

**Village of Athens**  
**2 First Street, Athens, NY 12015**  
**Monthly Meeting, March 24, 2010**

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

A valid quorum was present for voting purposes.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Smallwood

Pledge to the Flag

**Bid Opening – Fourth Street Boat Launch.**

One bid received from EZ Dock of Somers Point, NJ in the amount of \$25,948.00, this amount is a little more than the grant money of \$22,500

**Public**

- Sandra Strauss Re: Odors in the Village – Sandra stated that there are odors in the Village from Peckham Industries at times and she would like to know if anything has been done about it. Mayor Smallwood stated that she has spoken to Joe Wildermuth at Peckham and he explained that the odor comes from maintaining the carbon filters and they do not know this is going to happen until it does. He apologized and said they are trying to change them more often. Sandra stated that the more assaulting smell is coming from the sewer plant at Sleepy Hollow Lake and she wants to know why the Village has not done anything about it. Mayor Smallwood explained that they have talked to DEC about this problem but there is nothing further the Village can do about it as it is a community. Sandra stated that she had contacted DEC about this before herself and Mayor Smallwood stated that she should contact them again.
- George Stacey Re: Speaking on behalf of the American Legion. George asked permission to hold the annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 31, 2010 commencing at 8:30 am at the Little League Field. Trustee Sopris made a motion for the American Legion to hold the Memorial Day parade, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, motion carried. George then asked if the American Legion could receive a memo or something in writing as to what is happening with the sewer pipe at their location. Mayor Smallwood stated that she needed to talk to Dennis Proper again regarding this and would send the American Legion something in writing. George stated that due to decreasing numbers of participation they would like to be considered for a lower water and sewer rate. Mayor Smallwood said they are already being charge the non-for-profit rate. George also asked that since they are considered an emergency shelter for the Village if it is possible that during a snow storm the Village plows could make one sweep in and one sweep out of the back lot so they had access to the building. They are not asking for the entire lot to be plowed just appropriate access.

**Correspondence**

1. Herbie Blasewitz, Chairperson – Athens Street Festival. Re: Request for donation. The Festival will be held on July 10, 2010 with a rain date of July 11, 2010.  
*Trustee Sopris will contact Chief Masse to see if they are planning on using the Sheriff's Department this year for Police coverage and what the cost would be.*
2. Melissa Donovan – ZUMBA. Re: Request to use gym in May.  
*Mayor Smallwood will contact Melissa and see if she is still interested in using the gym for a \$25.00 fee that they have charged in the past and report back to board.*
3. Greene County Youth Bureau – Quick Start Tennis  
*Trustee O'Leary to give information to Dawn for the Summer Rec Program.*
4. Greene County Planning Board Meeting Notice
5. Village of Athens Planning Board – Parking in the Village  
*Attorney Rapplyea will send letter to Don Fontaine to see if there is any interest in selling the parking lot to the Village at the fair market value.*
6. Rivertown Housing Development Fund Company, Inc. – funding for renovation project Phase 1  
*A letter of support was needed for the funding for the windows and inside doors. Mayor Smallwood sent such letter.*
7. Corps of Engineers – Re: Permit NAN-2010-00309-UDA  
*They have received the application for the Sewer Plan outfall pipe work.*
8. John McInerney, Flag Day – Re: Use of Riverfront Park for June 12, 2010, make a contribution for a band and waive the open container law for that time period.  
*Herman Reinhold would like to see the day used for a recognition day for outstanding volunteer's . Mayor Smallwood is to talk to John about using the day for both Flag Day and*

*Recognition Day. Trustee Reinhold is to send letters to all non-for-profit organizations for volunteer award recommendations.*

At this time Mayor Smallwood presented Trustee Tim O'Leary with a plaque for his dedicated service to the Village Board over the past years and as Deputy Mayor.

#### **Report from Mayor Smallwood**

- Told John Surrano it was okay for volunteers to clean up and fix up the softball field, fence and benches
- Attorney has sent the traffic law to the State and will give Mayor Smallwood a copy
- Spoke to Attorney regarding Rick Gabrielle, he will not be able to work even as a part timer unless he is a union member and can not do that as a retiree
- Attorney Rapplyea will start working on the \$20,000 revolving loan for the Brewery
- Athens Stewart House Hotel, the IDA has offered for the Village to put in the application but the IDA would be totally responsible for monies. Attorney Rapplyea would have to review the paperwork. Trustee Sopris stated that he is uncomfortable with this and wanted to know if the IDA is offering a PILOT program to them. Trustee Reinhold asked if they could talk to Reggie Young about his plans and Mayor Smallwood stated that she knew Mr. Young would be happy to talk to the board he will send the Trustees Mr. Young's email address so they can contact him.
- Met with Mary Beth of Delaware Engineering to file sewer hardship application.
- This Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 9am there will be a meeting with CT Male at Riverfront Park. They did test borings last week and would like to do some excavating. All Trustees are invited to attend Friday's meeting
- Leaf Grant – they need to purchase more trees for Union Street Park.
- Water situation – The water holding tank at the water plant is leaking. The plan is to test the by-pass valve, check and drain the tank and decide if it can be repaired or if a new tank must be purchased.
- April 5, 2010 there will be a Zoning Review Committee meeting downstairs in the Village building to discuss May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010's Public Meeting.
- Town clean-up day will be April 24, 2010

#### **Report from Trustee O'Leary**

- Nothing further to report, Mayor Smallwood reported on everything and it is too early in the year to report on the youth program

#### **Report from Trustee Reinhold**

- Talked to Scott Mullins about the frequency of auto repairs to the Police cars and Scott is supposed to get back to him

#### **Report from Trustee Sopris**

- Spoke to Chief Masse about police coverage at the Town Court. Spoke to Town Supervisor Leeallen Palmateer and he has not gotten back to him yet.
- Police Department has asked about AFLAC catastrophic insurance that would be no cost to the Village. The AFLAC representative is going to contact Tom next week and he shall ask them to come to the next Board meeting.

#### **Report from Trustee June**

- Reported on latest developments with the water plant- SCADA work continues and the one leak was fixed at the holding tank, however, the tank still continues to leak. Draining the tank will be scheduled to determine the condition of the tank.

#### **Other Business**

Laws still to be done are the noise and pooper scooper, these both need to go into new code

Mark Levanway will be leaving the Planning Board and Margaret Moree will be taking his place as Chairperson. Wayne Deyo would like to have his seat on the County Planning Board re-assigned to someone else. His term expires in May of 2012, but he will stay on until a replacement can be found.

Zoning Board of Appeals will not be meeting as frequent now, recommend putting Amy Serrano on that board.

Waterfront Advisory Board will be remaining the same.

Yard Sale Day will be Saturday, August 21, 2010

March 10, 2010 minutes will be tabled until the next meeting for approval.

**Payment of Bills**

Trustee Reinhold made a motion to pay all bills, seconded by Trustee Sopris, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Smallwood will notify Trustees with details from the IDA on the Athens Hotel Project.

The next meeting is April 5, 2010 at 6:30 pm

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

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Smallwood at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Margaret M. Snyder*  
Acting Secretary