

# VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

Minutes—May 25, 2016 Time: 6:30 pm

## *Pledge of Allegiance*

**PRESENT:** Mayor Christian Pfister, Trustee Robert June, Trustee Gail Lasher and Trustee Marla Butler

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea was also present.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Peter Alberti.

## Public Meeting

1. *Dave Fingar, representing Mid-Hudson Cable (MH)*, attended the meeting to discuss the renewal of the MH cable Franchise agreement. MH would like the village to sign a 15-year agreement. Having a longer-term agreement benefits MH Cable with the banks when they are seeking more investment money. The banks see a long standing relationship with the community.

The Mayor noted that the village's last agreement was for a 10year term.

Mayor Pfister mentioned recurring problems with MH's email service.

Trustee Lasher mentioned recurring problems with the internet service.

Mr. Fingar discussed problems with the email server that they have been working on. They are constantly concerned about 'hackers' which makes the email server complicated.

Mr. Fingar also informed the Village Board that they are presently upgrading their broadband service for the new 'streaming' service that the public is using more and more.

He also stated that he will look into the internet problems in the area mentioned by Trustee Lasher.

Mayor Pfister mentioned that he would like to see the Municipal accounts for internet/cable service free of charge. He will email a list of municipal accounts to Mr. Fingar.

Trustee June asked how committed MH Cablevision is to a 15 year contract?

Mr. Fingar noted that they like that best.

Mayor Pfister discussed some differences that he noted from the old agreement to the new agreement. For example, the due date of the franchise fee was changed from March to June. The Village wants to keep it in March for budgetary reasons. Other items were noted to Mr. Fingar.

Mr. Fingar stated that he will review the differences and get back to the Village Board. He will change the due date back to March.

The next step is a Public Hearing.

2. *John Pieruzzi, representing Athens Performing Arts Committee (APAC)*, attended the meeting to formally ask permission for APAC to use the Park. He also came to the meeting to inform the Village Board that the APAC committee thanks and appreciates all of the support that the Village Board has given them. A schedule of performances for the summer was provided to Village Board Members as well.

Mr. Pierruzi informed the Village Board that this summer there will be professional bands performing and the goal of APAC is to get better every year. They are 'putting Athens on the map'. APAC has strong sponsors now and they are striving to bring revenue to the Village businesses.

Trustee Lasher noted that she will confirm with Chief Masse that there will be police coverage for the events. She also informed Mr. Pieruzzi that if he found that he needed more coverage to let her know.

Mr. Pieruzzi mentioned that APAC will provide their own security for the events as well.

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea informed the Village Board that before the first event APAC will be a corporation not a committee any longer.

Mr. Pieruzzi thanked Mr. Rappleyea for his help in accomplishing this for them.

The Mayor thanked APAC for all of their work.

3. Bethany Peden. No show
4. *Pastor Paul Szafran, representing the Lighthouse Church*, attended the meeting to answer any questions that the Village Board may have regarding their application for use of the Riverfront Park.

#### Motions and Resolutions

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Board Meeting Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees, hereby, approves the minutes, as amended, from the May 11, 2016 meeting.

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

2. Proposed Resolution Approving the Payment of the Vouchers

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby approves payment of the following vouchers as presented:

GENERAL FUND – Abstract #1882, vouchers numbered #9915845 through #9915868 in the amount of \$13,494.29

WATER FUND – Abstract #10365, vouchers numbered #9915869 through #9915875 in the amount of \$1916.52

SEWER FUND – Abstract #10346, vouchers numbered #9915876 through #9915879 in the amount of \$1155.89

Offered by: Trustee Lasher

Seconded by: Trustee Butler  
Record of Vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution Permitting the Village of Athens to Use Valid Contracts Offered to Other Municipalities (Piggybacking)

WHEREAS, from time to time it may prove to be advantageous to the Village of Athens to use bids that have been offered to other municipalities,

WHEREAS, permission to use such a bid that was previously solicited must be granted by the municipality which solicited the bid,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees does hereby grant permission to the Village of Athens waive the requirements of its Procurement Policy and to “piggyback” or use the certain bids of other municipalities.

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

4. Proposed Resolution Approving Tag Day

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees does hereby approve the use of Village Streets by the American Legion Post T.G.M. 187 for the purposes for the purposes of conducting a tag day fundraiser and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this event may be held on any village street except Route 385 and that this permit is for one day only.

Offered by: Trustee Lasher  
Seconded by: Trustee Butler  
Record of Vote: All in favor

5. Proposed Resolution Setting a Date for a Public Hearing on Local Law #2 Expanding the Residency Requirements of Village Code Enforcement officer and Building Inspector

BE IT RESOLVED, a public hearing will be held on the Local Law #2 on June 8, 2016, at 6:30 P.M.

Offered by: Trustee June  
Seconded by: Trustee Butler  
Record of Vote: All in favor

6. Proposed Resolution Selecting CDPHP Healthcare Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees does hereby authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement with CDPHP selecting the EPO Copayment 100 Platinum Standard Plan for non-union employees

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

7. Proposed Resolution Authorizing Use of Riverfront Park

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees does hereby approve the application of the Light House Church to use Riverfront Park for the purposes of conducting a church service and family picnic from 7:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M on June 5, 2016

Offered by: Trustee Butler  
Seconded by: Trustee June  
Record of Vote: All in favor

8. Proposed Resolution Approving Outdoor Entertainment Permit

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees does hereby approve the Outdoor Entertainment Permit for the Light House Church on June 5.

Offered by Trustee Butler:  
Seconded by Trustee June:  
Record of Vote: All in favor

Trustee Reports

The Village Board discussed the Tobacco Free Action Proposal that was presented at the last Village Board Meeting by Lisa Heinz. Presently the Village has designated non-smoking areas at several parks. A decision was made by the Village Board to not pursue creating more non-smoking areas in the Village.

The Village Board also discussed the possibility of holding a public informational meeting on solar energy with Robert Scepaniak of Monolith Solar Associates, LLC. Tentatively to be held at the firehouse on June 22, 2016.

MOTION made by Trustee Butler, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, to enter into Executive Session to discuss an employee's medical history at 8:15PM

MOTION made by Trustee June, seconded by Trustee Butler, all in favor, to exit Executive Session and resume the regular work meeting at 8:30PM

Past Business

1. Lawn Mowing Contract
2. Tree harvesting
3. Solar Informational Meeting
4. Tobacco Free Action Proposal
5. Mid-Hudson Cable Contract
6. Hot Water Project

New Business

1. WAC and ZBA Members needed.
2. Solar Array Law
3. NYMIR Playground Seminar
4. Lipsman Lawn

Communications

1. Notice of Claim: Van Alphen fall on playground
2. Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP, Matthew Hosford: Athens LDC monies
3. Rakesh Mahna: Sidewalk condition on Second Street
4. Mortgage Tax Distribution
5. Annual Water Quality Report

Clerk's Report

MOTION made by Trustee Lasher,  
Seconded by Trustee June  
All in favor  
Adjournment at 8:45PM

Clerk-Treasurer  
Mary Jo Wynne