

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING
MINUTES - May 24, 2017 6:30PM

Pledge to the Flag

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Alberti, Trustee Marla Butler, Trustee Shannon Spinner and Trustee Robert Scott.
Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea was also present

ABSENT: Trustee Gail Lasher

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. *Adam Greco, Fire Department Chief*, attended the Village Board meeting to thank the Village Board for approving the swift water rescue training and equipment purchased just recently. Within 10 days of the training the Fire Department was able to use their training and the equipment to rescue a youth in the water. It actually made a difference.

The Village Board thanked Fire Chief Greco and the AVFD for their services as well.

2. *Anthony Proper, DPW Supervisor*, attended the meeting to discuss a few things with the Village Board.

First of all, the Clerk's office received a complaint regarding a tree located at 28 S. Franklin St. in front of Warren and Debbie Gritman's house. Along with the complaint were photos of damage done to their vehicles due to the tree limbs falling. They are concerned for their safety and are frustrated by the damage that has occurred to their property over the past several years due to the tree.

The Village Board discussed the matter. It was noted that the tree is huge and there are a lot of large, dead limbs on it. Trimming was discussed as well.

After discussion, the VB agreed that DPW Director Anthony Proper should contact the County to have the tree removed when they can. The Mayor will also call Deborah and Warren Gritman and alert them.

Second item for discussion is the purchase of fire hydrants. Mr. Proper has received three quotes for Fire Hydrants. He would like to purchase the hydrants from Fergusson waterworks (4 hydrants at a cost of \$10,916.12).

Third item to discuss is the road paving for this summer. Mr. Proper has received two quotes for the streets that are planned to be paved.

Colarusso's price was 110,812.50 and Peckhams price was 101,875.00.

The Village Board has not been happy with Peckham Materials last two jobs completed for the village due to the fact that the quality of the road and attention to detail by Peckham left much to be desired.

Part of the bid (a separate item) which was not accepted, was for fixing a problem created by Peckham after they paved Water Street.

Streets to be completed are:

Brick Row Lane

North & South Church Street

Third Street starting at S. Franklin Street and headed down to Water Street (skipping Route 385)

Project will begin late August or early September. There is a delay due to the Village's work on the sludge drying bed project at Hollister Lake.

Mr. Proper also mentioned that Chris Pfister informed him that the flowers for the hanging baskets would be coming tomorrow. What should he tell Chris?

The Mayor asked Mr. Proper to tell Chris to contact the Mayor.

PUBLIC:

1. *John Pieruzzi, Chairman of APAC and Rick Surrano, committee member,* attended the meeting to ask the Village Board for permission to use the Athens Riverfront Park (application submitted) from July 21st through August 18th, 2017. Concerts will be on Friday evenings, with the exception of the Friday before the Street Festival.

They also provided the VB with a schedule.

APAC requested police coverage on those nights, 3 port-o-lets and also mentioned that if it were possible to provide some funding for their events.

They also asked if they could put a sign on Route 385 leaving the village to the south going towards Catskill where the other businesses advertise.

The Mayor mentioned that APAC should attend the meetings around budget time.

APAC thanked the Village Board, the DPW and the Clerks in the office for all of their help and support.

2. *Peter & Amanda Wolfe representing Wolfe Builders* attended the meeting to present the village board with their proposed plans for storage units on Route 385. They had attended a previous VB meeting regarding this issue.

(Their application for a special use permit was turned down by the ZBA. Therefore they are attending the VB meeting to see if the village is interested in pursuing changing the zoning code for the area which they had intended to place the storage units.)

The Mayor noted that he had just become aware of the fact that the Village Board had changed the zoning and code only five years prior. He was not a VB member at that point.

Mr. Wolfe asked if that made this a problem.

The Village Attorney noted also that the zoning can be changed. Its just a matter of how you want to do it. The easiest way is to add self storage units as a permitted use under special use permits in that zone. The problem with doing this is that that zone (RM) encompasses a large part of the village.

The Mayor noted that this is probably why the committee that researched the zoning changes didn't list that usage.

The Village Attorney noted also that the Comprehensive Plan did not list that as a permitted use because they wanted to keep that area as residential as possible.

John Cameron also spoke on behalf of Wolfe Builders. He feels that since that area had housed commercial properties in the past that that had set a precedent to allow them in the future. He is very much for this project and would like the VB to consider changing the zoning due to the jobs it would create and the tax revenue.

Village Attorney stated that as far as whatever mistake may have been made in the past to allow commercial usage in that area the law states that if the municipality makes a mistake they are encouraged, and should, fix it to comply with the law.

Trustee Butler noted that none of the present VB members were on the VB when those commercial buildings were active. This VB is following the present code/zoning going forward. She also noted that her concern is that if they change the zoning every time someone wants to do something that does not fit within the current zoning then there is a problem.

The VB agreed that they do not personally have a problem with the storage units but they do want to stay within the law.

Also, Mayor Alberti and Trustee Butler mentioned that while going 'door to door' at Election time there were a lot of people who felt strongly either way.

The Village Board agreed to discuss it and get back to him.

3. *Erik Hasler*. Re: Lime – Commercial Lighting partner for Central Hudson. No show.
4. *John Pulice*, resident of the village, attended the meeting for a number of reasons.

First, he wants to know what happened with Central Hudson and the natural gas for the village.

Secondly, he would like the village to consider a community sign that would advertise local events. It should be the type that can be updated in the Clerk's office.

Trustee Butler noted that the Street Festival is planning on purchasing a sign similar to that at the firehouse.

Lastly, the junk cars and tree trunks and general debris on Union Street is becoming an eyesore. Who is taking care of this?

The Mayor stated that he will bring it up to the Code Enforcement Officer.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Stacey Nelson. Re: Application to use the Riverfront Park
MOTION made to approve use of the Riverfront Park as per submitted application:
Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: All in favor
2. Courtney McArthur. Re: Application to use the Riverfront Park.
MOTION made to approve use of the Riverfront Park as per submitted application:
Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Scott
Record of vote: All in favor

MOTIONS and RESOLUTIONS

1. Proposed Resolution Approving Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes from the May 10th, 2017 Village Board Meeting hereby be approved.

Tabled until next meeting.

2. Proposed Resolution approving payment of the vouchers as presented

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

GENERAL FUND – Abstract #1924, vouchers numbered #9916873 through #9916891 and vouchers numbered #9916914 through #9916917 in the amount of \$27,268.36.

SEWER FUND – Abstract # 10377, vouchers numbered #9916904 through #9916912 in the amount of \$14,107.32

WATER FUND – Abstract #10394, vouchers numbered #9916892 through #9916903 in the amount of \$12,429.55

Offered by: Trustee Scott
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: All in favor

3. Proposed Resolution for paving project this Summer

WHEREAS the Village has received two proposals for paving Brick Row Lane, North & South Church Streets and Third Street from S. Franklin St. to Water Street (omitting Route 385) from Calarusso (\$110,812.50) and Peckham Materials (\$102,885.00)and

WHEREAS the quality of workmanship from Peckham Materials has been sub-standard in quality and workmanship and

WHEREAS Calorusso's work on the completion of last years road paving project was more than satisfactory

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board Approves the proposal from Calarusso to pave the aforementioned streets as per the proposal

Offered by: Trustee Scott
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: All in favor

4. Proposed Resolution for Proclamation for Canada Day

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board approves the attached proclamation declaring July 1, 2017 Canada Day in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, in celebration of their 150th Birthday as requested

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Scott
Record of vote: All in favor

5. Proposed Resolution to approve APAC's application for use of the Riverfront Park and outdoor music.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board has received APAC's application for use of the Riverfront park

WHEREAS APAC has provided the village with outdoor entertainment through the summer months on Friday and

WHEREAS the village board has always supported this endeavor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that their application for use of the Riverfront Park for the Summer of 2017 by approved as per their application.

Offered by: Trustee Spinner
Seconded by: Trustee Scott

Record of vote: All in favor

6. Proposed Resolution approving APAC's request to place a sign advertising it's Friday night Music concerts at the location currently housing signs advertising a few businesses in the Village,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board permit APAC to put a sign on Route 385 heading south out of the village towards Catskill

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

7. Proposed Resolution approving purchase of Fire hydrants.

WHEREAS 3 bids were received for 4 hydrants (Fergusson, HD Supply and Vellano Brothers)and ,

WHEREAS Fergusson's bid was \$100.00 higher than the lowest bid and,

WHEREAS the VB would like to keep the hydrants the same throughout the village,

WHEREAS last year the VB purchased hydrants from Fergusson,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board authorizes the DPW to purchase 4 Fire Hydrants from Fergusson Waterworks for \$10,916.12

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

8. Proposed Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to finalize health care contract renewal

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

9. Proposed Resolution to publish notice in the official newspaper to hold 2 Public Hearings at the next VB meeting. One for snow emergency and the other for Planning Board training.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. NYS Department of Labor. Re: Notice of Violation and Order to Comply.
2. Alison Bogle and Arthur Milnes. Re: Canada 150 Time Capsule.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. NYSDEC. Re: Hollister Lake Dam – Notice of condition Rating
2. Local Law for 'Regulation and approval standards for solar collection systems?
3. NYSDEC. Re: WWTP Spill #1407781 – monitoring wells, quarterly reports and excavation.
4. DPW contract.
5. Timeclock & time sheets for police department.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Website is live.
2. Insurance Co. has contacted us regarding failure of the filters at the WFP.
3. Community Day Flyer.
4. Health insurance.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:03 PM

Offered by: Trustee Scott
Seconded by: Trustee Butler
Record of vote: All in favor

Mary Jo Wynne
Clerk-Treasurer