

ATHENS VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
June 22, 2011

PLEDGE to the Flag.

PRESENT: Mayor Andrea Smallwood, Trustee Herman Reinhold, Trustee Robert June, and Trustee Anthony Patsky.

Trustee Gail Lasher absent.

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea was also present.

Andrew Dupont, village resident, was invited to attend this evening's meeting to discuss the possibility of filling a vacancy left on the Village of Athens Zoning Board (Mike Krstovich declined re-appointment).

Mr. Dupont wanted more information regarding the Board's responsibilities and the Village Board inquired as to his interest in this position.

Village Attorney Tal Rappleyea also informed him that NYS law now requires 4 hours of training for all new Board Members.

The Mayor thanked him for coming and stated that the Village Board will discuss the appointment and then get back to him.

PUBLIC:

1. *Herbie Blasewitz, Chairman of the Street Festival Committee*, attended the meeting to update the Village Board on the Street Festival and also to provide them with a report.

The issue of fireworks was discussed at length. Mr. Blasewitz is concerned about how the construction at the WWTP will affect the fireworks company setting off the display. This area is where they usually set them off. Other possible sites in the village were discussed. Mr. Blasewitz and a member of the VB will meet at the WWTP and investigate further.

Mayor Smallwood mentioned numerous concerns regarding the re-seeding of the Athens Riverfront Park after the Street Festival is done. If there is any damage to the park then the Street Festival would have to correct it.

Mr. Blasewitz has been in touch with North County Landscaping and told them about the situation. North Country Landscaping will be providing the Street Festival Committee an estimate on hydroseeding- if need be- the whole park. Hopefully it will only be torn up a little bit.

The Mayor also inquired about the possibility of using Fire Police for traffic control instead of the Police Department. A lot of the Fire Police also work the Beer Booth so she is not sure that this is possible – they will look into it.

2. Ed Mickle. Re: Smoke-free Resolution. No Show.
3. Keith Rodan. Re: Third Street and Waterfront. No Show.
4. Carol Pfister, resident of the Village of Athens, attended the meeting to draw attention to a number of items.

Crosswalks in the village are still not being enforced.

There is a dangerous situation on Second Street across the street from the Nursery School. As has been the case for quite some time, people are picking up or dropping off their children by double parking or parking illegally on that street. The Village has recently purchased a parking lot right directly behind the Nursery School. Why aren't people utilizing this? This is a very busy area in the Village shouldn't it be enforced?

Is it possible that the Village would please provide a sign at the intersection of State Route 385 and 4th street for the Kayak Launch?

Trustee Reinhold will look into the enforcement issues and Mayor Smallwood will look into the sign issue.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Greene County Solid Waste. Re: Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection.
2. Central Hudson. Re: Tree Trimming.
3. Laura L. Chase, Assessor Town of Athens. Re: Notice of Completion of final Assessment Roll.
4. NYS Dept. of Public Service. Re: Summer Public Awareness Campaign.
5. NYS Deferred Compensation Plan. Re: Roth 457.
6. Greene County Legislature. Re: RESOLUTION #207-11 Adjusting weighted votes pursuant to 2010 Census.
7. Copy of letter written by Senator James Seward to NYSEFC. Re: Support for WWTP-phase II.
8. George Stacey. Re: Thank you.
9. NYS Public Service Commission. Re: Champlain Hudson Power Express.
10. Greene County Economic Development, Tourism and Planning. Re: Meeting Notice.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Village Board discussed the 'condition' of the Riverfront Park after the Festival.

Trustee June expressed concern due to the fact that the park ground will not be ready for other type of activities after the Street Festival is finished. The park lawn will be ruined for summer use. Tax paying residents will not be able to use the Park after the festival if it is being re-seeded.

The Mayor stated that the Village Board will have to take a good look at the condition of the Park after the Street Festival and the Street Festival committee will be responsible for putting the Park back to the condition it was in after completion of the Riverfront Park Project.

Trustee Patsky inquired as to whether the Street Festival had money reserved to re-seed the park.

Trustee Reinhold stated 'yes'.

Trustee Patsky mentioned that perhaps the Village Board should have a contract with the Street Festival Committee.

The Village Board agreed that future activities being held in the park would need to be re-evaluated. Are they activities that should be held in the Park anymore or would these activities require a different venue.

Mayor Smallwood and Trustee Reinhold agreed that the Street Festival committee did not have adequate time in which to re-arrange all of their activities in order to get them out of the park and also that if the VB does agree not hold certain activities in the Park any longer that these committees be given ample time in which to rearrange their plans.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Patsky, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor appointing Andrew Dupont as a member of the ZBA for the Village of Athens, starting immediately and terminating April 2016.

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, extending the warranty renewal for the Athens Police Department Plate reader at a cost of \$882.50 annually.

Trustee Reinhold stated for the record that he would like the Village Board to again seriously consider the possibility of extending terms for Mayor and Trustee Positions in the Village of Athens. His reasoning is that it might be beneficial to taxpayers financially and also that longer terms would provide Trustees and the Mayor more of an opportunity to get things accomplished as there is a learning curve involved with these positions and two year terms are a bit short.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor, to pay the following vouchers:

GENERAL – Abstract # 1656, vouchers numbered 7355-7394 in the amount of \$248,964.80

WATER- Abstract # 10224, vouchers numbered 9910847, 9910849-9910850 in the amount of \$12,286.25

SEWER- Abstract # 10196, voucher number 9910848 in the amount of \$12,021.94.

MOTION made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee June, all in favor to adjourn meeting at 9:30PM

Good Night!

Mary Jo Wynne