

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
Budget Workshop 5 PM October 31, 2018

Chairperson Christine Vough called the budget workshop to order at 5:03 PM. Supervisors also present were George Ballenstedt, Susan Seck and Kirstie Lake. Tressa Heffron was absent. Secretary Robin Smith was also in attendance. Christine led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance, after which the budget workshop commenced. Robin was directed to send a letter to the County Commissioners advising them that beginning January 1, 2019, the rent for the District Justice office will be \$500/month. On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, the budget workshop adjourned at 5:57 PM.

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
Regular Meeting 6 PM October 31, 2018

Chairperson Christine Vough called the meeting to order at 6 PM. Supervisors also present were George Ballenstedt, Susan Seck and Kirstie Lake. Tressa Heffron and Solicitor John Thompson were absent. Secretary Robin Smith was also in attendance. Christine led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Richard Bean presented certificates of appreciation to two Eagle Scouts who did their Eagle projects in Round Top Park. John Spencer made new signs for the pavilions and for the new expansion area. Ian Lynch built new guardrails for pavilions 7 & 8. Richard said they both did an excellent job and thanked them for their work.

Voice of the Residents:

Suzanne Williams of 1085 Wildwood Road said she has lived in this house for 29 years. It's beautiful. It's quiet. In 2015 that came to a screeching halt. A Conditional Use was granted to Austin Excavating, with conditions. One of the conditions was that they can't start work prior to 7 AM, must stop by 5 PM, and can't work weekends or holidays. They started working in April of this year. Sue said on Memorial Day weekend they were working with heavy equipment. She filed a complaint with the township 2 days after. She had heard nothing by June 19th so she made an appointment with Ed Reid to follow up. He told Sue that John Thompson said to do nothing – that he would take care of it. She said on September 25th they were working past quitting time. Nothing was done. Sue asked if any action had been taken with these violations? Susan Seck told her she was supposed to get a letter. George said John would get with Ed about this. Sue said you still have no answer for me?? Kirstie asked when the violations occurred, and sue said on May 23rd they worked until 5:50 PM, the 31st they started at 6:45 AM, another day this summer they worked until 5:20 – 5:30, and they worked past quitting time on September 25th. She said her husband is home all day. What will be done about this? Susan said we will definitely get an answer from John tonight. Suzanne said she

thinks the penalty should be a warning, then a monetary fine, then they should be shut down. She said she still doesn't know who to notify after hours. So the police respond? What are the procedures here? The Board will talk with John as to who Sue can call. Sue said they have no permit. The Board said they were told they have one. George said they will talk to John tonight and George will talk with Ed tomorrow. Christine asked if Sue could wait until John arrived and Sue said she would wait.

Betty Jo Morris of Wilawana Road was present about water issues at her house. She said the township owns a "gully" by her house that was installed to help with water issues. She presented pictures and a copy of the deed showing the township owns the "gully". She said in 2012 the township installed 2 more tanks there so now there are 4 tanks. Betty Jo said her side of the gully needs to be raised. She asked about the ponds on the other side of Wilawana Road. Robin said Gary Nittinger was in last month about his pond, asking how he can go about dredging the pond. Robin told him he would need to contact Bradford County Conservation District and they could help him with the process. Susan said there is an overflow pipe with Road C, and she is looking into the Road C engineering to see what we can do. Betty Jo said she would love to walk the area with any Board members that might be interested. Richard Bean, also of Wilawana Road, said he's lived there since 1979. He said the Supervisors dug drywells and put a large drainage ditch behind the houses on the south side of the road. Residents on that side have been filling in the ditch over the years. Susan said she will go out and look at it tomorrow.

Richard Bean reported for the Parks and Recreation Commission. On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to approve, sign and execute Skip Schneider's contract for engineering of the ATV grant. On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2018-08, designating the Chairman as signatory on the grant. Emily Chilson will be building a Gaga Pit on Round Top for her Silver Scout project. Caleb Horton finished the guard rails by the entrance gate for his Eagle Scout project. Mikala Horton will be building picnic tables for her Gold Scout project. Robin will be submitting our DCNR reimbursement as soon as she receives the invoices from the highway department for Phase II of the Round Top Park Expansion grant. The ATV grant will start in December, with bid opening at the Supervisor's February meeting. Richard is still working on the Yamaha grant. Richard had his required telecom with the DCNR grant administrator, Alex MacDonald, and included Robin and Ruth. Barry's last day for the year will be November 17th. The park will close November 17th. Barry has agreed to be the winter gate keeper.

George reported for the fire company. Discussion was held on the fire police applications. Roger needs to sign off on these. Kirstie said she would be more comfortable with them having

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the training prior to being sworn in. Christine said she's not comfortable without John being here.

George made the motion to approve both applications – Lori Cessna and Thomas Alexander Cessna - as fire police on the condition that Roger will sign off and Christine will sign for the Supervisors. There was no second to the motion. The motion fails.

George then made the motion that, if the fire company can show they've followed the procedure for fire police, then we approve both applications contingent upon Roger signing off and Christine signing for the Supervisors. There was no second to the motion. The motion fails.

George said Lori has had all the fire police training, and then made the motion to approve Lori Cessna's application only, contingent upon Roger signing off and Christine signing for the Supervisors. Kirstie seconded the motion and it passed. George said he will bring in the policy for review by John and Roger.

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

Supervisor Tressa Heffron arrived at 6:20 PM.

Scot Saggiomo presented the Robert A. Blow (deceased)/Roberta Blow/Jeanne Stanton 2-lot subdivision on Wolcott Hollow Road for review. There were no deficiencies. On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision, and to execute the Non-Building waivers for both lots.

Scot then presented the ALDI-Sayre PA Expansion located at 2756 Elmira Street. These are their final plan as-builts. There are no deficiencies. On motion of Kirstie, second by George, it was unanimous to grant Final Plan approval to this land development.

Suzanne Williams asked how much longer we thought John Thompson would be, as she had to be somewhere else at 7 PM. George called John and discussion was held over the phone. John Thompson said he sent a letter to Dick Sheets regarding the Austin issues just a couple days after our September meeting. His letter said the conditions from the Conditional Use hearing need to be adhered to & followed. John said Ed was sending a letter, too. John confirmed that there has not been a zoning permit issued. Robin requested copies of both letters for the file.

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On motion of Susan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adopt ORDINANCE 2018-01 establishing a Local Services Tax (LST) for Athens Township. The LST will become effective on January 1, 2019.

Robin had received a draft Credit Card policy from John which she distributed to the Board. He is still working on the Purchasing policy. The Board will review for our November meeting.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve the Bradford County Humane Society contract for 2019 in the amount of \$1,312.75.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to release the Spalding Memorial Library funds for 2018. We have received their financial statement.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to allow the office staff to use a vacation or personal day(s) for the day after Thanksgiving and/or Christmas Eve, if they choose to take the day off – even if it means the office will be closed.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to execute the SRO Memorandum of Understanding with the Athens Area School District for two School Resource Officers.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to execute the amended reimbursement agreement for the Thomas Avenue Bridge Replacement.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it passed to approve the minutes of September 26th, October 15th and October 23, 2018 as written, with George and Tressa abstaining from October 23rd (absent) and Susan abstaining from September 26th (bereavement).

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

The next budget workshop was set for November 5, 2018 at 5 PM.

Chairwoman Vough took the Board into executive session at 7:25 PM for personnel, pending litigation and real estate. John Thompson arrived at 7:40 PM. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:50 PM.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it passed to start the employee health insurance contribution of \$20/paycheck for public works and office only, contingent upon John getting all

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the information to Ruth that she will need to implement this (pre-tax? Deduction form? Etc...). Susan abstained as she is an employee.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to reimburse Tyler Young for his August COBRA premium in the amount of \$651.73.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to send the Public Works department to a breakfast seminar on unique paving at 8 AM at Beeman's on November 14th.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa it passed to have Kirstie write a letter to Athens Borough to start dialogue regarding possible consolidation. Christine voted no.

There being no further business, on motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary