

ATHENS VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – March 13, 2019

Pledge to the flag

Present: Mayor Peter Alberti, Trustee Gail Lasher, Trustee Stephan Bradicich, Trustee Shannon Spinner, and Trustee Marla Butler

PUBLIC HEARING:

The Mayor instructed the Clerk-Treasurer to read the notice that was published in the newspaper announcing the public hearing for tonight.

Public Hearing: Held for the purpose of considering a local law to establish a no parking zone on Second Street.

The Mayor addressed those that attended the meeting and told the public this meeting was to hear comments and concerns the public may have. He explained what the measurement of a street should be for two-way traffic and he let the public know that this is a safety issue.

The Mayor asked for public comment.

Larry Styles commented that he does not drive, but does ride with people that travel up and down Second Street and doesn't see a problem with the change.

Arlene Halsted commented that her husband had a stroke and said she would like to see this happen after noon, maybe 1 or 2pm as it is hard for them to park in back and use the alley as the alley is not good by her house.

Lynn Sarrow said she is a fan of the library and volunteers there and said parking is a problem there

Kathy Jackson stated the library is a busy place and 8 cars were parked in front tonight. She said she could ask staff to park in the municipal lot but it is not lit well and handicap parking is a problem since a lot of the people visiting are elderly. There is not much parking to begin with and would like to work with everyone to create a solution.

Mayor Alberti stated that we want to work it out as well. Maybe, no stopping/no parking when the Library has hours.

Sam Gruber introduced himself as the new Library Director. He stated the library recently expanded their hours and losing spaces in front of the library is a detriment and explained about deliveries and programs. He is excited to work with the board.

Mayor Alberti said our intentions are not to hurt the library and suggested that a request for handicapped parking be filled out.

Nora Adelman said that she has been driving through the area by the library for 30 years and has never had a problem. She stated maybe a campaign for courtesy is what is needed.

Mayor Alberti stated that this is also a truck route and he as a firefighter has seen accidents

Carol Pfister stated there is no off street parking and perhaps widening the streets if possible, perhaps a small parking lot on Church Street.

Rob Butler asked if the south side had been considered opposed to the north?

George Grainer thanked the DPW for the great job they did cleaning out this winter. He stated that handicap access was a concern for the Legion Hall as well. The Legion Hall will possibly be renovating the front to add handicap spaces themselves. Other streets are in and out of traffic as well and gave a few examples. He suggested that maybe this could take affect during certain hours, he said people cannot park in the alleys because of people leaving cars in them for 3 to 4 days.

Mayor Alberti stated that again the first concern here is safety as this is a main route and a truck route as well as a traffic flow concern.

With everyone's comments and concerns we will come up with something.

George Grainer commented safety is paramount.

Susan Grille commented that she would like to see parking on the library side and keep the other side of the street clear.

Barbara Iraci said she would like to see parking on the side that has the most commercial buildings.

Mayor Alberti commented that most people park on the side facing south at night near the Legion Hall, not every night because people want to park in front of their homes. We will take everyone's comments and concerns into consideration

George Grainer stated that the lot behind the Legion Hall is open and to feel free to use the lot if its clear of snow.

Mayor Alberti commented that the snow emergency worked well this year.

Motion made by Trustee Spinner to end the public hearing, 2nd by Trustee Lasher, AIF

Public Hearing Closed: 7:00pm

Open Regular Board Meeting: 7:00pm

Department Heads:

1. Village Attorney-Tal Rappleyea

Village attorney Tal Rappleyea informed the village board that the conveyance of the Community Center is waiting on the Towns Title Search. The attorney also spoke about the sales tax on Airbnb's. He stated that if implemented there is no real benefit to the Village, as the county would get most of the money unless the village could work something out with the County. He also updated the Village board on Murphy Drive saying that letter came from the owner turning this street over to the village.

Anthony Proper from the DPW asked if it was okay to go ahead with the Buchakian project on Murphy Drive and the attorney said yes because the road has been maintained by the village for 10 years to begin with.

The Maurer property was discussed as well. The attorney stated the bank owns the property and agreed to tear down and clean it up. Even though the next of kin say that it can be done the bank must do it as they are the owners now.

2. DPW- Anthony Proper

Anthony discussed the leak on Second Street by Home Sweet Home and the ways and costs involved to fix it. In order to use money for this a Resolution Subject to Permissive Referendum would need to be passed.

Culvert pipe needs to be replaced, Greenwich Street needs a sewer line replaced and the drainage on Union and Constantine Court. There was a discussion of CHIPS money.

3. Chief Fire Dept-David Disbrow

Chief Disbrow asked for 2 sets of turn out gear. There was a discussion on turn out gear and the price.

A Motion was made by Trustee Spinner and 2nd by trustee Butler, AIF to allow the purchase of the gear.

Chief Disbrow mentioned the structure fire that occurred in the village last week and mentioned one of the older hydrants needed repair and was told by Anthony that it was on the list to be repaired. He also said the Explorer program is going well and there are 10 or more kids in the program. Some are from other departments.

4. Water and Sewer-Seth Mann

Seth said there have been no issues except for a tree coming down during the windstorm. He brought the DEC annual flow certification to be signed, Mayor Alberti signed at the table and a discussion on a cost analysis for the sludge removal took place. Seth is going to look into this further.

5. Code Enforcement- Mike Ragaini no show
6. APD- Chief roger Masse no show

APPLICATIONS:

Facility Use Application: Gym Applicant: Gary Cunningham
A MOTION was made by Trustee Bradicich, seconded by Trustee Butler, all in favor approving the application submitted.

Facility Use Application: Riverfront Park Applicant: Ira Blanchard
A MOTION was made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor approving the application submitted.

Facility Use Application: Gym Applicant: Brent E. Rozell
A MOTION was made by Trustee Bradicich and seconded by Trustee Spinner, all in favor of approving the application submitted.

Permit to Peddle Application- Applicant: Mr. Ding-A-Ling
A MOTION was made by Trustee Spinner and seconded by Trustee Butler, all in favor of approving the application submitted.

Permit to Peddle Application- Applicant: State Telephone
A MOTION was made Trustee Bradicich and seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor of approving the application submitted.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from the Village Board Meeting held on February 13th and February 27th, 2019 be approved:

Offered by: Trustee Lasher
Seconded by: Trustee Bradicich
Record of Vote: all in favor

2. Proposed Resolution Approving Payment of Vouchers as Presented

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves payment of vouchers as presented:

Offered by: Trustee Spinner

Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: all in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Approving Permit to Peddle Application
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the permit to peddle application as submitted by Mr. Ding-A-Ling:

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: all in favor

4. Proposed Resolution Approving Permit to Peddle Application
BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves the permit to peddle application as submitted by State Telephone:

Offered by: Trustee Bradicich
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
Record of vote: all in favor

5. Proposed Resolution Approving the Dedication and Acceptance of Murphy Drive (see attached)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board approves the dedication and acceptance of Murphy Drive.

Offered by: Trustee Bradicich
Seconded by: Trustee Lasher
Record of vote: all in favor

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Athens Firehouse rental forms

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Budget Preparation-Tax Cap

Executive Session:

Mayor made a Motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:45 PM to discuss Personnel issues in regards to the hiring, firing, promotion or demotion of an Individual.

Executive session ended at 9:20 on a motion made by Trustee Lasher, seconded by Trustee Butler.

ADJOURNMENT:

Offered by: Trustee Bradicich
Seconded by: Trustee Spinner
Record of vote: all in favor
9:20pm

Dawn M. Palmateer
Deputy Clerk