

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr., called the regular meeting of the Athens Town Board to order on October 4, 2021 at the Village of Athens Volunteer Fire House on Third Street, at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following people were present: Supervisor Butler; Councilmember Mary H. Brandow; Councilmember Michael Ragaini; Councilmember Anthony Paluch; Councilmember Shannon Spinner; Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell and Town Clerk Linda M. Stacey.

These people were also present: Bookkeeper/Budget Officer Donald Pierro; Lynn Brunner; Barb Trembacz; Theresa Cardinale; Michael Pirrone; Robert Brunner; Tim Mercer; Carol & Chris Pfister; Kathy & Andy Jackson and Miki Garvey.

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered paid:

General Abstract #19, vouchers #438 through #470 inclusive for \$14,725.39.

Highway Abstract #18, vouchers #142 through #149 inclusive for \$10,731.59.

Trust & Custodian Abstract #3: voucher #3 for \$265.00 . (Verizon)
Abstract #4 voucher #4, for \$1070.00. (Peckham)

Donald Pierro, Bookkeeper/Budget Officer reviewed the Supervisor's Report with the Board. He has been doing backups for our CPA Firm.

He has been working with Supervisor Dale Finch of Catskill on straightening out the books for Leeds Hose Co. #1, from 2020 to 2022. This included his helping with the 5 year contract on Fire Protection from Leeds Hose, for the Towns of Catskill and Athens.

Mr. Pierro Thanked Supervisor Butler for allowing him to help Leeds Hose Co. #1 set up their books in the proper format.

Mr. Pierro stated that our budget workshop would be held here on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7:00.

He informed members that not all changes were picked up last year.

Mr. Pierro hen spoke of the Leeds fire prevention contract between the Towns of Athens and Catskill. The following is a list of proposed payments for the Town of Athens for the five year contract: for 2022 \$48,728; for 2023 \$51,054; for 2024 \$53,607; for 2025 \$56,287; and for 2026 \$59,101.

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to accept the Supervisor's Report. Ayes- (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell requested the Town Board to pass a Resolution to have the State to look at County Route 53 Howard Hall Road from NYS Route 385 to County Route 28 Schoharie Turnpike for speed.

On the motion of Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow the following RESOLUTION #2021-44, (will be sent to the Greene County Superintendent of Highways who will request the Department of Transportation, pursuant to Section 1622.1 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, to establish a lower maximum speed at which vehicles may proceed on) County Route 53 (Howard Hall) a County Road between NYS Route 385 and County Route 28 (Schoharie Turnpike).
This was adopted as follows: Ayes-4(Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch ;) Noes-0 Absent-1 Spinner Abstentions-0

Highway Superintendent Farrell was asked to look at weight limits on Valley Road.

Joint Village and Town Cleanup Day will be held on Saturday October 30, 2021, at the Town garage.

The following County Resolutions were received: 231-'21 Awarding the Bid for Abrasives (Dry screened & washed)
#235-'21 Authorizing Chargeback of Assessment Roll Related Services & Materials
#236-'21 Amount Due County Treasurer by Respective Towns

Copy of letter received from the ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) RE: the Leeds Public Fire Protection for Athens and Catskill, meeting is scheduled for October 25th at 1:00 pm.

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to appoint David Levey to serve on the Board of Assessment and Review. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Butler reported that he had three new names for the Community Foundation Advisory Board: Lucy Michener; Maureen Murphy; Anita Nelson.

Assessor's Office: Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to appoint Stephanie Hamilton as a part time data collector. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Mary H. Brandow made a motion seconded by Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. to appoint Allison Dooley as Assessor Assistant. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Anthony Paluch made a motion seconded by Councilmember Michael Ragaini to approve the minutes of September 7, 2021 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Councilmember Michael Ragaini made a motion seconded by Councilmember Anthony Paluch to approve the minutes of September 20, 2021 as read. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

Supervisor Robert F. Butler, Jr. made a motion seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow to accept and approve the Town Clerk's Report as presented. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0

The Town received mail from Greene County IDA regarding the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project which in Greene County primarily consists of two buried transmission lines that will run along the existing CSX line until the very southern part of the County where the line will leave the CSX ROW and transverse lands of Lehigh Cement to the Hudson River where it will continue south buried under the river for +/- 1.1 miles until entering Ulster County. The Project is expected to have a three (3) year construction window.

As there was no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow. Ayes-4 (Butler; Brandow; Ragaini; Paluch) Noes-0 Absent-1 (Spinner) Abstentions-0
Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING SPEED LIMIT

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Athens has received complaints from residents concerned about excessive speed and unsafe travel along county and state highways within the Town of Athens and,

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over traffic regulations on town, county and state highways and,

WHEREAS, unless the appropriate governmental body acts, the statewide mandated enforceable speed limit of 55MPH shall continue to apply to all roads.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Athens hereby requests the NYS DOT conduct a traffic survey on County Route 53 Howard Hall Road between State Route 385 to County Route 28 Schoharie Turnpike, to facilitate the lowering of the existing speed limit.

Dated: October 4, 2021

Motion made by Councilmember Michael Ragaini

Seconded by Councilmember Mary H. Brandow

Carried: 4- ayes 1-absent

Linda M. Stacey, Town Clerk
Town Clerk