

Athens Village Board Meeting

June 11, 2025

Present: Mayor Serrago, Trustee Lasher, Trustee Phoenix, Trustee Dillberg, and Trustee Phoenix

The meeting began with the pledge.

PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed Local Law #5 Authorizing a new handicap parking area near the D.R. Evarts library

Wayne Butterworth said there is an issue with the one on Second Street, there should be a time limit of 1-2 hours.

Trustee Phoenix said the one in front of the bank is for 10 minutes.

Chris Sprague said the V and T Law states a handicap parking space cannot be 20 feet from an intersection.

Wayne said they do need a spot, but some areas have people camped out in them.

There were no more comments, the public hearing closed at 6:08pm.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Dillberg for a handicap parking space by the library, all were in favor.

Mayor Serrago did say if the measurement from the intersection is a problem the board would need to revisit this again.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. **Northdome-Joe Myers-** Joe said that the 7" of rain killed them at the Sewer Plant, but a good rain allows for us to have a good season. Mayor Serrago said the permit was received and Joe said he will coordinate with James Gorman. He said everything is in place with DEC. He said the SPDES permit will be sent to Jason for some help on that. There was a discussion on biosolids and whether it is cheaper to haul or make solid. Joe said there was an issue at the water plant. He said they need to get a crane to go through the roof with the back wash pump as it needs servicing.

Mayor Serrago said the clerk signed the water bond, so that's the first aspect of moving forward.

Chris mentioned the dam inspection and that they cleaned out the spillway.

Mayor Serrago said that DEC is looking for reports.

Joe said he is up to date on them, maybe DEC didn't get them.

1. **DPW-Chris Sprague** -Chris said he has all the culvert drains in and will begin paving next Wednesday. He spoke about a monitoring device and meters. He had meetings with a few companies. He said all 3 companies are willing to speak with the board. Chris mentioned the valves came from the AARPA money. He said he would like to move forward with more hydrants.

Mayor Serrago asked how the electric was coming in the park.

Chris said he spoke with Jason, and they are going to come off the pavilion down the fence line to the dock and put on a pedestal that can be locked.

Trustee Dillberg said when leasing the dock make sure that the spot stays clear as there is no signage on the dock for ferry parking.

Mayor Serrago said when she signs the agreement with the ferry they will need to supply their own signage.

Chris said the quote for the electric in the park is \$3400.00.

Mayor Serrago asked the clerk to look into the Reserve Fund for the park to see if it could be used.

Chris asked if more dockage would be projected through NY FORWARD.

Mayor Serrago said that it would be proposed.

Chris said in the future a conduit should be added in the ground to add lights to the docks.

Mayor Serrago said if we spend money now, we won't get paid back.

Chris said there was damage to the new basketball backboard.

Trustee Lasher said the basketball people would be down on the 16th.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Dillberg, Seconded by Trustee Lasher to use \$3400.00 from the Waterfront Park Reserve account to pay for the electrical line being done for the docks, all were in favor.

2. **AVFD- Wayne Butterworth-** Wayne let the board know what apparatus would be leaving the village for parades. He gave an update on the chief's car as they have an opportunity to place a bid for a Greene County Paramedic car. He said he will still offer \$12,000.00. He said they are getting rid of 2020 and 2018. The AVFD will have the car wrapped and lettered to match the other vehicles they have. There was a discussion over who will get to use this Chiefs car. Wayne also said the boat broke down, so it was at the Village dock.
3. **APD- Sgt. Billy Mirando-** Billy gave the police report. He mentioned *that NYS V and T Law says that no golf carts can be on roadways.* He also said that E-bikes are not recognized yet, but there is an update every 6 months. Same goes for gators and side by sides.
4. **Code Enforcement-Sgt. Ed Tercasio-** Ed handed out a printout of permits that had been worked on. He said Home Swett Home would need a special use permit and gave that to the Village attorney. He said there was an accident on 385 and the cars are gone now. He said the cameras will be done in the park and he is working on the quote for cameras for the building. He said Jeff has resigned and he would like to hire Joanne Jubie and have her start on the 16th or 17th. Mayor Serrago said to have her fill out an application and submit it. Ed suggests \$22.00 an hr. and about 6 hours a week. He said that he is taking over, and Joanne would do the paperwork.

Mayor Serrago asked that the board let her and Trustee Lasher handle and keep the board posted as they move forward.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by trustee Dillberg to let the Mayor and Trustee Lasher move forward with handling the hiring of Joanne Jubie to code enforcement and keep the board posted.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Facility Use Application-Riverside Park-Wedding submitted by Elizabeth Brandt.
Mayor Serrago said that weddings are going to need a fee schedule.
A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Phoenix, seconded by Trustee Lasher to allow the wedding and to charge the applicant \$75.00 as she lives in the Town, all were in favor.
2. Commercial Water Application-Plane Image Hudson River Gardens LLC
There was a discussion about the size of pipe that was changed for the delivery of the water. It was agreed that the difference should be paid.
A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Phoenix, seconded by Trustee Dillberg that the \$2000.00 difference should be paid by the applicant, all were in favor.
3. Outdoor Entertainment Application-Stewart House River Garden
A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Phoenix to allow The Stewart House to have entertainment, all were in favor.
4. Facility Use Application-Riverside Park-Samira abed-Story reading
A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Dillberg, seconded by Trustee Lasher to allow the stories to be read in the park, all were in favor.
5. Outdoor Entertainment Application-Park-Story Reading-Samira Abed
It was decided that this application did not need to be done.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving minutes from the Village Board Meeting held on May 28, 2025
Offered by: Trustee Dillberg
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
Record of Vote: All were in favor.
2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payments of Vouchers as Presented on Abstract
Offered by: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee Dillberg
Record of Vote: All were in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Office of the State Comptroller- Justice Court Fund\$25.00

OLD BUSINESS:

1. NYMIR-Were issues taken care of/send back
All were taken care of, and the clerk will set up a meeting with the people the court uses for panic buttons.
2. Support for the NYS Assembly and Senate to Pass a Strong Packaging and Recycling Infrastructure Act- A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Phoenix, seconded by Trustee Eastwick to sign the Act, all were in favor.
3. Dam Inspection- discussed earlier.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sponsor Hole for AVFD Golf Tournament- A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Phoenix, seconded by Trustee Eastwick to sponsor a whole a=for the AVFD Gold Tournament, all were in favor.
2. Office Summer Hours- Hours were discussed
3. Resolution for Sportsman's Club -Street Festival

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Dillberg to allow the Sportsman's Club to have a concession and sell beer at the Street Festival, all were in favor.

Trustee Lasher- had nothing further to discuss

Trustee Dillberg- had nothing further to discuss

Trustee Eastwick- had nothing further to discuss

Trustee Phoenix- Spoke about recreation and said there could be no registration, this has to be a passive program. We are following the rules.

Mayor Serrago said we need to order some chairs for board meetings as most of them have broken. She said she will not be at the board meeting on the 25th. She said June 26 is another informational NYFORWARD meeting. She said it is not mandatory for everyone to be there. Mayor Serrago asked Alison to see if the bank would allow a banner on the side of their building for NYFORWARD.

Mayor Serrago said she has signed a retainer with Elaine Gold.

Dawn asked if lower Third, Lower Second and all of Water could be shut down for Community Day.

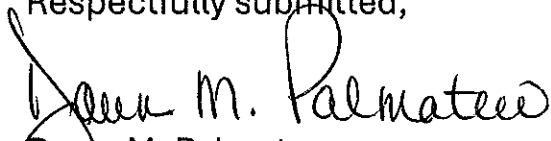
A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Phoenix to allow the closure, all were in favor.

A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Serrago, seconded by Trustee Dillberg to enter executive session at 8pm to discuss the sale of property owned by the Village, all were in favor.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Dillberg, seconded by Trustee Lasher to exit executive session at 8:10pm, all were in favor.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Dillberg, seconded by Trustee Lasher to adjourn tonight's meeting at 8:11pm, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dawn M. Palmateer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dawn M. Palmateer

Village Clerk