

Village of Athens
2 First Street, Athens, NY 12015
Monthly Meeting, September 9, 2009

Members Present: Mayor Andrea Smallwood, Trustees Tom Sopris, Herman Reinhold, Tim O'Leary, Bob June, Attorney Tal Rappleyea and Acting Secretary, Peggy Snyder

A valid quorum was present for voting purposes.

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Mayor Smallwood

Pledge to the Flag

Department Heads Reports

Dennis Proper, Superintendent of Highways

- Needs to buy more culvert pipe to finish culvert jobs
- Will be finishing the job at Mt. Hope cemetery this week
- Will put some stone dust at Senior Citizen Center where Trustees noticed looks rough
- Dennis does have some blue stone stored by the sewage plant that has been taken up around the village but not a lot, just a few pieces that he will use where needed. The blue stone belongs to the Village not the home owners. It makes for an uneven sidewalk and very slippery in the winter.
- Home owner on Market Street wants to black top driveway and over sidewalk area. Black top is already there, they are just resurfacing. Dennis explained that if they install new sidewalks in that area the black top would be taken up to put in the cement sidewalk, owner is in agreement with arrangement.
- Dennis suggested stamped sidewalks for the Historic District and stated that there are already sidewalk specs and the Mayor has a copy of them when questioned by code enforcement officer Mike Ragaini.
- Mayor Smallwood stated that next year there should be more money for side walks after drainage projects are completed.
- Signs are up for Adopt The Streets on Vernon Street and Brick Row.
- Cleaned drain at Brown residence on Second Street, working good.
- Dennis will call Pepe at Skiliba Farms and get a price on trees for replacements at Sewer Plant and Goodrich Street.
- Going through the paperwork process for fire truck and then will deliver the truck.

Mayor Smallwood asked if anyone had anything to be discussed with the attorney, nothing being heard she excused the attorney from the meeting at 6:50 pm.

Building Inspector, Mike Ragaini

- Discussed several building permits and violation reports
- Starting list of cars on streets and property
- Mike feels the board should work on side walk specs for the entire Village. Andrea will give Mike a copy of the side walk specs
- New software is working well.
- Mike will inspect the bricks on the Opera House building and send a violation notice
- Mike was not certain if there is a permit for the work being done on the corner of Union Street and Franklin, Fire chief John Greco stated that the damage was caused from the last storm and the fire they had. He stated that the building inspector was notified by fire control at the time

Fire Chief, John Greco

- Purchased new radios and sent in rebate paperwork
- The dry hydrant off Howard Hall Road needs a road to it, Mayor Smallwood will talk to Dennis about putting in a gravel road to the hydrant
- There are some hydrants in the Village still out of service. Mayor Smallwood stated that a list should be given to her and she will give to Dennis
- The fire department would like to meet with the DPW and color code the hydrants
- Fire Prevention for the school will be on October 8th at 9:30am, Trustee Sopris stated there will be police at the road intersection during this time
- Lights on the exterior of the fire house make the meter run constantly, getting names of people that do "green" work for the lights, possible grants to "go green" will look into it
- Convention is on Saturday, September 12th, they are taking ladder and little brush truck, party afterwards with a pig roast from 7:30 until midnight with music, all are welcome
- Trees on the side of the firehouse need to be removed, transplanted if possible, the roots are growing into the foundation. Mayor Smallwood will talk to Dennis and relocate the trees when they can be transplanted.
- Will need to replace M-25 very soon, it is a death trap and unsafe to drive, it would cost approximately \$100,000 to replace with a used vehicle. Trustee June to start looking into replacement and costs

- October 14th County Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting.
- Table top exercise for Sleepy Hollow dam is not set yet

Correspondence

- Mayor Smallwood stated that she was contacted by the Greene County YMCA board regarding the upcoming assemblies they are hosting. There are lawn signs available and the YMCA will have a table at the River Festival on September 12th. She passed out information sheets for the upcoming assemblies being held on September 16th and 17th
 1. Don Fontaine – letter to residents regarding parking lot, no trespassing.
Copy to staff
 2. Ron Coons – letter to Planning Board – regarding windows at 98 Second Street.
Copy of letter available for public, no response from Board
 3. Coxsackie-Athens Central School District Communications Study.
The dates are 9/22, 9/30 and 10/8, Trustee June will attend if available
 4. John Farrell – Greene county EMS – October 14, 2009 – Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting
Chief John Greco will attend
 5. Greene county Public Health Flu vaccinations
Important for senior citizens, not swine flu, seasonal flu, being held 9/17
 6. NYS Dept of Public Service – National Lifeline Telephone Discount Awareness Week
Posted for all, lifeline affordable for all, those that can't afford are eligible for discount
 7. Greene County Dept for the Aging Annual Meeting Schedule
October 26th at 1:15 for Athens
 8. Greene County EMS – SBA Disaster loans
Posted for all, High winds, 5/16 – 5/26
 9. Mohawk Hudson Conference – September 27, 2009
Anyone can attend, Italian American Club in Albany, \$26.00 per person
 10. YMCA – request to use Village Building for E.J.A. evacuation emergencies
Mayor will call and check to see what they need before a motion for approval is made
 11. NYS Comptroller – Employees Retirement System contribution rates.
Rates going up, contribution going up.
 12. NYS Comptroller – Police & Fire Retirement System – final contribution rates.
 13. Ulster-Greene ARC – Greene County Recognition Luncheon, October 8, 2009
Anyone welcome to attend, RSVP by September 24th, Posted for all

Report from Mayor Smallwood

- Final draft of Traffic Law for Public Hearing is ready, attorney will look at to okay
 - Not sure yet on parking on Route 385 Trustee Sopris will contact the State
 - Changes to street names for parking need to be done
 - Copy to Roger for enforcement section and fines review
 - Copy to Dennis for seasonal parking review
 - Next two weeks to go over it and the public can obtain copies from the office and on the website to review it
 - Thanks to Trustee Sopris for his hard work on this project
- Zoning Review Committee – Mayor will email everyone sample of what she thinks is good Executive Summary. Estimate coming from planner, Tim almost done, going on recommended changes
- Dog Park – survey needs to be done for walkway, Mayor will contact surveyor.
- Resolution, *Sample Municipal Resolution for 2009 NYS OPRHP Parks Grant Application*, Trustee O'Leary motion to accept, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, motion carried. Resolution reads as follows:

Resolved:

That the honorable Andrea Smallwood, as the Mayor of the Village of Athens is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provisions of Title 9 of environmental Protection Act of 1993, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000.00, and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to the Village of Athens for the redevelopment of and upgrades to the "Waterfront / Ferry Slip Park" project and, if appropriate, a conservation easement / preservation covenant to the deed of the assisted property.

Report from Trustee O'Leary

- Nothing further to report, Mayor Smallwood reported on everything with regard to Riverfront Park Meetings and Zoning Review work.

Report from Trustee Reinhold

- Asked if the Cultural Center lease was closed out

- Mayor Smallwood stated that no- but will check with them and our Attorney.
- Any words on grants for water meters
 - Mayor Smallwood stated No word yet-SARA Grants have not yet been announced.
- Salt shed, what is the status on building one
 - Need to have all departments together to talk about consolidation of emergency departments together.

Report from Trustee Sopris

- Curfew for Halloween, suggesting Friday, Saturday and Sunday
 - Trustee Sopris motioned for curfew on October 30th, 31st and November 1st for 8pm for children under 18 unless accompanied by an adult. Motion was seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, motion carried
- Others items to talk with Police Chief in executive session

Report from Trustee June

- Checked water plant today, control specialist was there last week, no official report yet
- Have not heard back from company on holding tank. Would like to hear opinion from engineer on this

Executive Session

Entered at 8:27 pm until 9:06 pm

Other Business

Trustee O'Leary motioned to appoint Alvin Dallas and Melissa Fitzpatrick as crossing guards for a one year term. Motion was seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, motion carried.

Trustee June motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Smallwood at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Snyder

Acting Secretary