

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

March 14, 2012

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

Fire Chief John Greco, DPW Director Dennis Proper, Chief of Police Roger Masse and Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea were also present.

Ken Sabia, representing VRI was also present for the meeting.

PLEDGE to the Flag

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING.

APPLICATIONS: Athens Fire Department. **APPLICANTS:** Mariah Palmateer and Matthew Drais (paperwork not provided at the meeting).

A **RESOLUTION** was made by Trustee Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, approving their application for membership to the Athens Fire Department.

PUBLIC:

1. *Brock Juusola, representing Delaware Engineering*, attended the meeting to update the Village Board on the Wastewater Treatment Project.
2. *Chris Pfister, resident and legislator*, attended the meeting to discuss a number of issues. First of all he would like to thank those Village Board members who support the idea of maintaining Riverfront Park as a park to be maintained and enjoyed year round. He would like to see the park become an attraction to be enjoyed year round not just for the day of the Street Festival

He also stated that he was not happy with the fact that the Street Festival Committee came to the Village Board Meeting with a petition to allow vehicles in the Park. The Street Festival Committee works very hard for this event, however, considering the Village has supported the Street Festival for 38 years, that approach was unfair.

Mr. Pfister also mentioned a number of other issues:

- The promenade at the Park is in need of some maintenance.
- The building located at the corner of Montgomery and Second Street is being used as an auto repair shop. This is a violation of the Village of Athens Code.
- He would like to volunteer his help, if the village would like, to work on improving the Municipal Parking Lot located off of Second Street.

A few other issues were discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Lewis & Stanzione. Re: Dionysos's Italian Restaurant, Inc.- Liquor license.
2. USDA Rural Development – Patricia Snover. Re: Village Hall review for compliance with the civil rights laws covering the Water and Environmental Program.
3. Benjamin Orcutt, Assistant Ride Director for Parks and Trails New York. Re: Athens Riverfront Park- request for usage. MOTION made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, approving use of the Riverfront Park as requested, provided insurance form is provided.
4. State of New York Public Service Commission. Re: Case 10-T-0139 Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc.
5. Greene County Public Health. Re: Rabies Clinic.
6. Trident Members Alteris Group- Insurance Company. Re: Notification that loss will not be covered.
7. State of New York Department of Public Service. Re: Case 10-T-0139.
8. Cornell University Cooperative Extension. Re: Invitation to presentation on habitat restoration on the Hudson River in Greene and Columbia Counties.
9. Athens Cultural Center. Re: Request for support at budget time.
10. Delaware Engineering, P.C. Re: Sludge quantities in Village WWTP.
11. Environmental Facilities Corporation. Re: CWSRF Project # C4-5430-02-00- Change order approvals.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, accepting proposal by B.A. electric to replace the last fuse box in the building at a cost of \$650.00. B.A. electric has done all of the electric in the building and the Village Board would like to continue with him.

Trustee Lasher mentioned that the Mayor, the landscaper and herself met at the Riverfront Park to discuss the condition of the Park in relation to the Street Festival. The landscaper thinks that if the Park is fertilized well in April that the lawn could handle some vehicle traffic and foot traffic. Also, the amusement rides vendor stated that the bigger/heavier rides could not be put on Water Street due to the power lines. However the Street Festival will have lighter rides and vendors in the park.

Trustee Patsky noted that his issue with the Street Festival in relation to the Riverfront Park was not just about the lawn – but what the intent of the park was to be in the future. He will go along with whatever the Village Board decides but that was not the issue for him.

Trustee Reinhold mentioned that the Street Festival Committee would be happy to contribute to the cost of having the Riverfront Park fertilized in April. He also mentioned that he has been in touch with the person that would like to provide a water taxi between Hudson and Athens.

Trustee June asked if this conversation means that the Village Board is moving toward the position of allowing vehicles in the park. He stated that he would like to have a policy in place regarding this issue for future venues. Also if there is to be traffic from now on then he would not support putting any more money into landscaping the Riverfront Park.

Trustee Patsky reiterated that there needs to be a policy in place going forward.

Trustee Reinhold mentioned that since the Riverfront Park is zoned for open space that that means a lot of different activities can take place in the park.

The Village Board also discussed putting another dock at the Riverfront Park.

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

GENERAL – Abstract #1695, vouchers numbered #9911395 through #9911428 in the amount of \$22,027.68

WATER – Abstract #10241, vouchers numbered #9911429, and #9911431, vouchers #9911433- 9911435 and #9911438 in the amount of \$4,589.55.

SEWER – Abstract #10211, vouchers numbered #9911432, #9911436 and #9911437 in the amount of \$834.48.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, approving renewal of Leah Rhodes lease with no increase.

The Village Board discussed the Tentative Budget for fiscal year 2012-2013.

A RESOLUTION made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, approving Payment Application #11 for Kingsley Arms, Payment Application #4 for Stilsing Electric and an invoice for Delaware Engineering for work completed at the WWT Plant, given that all supporting documentation is in order.

A MOTION was made to Adjourn the meeting at 10:30PM.

Good Night Athens!

MJW