8:30 p.m. The annual meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Klein. A roll call was answered aye by Geppert, Weber, Hampton, Ruhmann, Boden and Hall. Sandy Stolte, Tyler Liefer, Jake Owens, Officer Hamon, Lieutenant Buehler and Chief Simburger were also present.

Mayor Klein swore in Trustee Geppert, Trustee Boden and Trustee Ruhmann.

VISITORS
Jamie Burkett, Laurel Ruhmann, John Feder, Josh Dachsteiner, Rob Stroder, Geoff and Mary Sue Iverson, Charlotte Main and Terry Politsch

MAYOR’S TIME
Mayor Klein thanked Terry Politsch and Charlotte Main for their time served on the board and said it was very nice to be able to work with such concerned residents for the Village of New Athens.

Mayor Klein appointed the following new members to the Zoning Board of Appeals; Mark Schreder, Bryan Rausch and Joe Behnken. They will be replacing Chuck Whitlow, Brent Dudeck and Scott Meggs. Laura Amann, James Harriss, Jamie Newman and Jerry Luter’s terms have not expired.

Trustee Weber made a motion; seconded by Trustee Ruhmann to approve Mayor Klein’s appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals by approving Resolution 2017-01. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Boden, Hampton, Hall, Ruhmann and Weber.

Mayor Klein appointed the following new members to the Planning Commission; Mark Schreder, Bryan Rausch and Joe Behnken. They will be replacing Robert Nast, Scott Meggs and Leo Simburger. Rich Klein, Tyler Liefer, Tim Pruett, Steven Schuessler and Jamie Newman will serve another year.

Trustee Geppert made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve Mayor Klein’s appointments to the Planning Commission by approving Resolution 2017-02. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Boden, Hampton, Hall, Ruhmann and Weber.

Mayor Klein made the following appointments: Sandy Stolte as Village Treasurer, Ted Dennis as Village Attorney, Michelle Neff as Village Clerk and Collector, Tyler Liefer as Superintendant of Public Works and Building Commissioner, Mary Sue Iverson and Geoff Iverson as ESDA Coordinator, Debbie Main as ESDA Co-Coordinator, Rhutasel as Consulting Engineer, Jake Owens as Ambulance Director, Leo Simburger as Chief of Police, Tim Buehler as Sergeant, Terry Hamon and Brad Penet as full-time Patrolmen, Daniel Turner, John Hoffmann, John Kennedy, Pete Wszalek, Dan Lipe, Nicholas Mounts, Jacob Renner and Joel Boeving as part-time patrolmen. Mayor Klein stated he would like to eliminate the Lieutenant position because Buehler doesn’t do any of the administrative
duties; Chief Simburger does them all. Mayor Klein checked with other communities and they do not have a Lieutenant on staff. Mayor Klein recommends putting Buehler back to Sergeant since we don’t really need a Lieutenant. Trustee Hampton asked to hear Chief Simburger and Buehler’s view. Chief Simburger said Buehler does do a great job on the ordinances and evidence, but as far as administrative duties such as state and federal reporting, scheduling, hiring and back ground checks, Chief does them all. Chief Simburger said typically the Lieutenant would do some of the administrative duties as well, but we are not a 50 man department and Chief stated he can do all the administrative work that needs to be done for the size of our department. It was asked if there was a pay difference. Michelle said she would have to check, but thought it was a $1.00 decrease in pay for the Sergeant position. Buehler stated he didn’t want to get demoted and said he fills out the activity log that is given to the board members. Buehler said the position was created in lieu of an absence by Chief Rainey at the time, for days off, vacations and such. Trustee Hampton asked how it will be handled with no Lieutenant. Chief Simburger said no matter what title he has, Buehler will still be the number two guy. The board agreed to vote on the appointments with the exception of the Lieutenant/Sergeant position which is tabled to the next meeting.

Trustee Geppert made a motion; seconded by Trustee Ruhmann to approve Mayor Klein’s appointments: Sandy Stolte as Village Treasurer, Ted Dennis as Village Attorney, Michelle Neff as Village Clerk and Collector, Tyler Liefer as Superintendent of Public Works and Building Commissioner, Mary Sue Iverson and Geoff Iverson as ESDA Coordinator, Debbie Main as ESDA Co-Coordinator, Rhutasel as Consulting Engineer, Jake Owens as Ambulance Director, Leo Simburger as Chief of Police, Terry Hamon and Brad Penet as full-time Patrolmen, Daniel Turner, John Hoffmann, John Kennedy, Pete Wszalek, Dan Lipe, Nicholas Mounts, Jacob Renner and Joel Boeving as part-time patrolmen. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Boden, Hampton, Hall, Ruhmann and Weber.

Mayor Klein appointed Larry Weber as Vice President.

Trustee Ruhmann made a motion; seconded by Trustee Boden to approve Mayor Klein’s appointment of Trustee Weber as Vice President. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Boden, Hampton, Hall and Ruhmann. Weber voted present.

OTHER BUSINESS
There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.