

VILLAGE OF ATHENS BOARD MEETING

Minutes - July 25, 2012

PRESENT: Mayor Andrea Smallwood, Trustee Herman Reinhold, Trustee Gail Lasher and Trustee Anthony Patsky.

Trustee Bob June absent.

Code Enforcement Officer Mike Ragaini was also present.

Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC:

1. *Sandra Strauss, resident of Brick Row*, attended the meeting to discuss the fire hydrant on Brick Row. Ms. Strauss had attended a meeting previously to discuss the broken hydrant. She is here tonight to inquire as to why the hydrant has not been fixed yet? This is a safety concern for her and her neighborhood. Does the Village Board realize that insurance rates for residents will also increase if this is not fixed?

The Mayor stated that they are working on developing a plan/map to fix all bad hydrants in the Village. The plan has not been completed yet.

Trustee Reinhold mentioned that the Village Board agreed, at the last meeting, to have DPW Director Dennis Proper identify the worst 2 hydrants in the village and get cost estimates on fixing them as soon as possible.

Ms. Strauss told the Village Board that she would like to know exactly how many hydrants are not working in this village? Does the Village Board know.

She also informed the Village Board that she spoke with Mr. Proper (DPW Director) about this problem and he told her that he hasn't done anything.

Ms. Strauss also asked the Village Board how many times a year the hydrants should be flushed? The reason she is asking is because her water has been dirty for a while now and she thought that it was because the water line has not been flushed yet because it is normally flushed in the Spring and Fall. When is the last time that they were flushed?

The Mayor stated that the hydrants are usually flushed in the Spring and the Fall but the DPW was a bit late in getting them done due to the fact that they had a lot of drainage issues to deal with this year.

2. *Kevin Pratt, contractor working on replacing the storm windows for the community center building*, attended the meeting to discuss the project with the Village Board. The proposal included the cost of triple track storm windows given to him by the vendor. The

vendor made an error in that when he tried to order the triple track storm windows he realized that they do not carry them in triple track only double track for this size window.

Mr. Pratt stated that he has found a vendor that carries the triple track storms in the size needed. However, the price is higher. In order to order the triple track storm windows in the size needed there will be an increase in the cost. The increased cost is \$1965.00 (the quoted price was \$3030.00, new price \$4995.00).

A RESOLUTION was made by Trustee Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, approving the increased cost for the project .

3. *Sheila Brady, resident of Water Street*, attended the meeting as a follow-up to the last meeting she attended on July 11, 2012 to discuss the noise ordinance and Dionysos Restaurant.

She is here again to impress upon the Village Board that she and other residents feel strongly that it is important that the Village have a noise ordinance.

Ms. Brady provided Village Board members with copies of other noise ordinances she has received from other villages and towns (Town of Coxackie and Catskill and the Village of Coxsackie and Catskill). She made note of the fact that they all refer to the American National Standards Institute which provides guidelines based upon science to back the laws up, or in which the laws can refer to.

Ms. Brady also mentioned that noise is a health issue as well, in as much as it can create permanent hearing loss.

Mayor Smallwood stated that she understands the issue but the Village Board needs to be careful to not interfere with businesses in the community. There needs to be a balance or a compromise.

Ms. Brady stated that this problem is not specific to their neighborhood. The neighborhood around the Dockside Restaurant has also had problems of this nature in the past. She noted that she has contacted Chief Masse regarding obtaining past complaints related to noise.

Ms. Brady stated that she would be happy to provide the Village Board with more research on such ordinances and volunteer to help develop an ordinance for the Village.

Mayor Smallwood mentioned that the Village Board will be working on the code for the Village as soon as the Zoning is passed and that would be a good time to review this ordinance.

Ms. Brady stated that she feels strongly that the Village Board pass this now and not wait for the code change

Trustee Reinhold noted that he supports a noise ordinance.

The Village Board and the public continued to discuss noise related issues.

Mayor Smallwood stated that the Village Board will review noise ordinances and try to develop something that is fair and practical to everyone.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. NYS Public Service Commission. Re: Case 10-T-0139 – Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc.
2. Lorman Education Services . Re: Seminar – Current Issues in Storm Water Regulations.
3. Blue Shield of Northeastern New York. Re: Rating Filing Notification.
4. NYCOM. Re: Workshop - Code Enforcement & Other Tools to Deal with Vacant, Neglected, and Abandoned Properties.
5. NYS DEC. Re: Notice of Violation- Failure to Submit Complete SPDES DMR.
6. NYS Department of State. Re: Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitats on the South Shore of Long Island in along the Hudson River.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A MOTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor, approving payment of the following vouchers:

GENERAL- Abstract #1712, vouchers numbered #9911789 through #9911806 in the amount of \$9548.14.

WATER – Abstract #10252, voucher number #9911813 in the amount of \$58,627.00.

SEWER – Abstract #10222, vouchers numbered #9911807 through #9911812 and vouchers numbered #999911804 through #9911815 in the amount of \$16,567.52

YOUTH – Abstract # 55, voucher number #9911824 in the amount of \$218.00.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Patsky, all in favor approving Minutes from Meetings held on May 9, May 23, June 13, June 27, 2012.

The Village Board will approve Minutes from Public Hearing held on February 24, 2012 at a later meeting.

A MOTION was made by Anthony Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

A MOTION was made by Anthony Patsky, seconded by Trustee Reinhold, all in favor, to exit executive session and resume the regular work meeting.

A MOTION was made by Trustee Reinhold, seconded by Trustee Lasher, all in favor to adjourn the meeting.

Good night!

Mary Jo Wynne