

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – October 16, 2017

A regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on October 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

These people were present: Supervisor Butler: Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow; Councilman Anthony Paluch and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey: (Councilman Michael Ragaini; Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. and Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell were absent.)

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper / Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Assessor Carol McBride; Madelyn Brandow; Janet Paluch; Gene Paluch; Barbara Trembacz and Fran McCusker.

The Following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid.

General Abstract #19, vouchers #501 through #516, inclusive for \$19,187.21.

Capital Project H, Abstract 19, voucher #517 for \$21,394.00.

Highway Abstract #19, vouchers #190 through #198 inclusive for \$15,468.74.

Public Hearing:

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. read the Notice of Public Hearing as it appeared in the Official Newspaper.:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Athens on October 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. local time, at the town Hall, 2 First Street, Athens, New York, 12015, to hear all interested persons on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2017 amending section 55 of article IV of Chapter 180 of the Code of the Town of Athens to revise the site plan review process.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that copies of said proposed Local Law are available for review at the Town Hall, 2 First Street, Athens, New York 12015.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard in person or by directing comments in writing to the Town Board, 2 First Street, Athens, New York 12015. All reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. In such a case, please notify the Town Clerk in advance at the above address or by phone 518-945-1052 so that arrangements can be made.

By order of the Town Board of the Town of Athens, dated: September 18, 2018.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to re-appoint Lynn J. Brunner to the Board of Assessment & Review for a six (6) year term beginning October 16, 2017 to September 30, 2021. Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch to approve the minutes of October 2, 2017 as read. Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

The Town Board received a letter from **Annik LaFarge**, who resides on Mt. Merino, directly across the Hudson River from Owen Lipstein's House, at 216 State Route 385. She complained about the different venues that have been held there over the years, due to the live bands, bright lights well into the night. (Weddings and other big events are held there on weekends.) She wants to speak to someone in charge. Supervisor Butler suggested that Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini could call her.

A letter of request was received from the **Town Court** asking for authorization to apply for a 2017-2018 **JCAP Grant**. They would like to obtain a commercial shredder; New Robes for the Judges; and shelving units to bring their computers up to eye level. They requested that the Town Board adopt a resolution so they can apply for this Grant.

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch the following **RESOLUTION #2017-46** *authorizing the Town Court to apply for a 2017-2018 JCAP Grant from the Office of Court Administration, to purchase a commercial shredder; new robes for the Judges and shelving units to bring their computers to eye level, was adopted.* Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler informed those present, that work on the garage is still progressing, however the steel will not arrive until November 2nd.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. stated that whatever money received from FEMA would be put in reserve for site gate.

Assessor Carol McBride approached the Board and asked what was going on with her budget. **Supervisor Butler** assured her that money is in there, however it is under Codes. He stated that he needs someone to cover both offices. Someone to cover either office when the Department Head is not present. (To meet with the people, hand out forms, and answer the phones, etc.)

Discussion followed

Assessor McBride asked the Board if they would consider giving her current clerk an additional \$500 to finish the project that she is doing now.

Councilman Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow to *provide an additional \$500 to Assessor McBride's current clerk to finish her current project.* Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

Colleburgh Cemetery to be added as a line item in budget at \$2,000.00.

On the motion of Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow **RESOLUTION # 2017-47** to *accept the 2018 Tentative Budget with changes as the 2018 Preliminary Budget for the Town of Athens was adopted.* Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

On the motion of Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch **RESOLUTION #2017-48** announcing *the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget be set for November 9, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. was adopted.* Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a **motion to adjourn** was made by Councilman Anthony Paluch seconded by Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-3 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-2 (Ragaini; Surrano) Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.