

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

April 25, 2018 7 PM

Chairman Christine Vough called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck, George Ballenstedt, Kirstie Lake and Tressa Heffron. Solicitor John Thompson, Treasurer Ruth Casterline and Secretary Robin Smith were also in attendance. Chairman Vough led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents:

Tory Henry of 61 Shuman Hill Road was present to discuss a drainage problem at his house. Susan said the highway department will check it out.

Dave Steinfelt and Bryan Farr were present for the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company. Dave advised the Board that Keith Stackhouse has resigned as Fire Chief effective the end of the month and Bryan Farr will be replacing him as Chief. Dave Steinfelt will be First Assistant Chief. Dave said they have been super-busy this year. They usually have 210-220 calls a year and are on track to break a record. He appreciates George putting fire company news on the township website. The problem with tractor trailers using Meadowlark Drive to get to Masco is on the rise again. There is a sign that says "GPS is Wrong", but that doesn't make a difference. This is a real problem. Discussion was held. Robin said she would contact PennDOT District 3 to see if something can be done to alleviate this situation. Aqua wants to change the color of the hydrants, but Dave said they are color coded so that the fire company knows how much flow comes out of each hydrant. Their Ham and Turkey party was very successful. They will also be having their Fall Sportsman's Night again this year. Dave has set something up at school for recruitment and has several students interested. They had a mock car crash drill at the high school. He thanked the Board for putting the burning ban on, and said it was much needed. Someone asked if the siren was broken at the station. Bryan said it has been for a while, but they will get it fixed when they are able - adding that with pagers and cell phones now, it is much more efficient. He said there is an app available so they can all see who is heading to the station, who is heading directly to the scene, etc.

Richard Bean reported for the Parks Commission. There are 2 Eagle Scout projects in the works. We have not received anything yet on our DCNR \$185,000 trail grant. Round Top Park will open for the season on May 12th. Park inspection was completed on April 7th. Jeff Paul and the Athens & Sayre Rotary Clubs will start work on the playground as soon as the ground firms up. The highway department will tar and chip both parking lots after the playground is completed and Solid Ground Services completes Phase III. The inmates are working in the park. The weather is not cooperating with our goal to open the new area on June 30th. We had a vehicle stuck in the mud at the base of the pond dam. He will be back and make the repairs to the new area the first week in May. Valley Cities Gas has volunteered to paint tables, guard rails, and help with an Eagle Scout project on Round Top sometime in August.

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Marion Carling presented the Sayre Assisted Living Facility 3-lot subdivision located at 47, 151 and 201 Keefer Lane. All deficiencies have been met. Planning Commission recommends preliminary and final approval. On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision.

Next was the Sayre Used Auto Sales land development located at 2477 Elmira Street for preliminary approval ONLY, contingent on resolutions of deficiencies. This will be a change of land use from a tobacco shop to a used car lot. Discussion was held. On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to grant preliminary plan approval ONLY to this land development.

John Thompson will get with Eddie concerning the Dollar General land development improvement/maintenance agreement and the bond.

On motion of Tressa, second by Susan, it was unanimous to pay the monthly bills as presented. A complete list of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

Kirstie said that we are leasing 72 hydrants from Aqua PA, and we should be paying for 103. Robin said that some of the hydrants are private hydrants. Susan worked with Randy Simmons from Aqua last year to take care of this issue. Susan will get with Kirstie to look over the paperwork from last year.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to allow anyone that wants to attend the NTRPDC Annual Meeting in Wysox on May 11th to go.

Ruth had requested to go to the "Developing and Managing Your Municipal Budget" class in Towanda on June 14, 2018. Robin had emailed the brochure to the Board to see if any of them would like to go. On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to allow Ruth to go, and anyone else that would like to attend.

Robin presented additional information on having a Spring Cleanup here at the township building for Athens Township residents. Discussion was held. On motion of Tressa, second by Christine, it was unanimous to table this until our May meeting.

George said Saturday was designated as Take Back Drugs Day from 10 AM to 2 PM. He thought since we accept them here at our building, we should participate. He added that he would not be able to be there Saturday, but was hoping someone from the Board would consider doing it. Kirstie said she will do 10 AM to noon, and Tressa said she would do noon to 2 PM. Robin will get it on the radio.

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On motion of Tressa, second by Susan, it was unanimous to send the proposed Employee Handbook to the Union for review before we adopt it.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to ratify the Fire Ban Emergency that was put in place on Monday, April 23rd until further notice, at the request of the Athens Township Fire Chief.

Susan said they reviewed a lot of roads this month for projects. They also are filling potholes and will work roads when it dries out.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of March 28th and April 16, 2018 as written.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to accept the monthly reports as presented.

Chief Roger Clink was present to discuss the details on the purchase of a new 2018 Sedan Police Interceptor Base AWD Ford Taurus. This car is on COSTARS, and the lowest of the 3 quotes was from New Holland, and included the upfit, decals and delivery. On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve this purchase from New Holland Auto Group per their quote 4-18-18-1 in the amount of \$36,252.00 to be paid for from the Capital Purchase fund.

Chairman Vough took the Board into executive session for personnel and pending litigation. The secretary was excused and the remaining minutes were taken by George Ballenstedt. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:16 PM.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to have Robin advertise a Board of Supervisors executive session only meeting for May 1st at 6 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Tressa, second by George it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary

