

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD – December 3, 2018

A regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on December 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm with by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

These people were also present: Attorney Virginia Benedict; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Michael Strenka; Assessor Carol McBride; Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini; Laura Bomyea; Dominick Multari; Jason Bishop; Tracey Kellogg; Mary Garvey; Larry Styles; Josh Hodor; Luciano Agovino and Patrick Doyle.

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

General Abstract #21, vouchers #422 through #441 inclusive for \$68,163.14.

Highway Abstract #20, vouchers #234 through #240 inclusive for \$29,590.11.

Assessor Carol McBride reported that the Sleepy Hollow Assessment litigation against the Towns of Athens and Cossackie is still pending.

Address updates and sales for Town Clerk and Deputy for the upcoming January tax bills. Exemptions applications and renewals are being turned in with the proper documentation by home owners.

The County has approved a \$1000 increase to the sliding scale for the Senior Citizen and the Disabled Exemptions from \$27,500 to \$28,500.

Assessor McBride informed the Board that the Assessor's Office will be closed on Friday December 14, 2018 as she will be at a Training Session at Columbia Greene Community College.

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. *to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue and litigation.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time: 7:10pm

Councilman Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M Surrano, Jr. *to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the regular meeting.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0 Time: 8:10pm

Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini reported that in November he had 4 building permits that included: 1 new story home with a garage; renovation of both the interior and the exterior of a building; 6 Sprint Antennas were replaced and 9 remote radio heads were added at Black Lake Road; and a 10 by 29 Sq. Ft. covered deck.

He received Building Permit inquiries. He did building inspections.

He did a Certificate of Occupancy: 2Certificates of Compliance; and 11 Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests.

He went to 1 Fire Call- over heating light receptacle in kitchen- 408 Cemetery Lane.

Complaint: Boat in the view of traffic entering Schoharie Turnpike from Pheasant Lane. Owner complied in moving Boat and trailer.

Notice of Violation of Short Term Rental Law issued to Julio Ramirez; Elkin A. Ramirez and Victoria E. Agudelo-Pabon. Upon inspection it was found that there were 6 cars overnight instead of 5. The rental property is advertised as sleeping 14 people. The rental unit is approved for 10 people overnight. (51 Thorpe Road)

Mr. Gasparini is to contact them with the amount of the fine.

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell reported that he and a few crew helped the Village with a water break.

Two intersection signs were installed.

The men have been cutting trees.

Bishop-Beaudry is coming back on the 13th to inspect the boiler.

The pickup is in a T & T hopes to have it by the end of the year.

Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Michael Strenka reviewed the Supervisor's Report with the Board.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Michael Ragaini *to accept the Supervisor's Report as presented.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Board Members reviewed the Town Clerk's Report for November.

Councilwoman Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. *to accept the Town Clerk's Report as presented.* Ayes-5 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-0 Abstentions-0

8:30 pm- Councilman Michael Ragaini left at this time.

Laura Bomyea and Patrick Doyle gave a presentation on Flint Mine Solar at this time.

Supervisor Butler requested a contour map with an overlay and a visibility map.

Mr. Doyle stated that there are rare plants such as Blue Rock Cress Sage.

They all went over the new map Mr. Doyle had drawn up in November.

Mr. Doyle stated they would have another meeting at the end of December.

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch *to approve the minutes of October 15, 2018 with corrections.* Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilman Anthony Paluch *to approve the minutes of November 12, 2018 as read.* Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) 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 Councilman Richard M. Surrano, Jr.

Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Paluch; Surrano) Noes-0 Absent-1(Ragaini) Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.