

ATHENS TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING – March 15, 2021

A meeting of the Athens Town Board was held via Zoom on Monday March 15, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. with Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. presiding.

The following people attended: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell; and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people also attended: Attorney George McHugh; Bookkeeper/ Budget Officer Don Pierro and Joshua Lipsman for the Village /Town Comprehensive Plan.

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

General Abstract #6, vouchers #90 through #110 inclusive for **\$17,814.36**.

Highway Abstract #6, vouchers #39 through #46 inclusive for **\$4,864.16**.

Highway Superintendent Farrell reported that he would have the Road Agreement in April. The truck will be put out to bid. He has ordered the Boom Mower. There has been an increase in State Funding.

The Joint Cleanup Day with the Village will be held on April 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the drop off location will be behind the Fire House on Third Street.

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner the following **RESOLUTION #2021-22** To Set the Date for Grievance Day 2021 was adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby determines that it is in the public interest and purpose to set the upcoming date for the 2021 Grievance Day and,

WHEREAS, in order to meet such requirements the Town Board shall authorize the 4th Thursday in May 2021 in keeping with the Town Assessor schedule and the Town Board of Review and,

WHEREAS, many Assessor currently serve multiple Towns and it is required to carefully set the Grievance date accordingly in an effort to accommodate the various Boards that can be affected and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby sets the date of Thursday May 27, 2021 being the 4th Thursday of the month from 4:00 P.M. through 8 P.M. and that the foregoing resolution shall become effective this 15th day of March in the year 2021.

This resolution was adopted as follows:

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

Bookkeeper /Budget Officer Don Pierro reviewed the Februarys Supervisor's Report with the Board. He advised them that monies for all levies had been received. The Special Districts were paid. Outside Auditors are working on the 2020 AUD Report. He has been working on the FOIL request that the Town receives every year.

The RFQ have been received. There were 4 companies. He placed them in everyone's mailbox.

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to **accept the Supervisor's Report as presented**. Ayes-4 (Butler Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1 (Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Joshua Lipsman spoke about the Comprehensive Plan. He said it is not a Law, but it will be useful when making zoning changes.

Mr. Lipsman advised the Town Board that they have already passed part 1 and 2. Part 3 SEQRA is still open.

Supervisor Butler stated that he would like to give it to our Attorney to look at. April 5th is our next meeting.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner **to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021 as read.** Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Shannon Spinner made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini **to approve the Town Clerk's Report as presented.** Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner **to bring the Planning Board Secretary's pay to \$75.00 per meeting.** Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch **to pay the members of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board (including attending Alternates) \$25.00 per meeting.** Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Discussion followed on the Sleepy Hollow Case.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions for training session for Board of Assessment Review (BAR) Members has been cancelled. The NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services and the NYS Assoc. of County Directors of Real Property Tax Services are finalizing a Video that will provide the required training for newly appointed and reappointed BOA members.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner **to appoint Frank Pedatella to the Planning Board.** Ayes-3 (Butler; Ragaini; Spinner) Noes-2 (Brandow; Paluch) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner **to appoint Donald Andrews to the Planning Board.** This motion was not acted on, as more information was needed.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner **to appoint Helen Ihde to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5 year term beginning March 15, 2021 to December 31, 2025.** Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini **to appoint Scott Leggio to the Zoning Board of Appeals from March 15, 2021 to** . Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

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Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Shannon Spinner to appoint Eric Nelson to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate for a term of one year beginning March 15, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Ayes-4(Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

March 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. will be the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Shannon Spinner seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. Ayes-4 (Butler; Ragaini; Paluch; Spinner) Noes-1(Brandow) Absent-0 Abstentions-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.