

VILLAGE OF ATHENS MEETING MINUTES-FEBRUARY 11, 2026

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: Mayor Serrago; Trustee Lasher; Trustee Phoenix; Trustee Dillberg; Trustee Eastwick.

PUBLIC HEARING: Snow Emergency Parking Law. Amending LL#2-2025.

Mayor Serrago opened the public hearing for comments on amending LL #2-2025 adding no parking on Second Street from Water Street to Warren Street and no parking on the east side of the street in Brick Row.

With no comments or questions, Mayor Serrago closed the public hearing.

Trustee Lasher made a motion to pass the amendment seconded by Trustee Dillberg.

Record of Vote: All in Favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC:

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1.Northdome-Joe Myers: The water has had ups and downs due to the water line breaks, up to 250,000 gallons. Brick Row altitude valve had issues; Ross Valve fixed. Union St. valve will be addressed possibly in March. Minor maintenance has been done at all three facilities. Painting is being done when possible. The chlorine tank has been fixed by staff. Flow rates at the sewer plant up to 350,000 gallons due to water line breaks. 10,000 gallons of sludge have been hauled away.

2.DPW-Chris Sprague. Several water line breaks: 2 on Brick Row, 2 on Ebbs Lane, 1 on Second St. Water Service Charge of \$100 for in-house work? This could be done by Resolution. There is \$35,000 available for hydrants; 4 have been ordered with all hardware included. Will take 4-6 weeks for delivery. The Village should look at funding for the EPA. The Village did fairly well with the surplus auction; around \$3200 will be coming to the Village. Mayor Serrago and Chris will meet to discuss union contract.

3.Fire Department-Wayne Butterworth. The fire department is having a raffle for tickets to see the Yankees; 5 for \$20 or 6 for \$100. Budget worksheet has been turned in to the Clerk's office. There are some questions regarding the budget. Would like a printout of Equipment Fund with invoices that were charged to the fund.

4.Police Department-Roger Masse. Trustee Lasher presented the report for the APD. The bid cost of a new police truck is \$48,962.45. The check from the insurance company will be \$51,462.00. Would like to accept the bid. Trustee Lasher will meet with Officer Tercasio to discuss yearly training for the police officers. The routers for the computers have expired and the department will need new ones and also windows will need to be updated. Quotes will be distributed to the Board at the next meeting.

5.Code Enforcement-Ed Tercasio. Trustee lasher presented the report for CE. Short-Term Rentals research/tracking has found that the Village has 66 STR's and 75% are not permanent resident owners. 2 STR permits have been issued to date. Granicus supplied the information and has quoted a cost of \$3309.04 for their service.

Trustee Dillberg made a motion to hire the service seconded by Trustee Phoenix. Record of Vote: All in Favor. Motion carried.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Use Application-Gym Stage-Kathy Jackson-Educational Drone Classes.

Motion to Approve: Trustee Dillberg; Second: Trustee Lasher; Record of Vote: All in Favor.

2. Use Application-Gym-MHACG Youth Clubhouse-Youth Games.

Motion to Approve: Trustee Phoenix; Second: Trustee Lasher; Record of Vote: All in Favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving the Village Board Minutes of January 28, 2026.

Offered By: Trustee Dillberg

Seconded By: Trustee Lasher

Record of Vote: All in Favor

2. Proposed Resolution Approving the Payment of Vouchers as Presented.

Offered By: Trustee Phoenix

Seconded By: Trustee Lasher

Record of Vote: All in Favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. NYCOM and Comp Alliance. Trustee Phoenix will look into (workman's comp.).

2. Greene County Resolution #12-26 "Authorizing Municipalities to Participate in County Highway Purchases."

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Newsletter MailChimp Charge. This service will now be charging to maintain the Village newsletter. The cost will be \$13 per month or \$168.48 per year. Will be looking into auto-pay option. The Village as to date has 399 subscribers.

Trustee Lasher made a motion to approve the expenditure seconded by Trustee Phoenix. Record of Vote: All in Favor. Motion carried.

2. Laws Missing from eCode360. Include 2022: Civilian, Zoning for Legal Cannabis, and Revised Stretch Code. 2024: Short-Term Rental. 2025: Water Late Fees.

3. Auctions International-Surplus Sold. Was discussed in DPW report.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Signed NYS DOT Utility Work Agreement. Mayor Serrago has signed the agreement.

2. Summer Recreation Planning. Sarah at the Cultural Center would like to know what the Board is looking for and also a time line. They usually do their own thing for the program.

Letters of Intent for positions for the recreation program should be posted. Mayor Serrago has signed up for the Speenburgh Grant. Stewarts Grant for \$300 has been submitted.

Grant money or ice cream would be appreciated. A hiring plan will be put in place. Attendee daily sign in was also discussed.

3.Re-Levy Fee Law. Coxsackie was the only municipality found that has a re-levy fee which is \$120 or 20%, whichever is higher. A public hearing is needed for this amendment.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Budget requests have been distributed to all the departments.
2. Bookkeeper will be in the office on February 18 @ 1:00 pm
3. Department Heads meeting may need to be changed to the second meeting of the month to accommodate for the Clerk's monthly budget report.
4. Trustee Eastwick. Stated that he residents were okay with the water rate increase. One resident became aware of a leak problem at their residence.
5. MaryJo Wynne will no longer be with the Village as a part-time employee. She will be available for questions.
6. Janis Pforsich. The west side of Water St is still piled with snow. She feels that snow removal was not done well enough. DPW Superintendent Sprague stated that the Village is not responsible for private property clean up and that when they went through, people were blowing the snow back out into the road. Snow clean up in the Village has been a joint effort with the Town of Athens. The Village will keep Janis in mind.

ADJOURNMENT: With nothing further to come before the Board, Trustee Dillberg made a motion to adjourn seconded by Trustee Lasher. Record of Vote: All in Favor. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Stacey
Deputy Clerk, Village of Athens