

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
August 28, 2019 6 PM Regular Meeting

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

Voice of the Residents:

Christine Eng of Fair Districts Pennsylvania was present to ask for support from the Board by adopting a resolution in favor of an independent, non-partisan commission that is transparent, impartial and fair, to perform the decennial redistricting to prevent Gerrymandering. She said currently the politicians do the redistricting in secret for partisan gain. The resolution was passed out to the Board so that they can review it and hopefully pass it at a meeting in the very near future.

Charles Lawton of 82 Erin Road asked what the plan and schedule is to fix the drainage at the end of the road, and to fix his driveway from work that was done earlier. Susan said she has been out there this past week and talked to his son. We have problems all over the township. We should be back out there tomorrow.

Jim Secrist of Vetter Road offered to take some of his property to move Vetter Road over about 20 – 25 feet because of the damages from the storms last fall. Susan said she had Bradford County Conservation District out there. Stacy Secrist said part of the road has sunk about 6 feet since this past March. Susan, John Thompson and Jim Secrist will get things around to do this. Kirstie asked John to make this a high priority, and John said he will do that once he has all the information.

Amanda Boyer, Bradford County Grants Coordinator, said she has received a grant of \$4.6 million for hazard mitigation, and she may be able to help with funding for some of our projects.

Richard Bean was present for the Parks Commission. We will be receiving \$43,000 from DCNR for Phase II. No report from the solicitor concerning the franchise fee issues. Construction on the ATV grant will start soon. We need to clear the overlooks of trees and brush. We should get at least 2 quotes if we are going to do it. We received \$15,000 from the Bradford County Commissioners. The first 100 feet off Weaver Road will not meet PA standards.

Dave Steinfeldt was here from the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company and went over the July Fire Report for those in attendance. He requested \$25,000 from Act 13 funding to replace 10 sets of turn-out gear. He said they will be having their Sportsman's Night on September 21st, and tickets are on sale for \$30. They will be trying a trivia night in January. September 12 – 14th they will be hosting a Maple producers event at the firehall

from 5-7 each night. Registration is \$150. Saturday will be a bus tour of 4 different maple producers.

Marion Carling presented the proposed subdivisions and land developments with the recommendations from Planning Commission. First was the Jack/Ella Belles two-lot subdivision on McCardle Road. There were no deficiencies. On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision, and to sign the Non-Building Waiver.

Next was the Edward/Deanna Barrett & William/Joann Verderese three-lot subdivision on Weaver Road. There were no deficiencies. On motion of Tressa, second by Christine, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision, and to execute the Component I sewage planning module.

Marion presented the John/Theresa Hunsinger two-lot subdivision on Chamberlain Road. There were no deficiencies. On motion of Christine, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision, and to sign the Non-Building Waiver.

Next was the four-lot subdivision at 1730 Elmira Street for Williams Subaru of Sayre that was tabled at our last meeting because no one was present for the applicant. Randy Williams was here representing the applicant tonight. Engineer Mark Mazur explained the subdivision to the Board. There was an issue with Lot A on the subdivision plan not meeting the minimum size requirements. The owner's signature was also needed on the plans, and Mr. Williams signed them. On motion of Christine, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to grant PRELIMINARY approval ONLY, expressly conditioned upon Lot A as identified being made part and parcel to the lands described in Bradford County Instrument 201600744, thereby creating 1 lot consisting of .82 acres.

Next was the Williams Subaru of Sayre land development located at 1730 Elmira Street. On motion of Tressa, second by Christine, it was unanimous to grant PRELIMINARY approval ONLY to this land development, contingent upon resolution of the following deficiencies:

- 1) Lot A, as identified, being made part and parcel to lands described in Bradford County Instrument 201600744, thereby creating 1 lot consisting of .82 acres.
- 2) Approval from the Bradford County Conservation District must be provided prior to construction start (NPDES)
- 3) Provide PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permits for Elmira Street
- 4) Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement required and referenced by deed

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On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to accept George's resignation from the Athens Township Authority. George abstained from the vote.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to appoint Doug Williams to the Athens Township Authority to fill the vacancy created by George's resignation, for a term to expire December 31, 2019.

Our first budget workshop date was set for Saturday, September 28th at 9 AM.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to send Eddie to the PAFPM Annual Conference in Harrisburg on September 10-11, \$195 registration fee, 2-nights hotel and meals.

Junkyard approvals were discussed. Susan will get with Eddie and they will go together for re-inspection.

On motion of Kirstie, second by George, it was unanimous to approve the closure of Pennsylvania Avenue on September 19th from 6:30 – 8:30 PM for the Homecoming parade.

Discussion was held as to the possibility of revising our noise/nuisance ordinances to include the use of fireworks as well as other noise issues such as loud music and other disturbances. John Thompson will draft something for us to consider at our next meeting.

On motion of Christine, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to accept the quote of Teledair for the 75" Optima Creative Touch Interactive Flat Panel for our Emergency Operations Center/meeting room in the amount of \$7,795.00 to be paid out of the Act 13 check #8 funds.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to have Robin send a letter of support for the PA Route 6 Alliance grant submission for a Façade Improvement and Signage Program in Bradford and Wyoming Counties.

On motion of Susan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to approve the quote of Moody and Associates, Inc. for the lump sum fee of \$9,800 for the Vetter Road and Murphy Road Stream Stabilization/Stream Rehabilitation Survey and Design Consulting Services as stated in their proposal No. 19-225-IL dated August 21, 2019.

Susan reported on the roads. We have been having equipment issues. Truck 10 burned up, the transmission and clutch needs replacing in one of the other trucks (\$8,500), one truck needs a chain replaced and another truck needs to be sent out because the box is coming unattached, our backhoe is worn out, and we've had to rent an excavator. Williams Gas is donating 450 T of material to put back in the roads over where they are drilling. We have issues at the pit.

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On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of July 31, 2019 as written. Christine abstained because she was on vacation.

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

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

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Chairwoman Kirstie Lake took the Board into executive session at 8:40 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:18 PM.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to hire Jim Calhoun as a temporary seasonal public works employee at \$15/hour and no benefits, to begin when his employment paperwork is complete with Ruth.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to have Robin bid for a tandem axle dump truck once Susan gets her the specs.

On motion of Susan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to contribute \$25,000 to the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company for the replacement of 10 sets of turn-out gear, with the money being taken from Act 13 check #8.

There being no further business, on motion of Tressa, second by Susan, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary