

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
September 9, 2014 6 PM
Budget Workshop

Chairman Cheryl Wood-Walter called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck, George Ballenstedt, Christine Vough and Ronald Reagan. Treasurer Ruth Casterline, Secretary Robin Smith and Randy Harford were also in attendance.

Voice of the Residents: None

Robin presented the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to the Board for 2015. The minimum contribution to the Non-Uniform Pension Plan will be \$96,073 and the minimum contribution to the Police Pension Plan will be \$147,884.

Discussion was held on the purchase of the grader. Randy had a chance to look at the Case grader, but it was not all-wheel drive. Susan said she called Monroe Tractor and said they will have to quote us something to match the John Deere spec and give us a price for a trade. Randy said the Case machine is a lot lighter than we need. Susan said she will have prices for our meeting of September 24th.

Endless Mountains Visitors Bureau was discussed briefly but no action was taken.

Robin read a letter from Betty Jo Morris thanking the township for cleaning out the "gully" next to her house. She requested that someone contact her to let her know where the water comes from that goes to that gully. She would like to walk the path of the water and find out who owns the property through which it travels. Randy will contact her and walk this with her.

Discussion was held on the proposed changes to the Building Code Inspection law. They are proposing that each municipality SHALL have two or more inspection agencies approved. This is another unfunded mandate. The Board directed Robin to send a letter to Tina Pickett and Senator Yaw stating we are against this being mandated (shall) but would be in favor of how the law reads now (may).

On motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous to close Pennsylvania Avenue for the annual Cavalcade of Bands which is being held at the Athens Area High School on September 24th. Cheryl will get the times to Robin and Randy will drop off the barricades.

The budget workshop began at 6:36 PM. The proposed General Fund budget was completed and will be reviewed for our next budget meeting. The budget as it stands shows a deficit of \$487,608 calculated with no raises.

Page Two
Athens Township Supervisors
September 9, 2014

Ruth advised the Board that they need to make a motion every year at the organization meeting for non-bargaining unit personnel as to what their benefits will be, including clothing allowance, etc. The Board would like a budget line added to the budget for the Road Foreman clothing allowance and the Zoning Officer clothing allowances.

Randy was present to request additional funds for paving to help hold the roads over the winter. The budget was reviewed to see if we have money available. On motion of Susan, second by Christine, it was unanimous to move the following funds in the Act 13 Gas Well Impact account to line 438.205: \$7660 from line 438.201; \$3821 from line 438.202; \$11,100 from line 438.203; \$1479 from line 438.204 and \$539 from the remaining Act 13 funds for 2012 – totaling \$24,599. This, added to the \$28,645 remaining in line 438.205 makes a total of \$53,244 for Randy to use for paving. Christine asked Randy to make sure the manholes were covered before they pave. Randy will call ATA to have them come and cover their manholes.

On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to invite Ruth to come to our monthly meetings to answer questions as part of her report.

The next budget workshop was set for October 1st at 6 PM.

Chairman Wood-Walter took the Board into executive session for personnel. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:55 PM.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Secretary