

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING
MINUTES - May 23, 2012

PLEDGE to the Flag.

PRESENT: Trustee Herman Reinhold, Trustee Robert June, Trustee Gail Lasher and Trustee Anthony Patsky.

Code Enforcement Officer Mike Ragaini and Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea were also present.

Mayor Andrea Smallwood enters meeting at 6:45PM.

PUBLIC:

1. *John Pulice, resident of the village*, attended the meeting to inform the Village Board that St. Patrick's Church in the Village will be holding a confirmation which approximately 200 people will be attending on Sunday. As a result, there will be a lot of vehicles and people parking in and around the church. Pedestrians will also be crossing Washington Street to attend the ceremony. As has been discussed previously the traffic has a tendency to speed on this part of Washington Street. He just wanted to alert the village of a potentially dangerous situation.

The Village Board will alert the Athens Police Department.

Also, Mr. Pulice discussed the parking in front of the bank (west side of N. Washington Street). This has been an on-going discussion since visibility turning onto Washington Street from Second Street is poor. The VB passed a local law returning the 'No Parking' designation back to its former dimensions after the VB shortened the dimensions to allow more parking. However, Mr. Pulice noted that the sign for 'no parking...' has not been moved as discussed.

The Village Board will look at this and alert the DPW if this is the case.

2. *Carol Pfister, representing the Athens Cultural Center*, attended the meeting to answer any questions the Village Board may have regarding their request to use village property as stated in correspondence #1 listed below.

The Cultural Center is sponsoring a program whereas artists will be displaying sculptures at the Riverfront Park as well as perhaps other public areas in the Village (the park across from Stewarts and the 4th St. kayak launch). The Village Board asked questions and voiced concern regarding what type of art would be displayed and also about liability issues.

Ms. Pfister also discussed the Cultural Center's request for use of the park on December 8th for the Victorian Christmas and to permit them to have a horse drawn carriage for the day.

A MOTION was made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, provided that the Cultural Center provide updates to the Village Board on their progress with both events, to grant permission to the Athens Cultural Center to sponsor both events in the Village.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Athens Cultural Center- Dawna Johnson. Re: Request to use parks, gym etc.
2. John McInerney. Re: Request use of the Riverfront Park and also request to waive open container law.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Lasher waiving the open container law at the Riverfront Park for Village/Flag Day to be held on June 9, 2012. Trustee Patsky votes aye, Trustee Reinhold abstains due to the fact that he is one of the organizers for this event. RESOLUTION passes.

3. Mary Jo Jaeger- Deputy Budget Officer –Office of the County Administrator. Re: Workers Compensation Program
4. Joint Landfill Venture. Re: Financial Statements for February and March 2012.
5. Just Energy. Re: Request to allow independent contractors to market their products and services to Village residents.
6. New York State Teamsters – John F. Tierney, Jr. Field Auditor. Re: Audit of payroll records.
7. Greene County Probation Department – Alan Frisbee. Re: Invitation to attend Meeting of the Greene County Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory Board.
8. Town of Catskill Supervisor Joseph Leggio. Re: Ambulance Services to the Town of Athens.
9. NYS Public Service Commission. Re: Notice extending Public Comment Period on the Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. Joint Proposal.
10. United States Senate. Re: Challenge America Fast-Track Program.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, approving payment of the following vouchers:

GENERAL FUND- Abstract #1704, vouchers numbered #9911594 through #9911611, and voucher #9911635 in the amount of \$15,745.90.

WATER FUND – Abstract #10246, vouchers numbered #9911613 through #9911615 and vouchers numbered #9911627, 9911629, 9911631- 9911634, in the amount of \$2,877,87,

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10217, voucher numbered #9911616 - #9911626, in the amount of \$6,252.86.

Financial Reports for the month of April were distributed to all Village Board Members.

Discussion regarding the ongoing issue of parking violations was discussed.

Trustee Reinhold stated that he would like to see the Athens Police Department enforce parking violations in the Village.

Trustee Reinhold also stated that he wants the Code Enforcement Officer to adhere to local law #1 passed in 2008 in the Village of Athens (providing for the administration and enforcement of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention & Building Code) which instructs the Code Enforcement Officer to inspect multi-unit dwellings, restaurants, etc. and provide and have available reports of those results.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor granting permission to Emily Rehak to use the Athens Riverfront Park for her wedding as outlined in a letter received and read at May 9, 2012 meeting of the Village Board.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, to purchase 4 park benches from Victor Stanley, Inc. for the Athens Riverfront at a cost of \$4,808.00. It was determined after discussion that this item is a specialty order not subject to the procurement policy therefore there will be no bidding. Monies will be taken from the Riverfront Park Reserve Account.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, to allow APAC to use the Athens Riverfront Park on Friday evenings from June 29, 2012 through September 7, 2012. Also on August 18, 2012 from 2-7 PM For 'Music in the Park' under the condition that the band curtail playing music after 10:00PM. The Resolution also allows that the open container law be waived during these events.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.

Good Night!

Mary Jo Wynne