that the Code Enforcement Officers drive around in police cars throughout the village don't they see what's going on?

APPLICATIONS:

1. Facility use Application- Riverfront Park. Applicant: Greene County Cruisers.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Dillberg, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor approving application as submitted.

2. Facility use Application- Rainey Field. Applicant: Fall Ball Organization

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Dillberg, all in favor approving application as submitted contingent upon the fact that they will pay for the port-o-lets.

3. Water tap Application – DR Evarts Library.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Dillberg, all in favor approving application as submitted.

4. AVFD membership (application provided at the meeting).

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lipsman, seconded by Trustee Dillberg, all in favor approving the application as submitted.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes from Village Board Meeting

BE it Resolved, that the Village Board approve the Minutes from the Village Board meeting held on August 14th, 2024:

Offered by:

Seconded by:

Record of vote:

TABLED

2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payment of Vouchers as Presented

BE it Resolved, that the Village Board approve the payment of vouchers as presented on the vouchers:

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Approving Drafting a Law and Documents related to the sale of 24 Second Street

BE it Resolved, that the Village Board approve drafting a law and documents related to the sale of the Athens Cultural Center located at 24 Second Street:

Offered by: Trustee Lipsman

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Greene County Legislature. Re: Resolution #285-24 Authorizing Youth Sports & Recreation/Veterans Project Payments to Towns & Villages.

2. Athens Cultural Center. Re: Victorian Stroll.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Water rates were discussed at length.

Trustee Lipsman noted that he has been in contact with the Ferry Company and they would be willing to pay the village a docking fee for the summer as the VB has discussed. The Ferry Company also mentioned that there are several lights not working down by the dock making it dangerous at night.

The Riverfront Park dock was discussed. First issue is lighting which will be taken care of this week in that the DPW has an electrician coming in to replace the current lights with LED lights. Trustee Dillberg suggested installing some solar lights right on the dock so that people can see where they are walking.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:50PM

All in favor.