

**ATHENS VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES– February 8, 2012**

*Pledge to the Flag.*

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

Fire Chief John Greco, Code Enforcement Officer Mike Ragaini, DPW Director Dennis Proper and Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea were also present.

**PUBLIC HEARING** – The Purpose of tonight’s public hearing is to hear public comment on the proposed adoption of a local law which would override the property tax cap for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mayor Smallwood stated that the Village Board has no intention of raising taxes any higher than the allowed 2 percent ‘cap’ as the village has not raised tax rates over 2% in the last few years. The Village Board does not foresee using this power. However, passing this law gives them the ability to do so if necessary due to the rising cost of health care, retirement and other mandates which are ‘unknowns’ going into budget time.

Trustee Reinhold noted that the Town of Athens has already passed this law as well as other municipalities. He also asked the Village Attorney if other municipalities that he works with have done this.

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea stated that a number of municipalities he works with have passed this law and it his recommendation that it be done considering the fact that the Comptroller changes the rules on how they determine what the tax cap includes or how it is calculated. There are a lot of unknowns right now therefore to protect the village, until they figure it all out, the law should be passed.

No Public Comment.

A MOTION was made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor, to close the public hearing and open regular village board meeting.

Department head reporting.

**APPLICATION:** Community Center Gym. Applicant: Athens Little League.  
MOTION made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, approving request.

**APPLICATION:** Community Center Gym. Applicant: Nils Johnson/Martial Arts.  
MOTION made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor, approving request.

**BID OPENING** for the 1999 Ford Crown Victoria police car (advertised in the official newspaper as surplus equipment). Three bids received:

1. Mike Ragaini Jr. - \$375.00.
2. Dennis T. Heines - \$406.69.
3. Andrew J. Liebenau - \$369.69.

A RESOLUTION made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, accepting the bid submitted by Dennis Heines for \$406.69.

**PUBLIC:**

1. *Ken Sabio of VRI* attended the meeting to update the Village Board on how the takeover of the water filtration plant and wastewater treatment plant are coming along and answer any questions that the Village Board may have.
2. *Brock Juusola, representing Delaware Engineering*, attended the meeting to update the Village Board on the WWTP project.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Teamsters Local 294. Re: Appointment of new Chief Shop Steward.
2. NYS Dept. of Health. Re: Monitoring notice – 2012.
3. NYSDEC. Re: Athens Water Supply Dam – Safety Regulations.
4. Central Hudson. Re: Contact information for ‘Municipal Briefings’.
5. Northeast Cummins. Re: Maintenance Program.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

MOTION made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor, approving the following vouchers for payment:

GENERAL FUND – vouchers numbered #9911330 through #9911352 in the amount of \$26,727.73. Abstract #1690.

SEWER FUND – vouchers number #9911355 and #9911356 in the amount of \$839.85. Abstract #10209.

WATER FUND – vouchers numbered #9911353 and #9911354 in the amount of \$1580.91.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, approving Minutes from meetings held on January 11, January 25, 2012, November 9, 2011 and December 14, 2011.

Financial Reports for the month of January 2012 have been distributed to all Village Board Members.

Involving the drafting of the new zoning and subdivision law, a RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, declaring itself lead agency and as such have conducted an Environmental Assessment Form Part I and Part

II, according to SEQRA, 6 NYCRR part 617. The Village Board also authorizes the filing of a negative declaration according to SEQRA, 6 NYCRR part 617. (RESOLUTION attached)

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor, to set up a Public Hearing for the Zoning changes (Resolution attached).

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor, to accept the proposal made by Kevin Pratt to replace storm windows on the Community Center building, provided that the color match what exists presently, for \$6,150.00. Quotes were received for this job over a year ago and this was the lowest price at that time. Considering that the windows have deteriorated rapidly and it is now considered an emergency repair it will not be bid out again. Monies will be taken from the Municipal Building Renovations Reserve Account.

Trustee Reinhold made a MOTION for a RESOLUTION regarding the Athens Police Department (attached). No second.

Trustee Reinhold made a MOTION for a RESOLUTION regarding the Athens Street Festival Committee and their use of the park (attached). No second.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters of litigation.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, to exit Executive Session and resume regular work meeting.

MOTION made to adjourn meeting at 10:30PM.

Good Night Athens!

Mary Jo Wynne