

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

Minutes-October 22, 2014 Time: 6:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Mayor Christian Pfister, Trustee Robert June, Trustee Gail Lasher and Trustee Anthony Patsky.

ABSENT: Trustee Peter Alberti

PUBLIC AGENDA

1. *John Pulice, resident of the village*, attended the meeting to followup with the Village Board on any progress that may have been made to alleviate the hazard at the intersection of Route 385 and Second Street.

The Mayor stated that there have been a lot of ideas being discussed by the Village Board regarding this issue. One consideration is to make the road from Route 385 East towards the river (Water Street) on Second Street 'one way'.

Mr. Pulice also asked if the Village Board would consider putting a 'cap' on how much the Village Board can spend without bringing it to a Public Referendum?

The Mayor stated that the Village Board is and has been following Village Law in regard to spending.

Discussion ensued with the Village Attorney regarding permissive referendum versus mandatory referendum for purchases with a 5-year life or over. In New York State, village law only allows for a few specific types of purchase to go out to Referendum.

Mr. Pulice also asked the Village Board if they would consider a crosswalk by the Crossroads Brewery?

The Village Board will look into that area as well.

2. *Tom Cali, resident of the Village*, attended the meeting to discuss his recent interview for a position as a member of the Athens Village Planning Board with the Mayor. He would like to know what the procedure is for this type of meeting/interview and he also wanted to know if the other Village Board members were aware of the meeting?

He also stated that he has not received a letter yet from the Mayor.

The Mayor stated that the interview did not convince him that Mr. Cali was the right person for the job.

Trustee Patsky asked the village attorney about the process of attaining a new member to the planning board.

The Attorney stated that the Mayor chooses a candidate and then the Village Board either approves or disapproves the appointment.

Mr. Cali also mentioned that the Firehouse Air conditioning and heating system's problems were discussed at their meeting/interview. Due to the fact that Mr. Cali has experience in this field he gave the Mayor many solutions to the problem and the Mayor did not like his answers.

The Mayor explained that the problem with the heating and cooling system occurred when the firehouse was constructed.

Mr. Cali asked why the Village did not go back to the Engineer who designed the system to fix the problem?

Mr. Cali stated that he has offered his services free of charge many times over and no one has taken him up on that.

The Mayor stated that he will provide Mr. Cali with a letter stating that he has not been appointed to the village planning board.

3. *Doug Earle, resident of the Village*, attended the meeting to put the issue of the color of his garage to rest. He stated that apparently there was a misunderstanding between the Planning Board and himself regarding what the color of the garage had to be. He was notified by the Code Enforcement Officer that the Planning Board was not happy about the color of the garage. They state that it was not the one they selected and discussed but Mr. Earle states that after much discussion regarding the color that the color that the garage is is the one they finally agreed upon. Mr. Earle presented a list of 25 signatures of surrounding neighbors whom have no problem with color of his garage.

The Mayor stated that there is a discrepancy in the Minutes. The color noted in the minutes is not the color of the garage. If the Minutes are wrong that is one thing but if they are correct then the Village Board must back them up.

The Mayor stated that he would like to get all of the facts before he makes a decision.

Mr. Earle also noted that he attended the Planning Board meeting last night at the advice of the Code Enforcement Officer so that they could perhaps revisit this application. The Chairperson told Mr. Earle that they could not revisit the Application. It was out of their hands at this point and it was in the hands of the Mayor now. Therefore Mr. Earle is asking the Mayor to let it go.

The Mayor reiterated that he needs to get the facts before he makes a decision.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Sign an Agreement with Pump Services

WHEREAS, the grit pump at the Wastewater Treatment Plant has ceased to function,

WHEREAS, VRI has obtained repair rates from three companies,

WHEREAS, Pump Services provided the best repair rate and is already working on site,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to sign an agreement with Pump Services for the repair of the grit pump at a rate of \$70.00 per hour.

Offered by: Trustee Patsky

Seconded by: Trustee June

Record of vote: All in favor

2. Motion to Approve Request to Use the Gym by the Greene County Outlaws as follows:
Sunday: 8 AM -12 PM.

Offered by: Trustee June

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

3. Motion to Approve the Use of the Gym by Gary Cunningham as follows:
Sunday: 6 PM-9 PM. \$75.00 fee.

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Patsky

Record of vote: All in favor

4. Motion to Approve the Use of Riverfront Park for Wedding/George Howard as follows:
Date: Saturday, May 9, 2015 Time: 9 AM-4 PM.

Offered by:

Seconded by:

Record of vote:

Tabled until further questions are answered

5. Motion to Approve the Use of the Gym by the Athens Cultural Center/Presque Ballet as follows:

October 21,2014 5:30-7:30 PM

October 23, 2014 5:30-7:30 PM

December 13.2014 12:00-4:00 PM

Offered by: Trustee June

Seconded by: Trustee Patsky

Record of vote: All in favor

6. Motion to Authorize the Pumpkin Parade to Use Village Streets and Riverfront Park with police escort provided as follows:

Date: Sunday October 26, 2014 Time: 5:30-6:00 PM

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Patsky

Record of vote: All in favor

7. Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Mayor to Contract for Removal of Gas Tank at WWTP

WHEREAS, an inspection by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has indicated that the current underground gas tank is out of compliance with various state and federal regulation,

WHEREAS, the cost of replacing or repairing the current tank is prohibitive at this time,

WHEREAS, Greene County has agreed to provide access to their vehicle fuel supply,

WHEREAS, Delaware Engineering has solicited bids firms that specialize in fuel tank removals,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that MC Environmental Services has provided the most cost effective estimate,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Mayor to contract with MC Environmental Services for the removal of the underground fuel tank at the WWTP at a cost estimated to be \$2,638.00 plus disposal of fuel at a rate of \$.65 per gallon.

Offered by: Trustee June

Seconded by: Trustee Lasher

Record of vote: All in favor

8. Proposed Resolution to Approve the Vouchers

BE IT RESOLVED, the following vouchers are authorized for payment:

GENERAL FUND – Abstract #1814, vouchers numbered #9914107 through #9914130 and voucher # 9914134 in the amount of \$33,030.33

WATER FUND – Abstract #10315, vouchers numbered #9914131 through #9914133 and vouchers numbered #9914135 and #9914136 in the amount of \$1533.65.

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10294, vouchers numbered #9914137 through #9914140 in the amount of \$15,278.31

Offered by: Trustee Patsky
Seconded by: Trustee June
Record of vote: All in favor

9. Proposed Resolution authorizing Brick Row Computer Systems, LLC. To upgrade the Computers in the Clerk's office

WHEREAS, the computers in the Clerk's office are currently using an unsupported operating system (Windows XP)

WHEREAS, Brick Row Computer Systems, LLC. has been the service provider for hardware in the Clerk's office and they have provided the Village with a quote of \$1100.00 to upgrade both computers to Windows 7 and increase the memory on each computer,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Brick Row Computer Systems, LLC. Has been the company that has worked on the Clerk's computers for the last several years effectively,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes Brick Row Computer Systems, LLC. To upgrade the Clerk's Office computer systems for the quoted price of \$1100.00

Offered by: Trustee June
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
Record of vote: All in favor

Discussions with Village Attorney

1. Hewitt Suit
2. Maurer Property
3. Traffic Law Revisions
4. Air BnB
5. Code Revision
6. DPW Equipment Reserve
7. Meetings

A MOTION was made by Trustee Patsky, Seconded by Trustee June, All in favor to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes:

1. To discuss the medical history of a particular individual
2. To discuss employment history of a particular individual leading to the possible discipline of a particular individual.

A MOTION was made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor to exit Executive Session and resume the Regular meeting.

Communications:

1. Rodenhausen Chale LLP,Christine Chale, Bond Counsel: Term sheet for firetruck bonding
2. NYS Department of Public Service: AC/DC petition
3. Delaware Engineering, Paul Zullo: Park Plans
4. Bank of Greene County & National Bank of Coxsackie: Bids on firetruck financing

Trustee Reports

Unfinished Business

1. Park Fence
2. Firehouse HVAC
3. DPW Contract
4. Meeting with Jack Alvarez
5. Meeting with Dan Proper on Dam Emergency Action Plan
6. Update on Water meters
7. Tree Trimming
8. Community Foundation Applications

New Business

1. Planning Board and Doug Earle
2. Street light at corner of S. Franklin and S. Washington
3. Plumbing repair at WFP
4. VRI: Fernando's Departure

Clerk's Report

Adjournment

Offered by: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee June
Record of vote: All in favor

Time of adjournment: 9:45PM

Mary Jo Wynne

