

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
January 29, 2020 6 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Kirstie Lake called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Supervisors also present were George Ballenstedt, Tressa Heffron and Christine Vough. Susan Seck was absent because she was ill. Secretary Robin Smith was also in attendance, and Solicitor John Thompson arrived at 6:07 PM. Kirstie led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents: None

First Assistant Chief Dave Steinfelt was present for the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company. He presented the company's year end report to the Board. They had a total of 242 incidents in 2019, with 2711 hours of service to the community and 1280 hours of training. They are in the process of replacing firefighter turnout gear and have been applying for grant funding to replace the squad vehicle. Dan Stark of Clinton Street expressed concern about a low hydrant on his street.

Richard Bean reported for the Parks Commission. They are waiting on the trail signs and the tables to do the final inspection for the ATV grant so we can request final payment. The ORV club is not responding to Richard with a count so we can order the signs and have them put them up. The tables are being rebuilt by FFA at the Athens High School. Round Top is closed but will open for skiing when there is snow. The star was turned off January 8th and the fire company will take it down when manpower is available. Richard thanked the fire company for putting the star up and taking it down every year. We have heard nothing from the Cohen Law Group except that they have started the audit of the Spectrum franchise. Lucas Aquilio's Eagle Scout project will be building 6 picnic tables for Round Top. The loan for the park expansion stands at \$150,880. Richard will offer the use of the Dunkley Hill property to the Athens School district.

On motion of Kirstie, second by George, it was unanimous to authorize Robin to advertise the fuel bid and to renew the salt contract once the numbers are received from Susan.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to accept the quote of TRA Electric, Inc. for our traffic signal maintenance.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to reappoint Mike Chilson to the Non-Uniform Pension Board for a term to expire January 1, 2023.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to appoint Stacy Sickler to both the Non-Uniform and Police pension boards for a term to expire January 1, 2023.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to have Kirstie execute the Notice To Proceed for final design for the Thomas Avenue bridge.

Willy Rowe from Williams Subaru presented an easement to the Board for their dealership which will be along our northern border. We currently have an easement to cover this area, and Willy thought so too, but he had new easement paperwork from Penelec. Discussion was held as to the electric needing to be installed underground when they are proposing setting another pole. The Board was also concerned with the paragraph in the new easement that gives Penelec the right to trim and/or clear the trees on our land along the northern border. The Board advised him that we do not want our trees cut, and any trimming needs the approval of the township. Willy will go back to Penelec and see if he can get a revised easement. The Board also is sending him to Planning Commission for review and recommendation as it will possibly require a waiver from some of the SALDO regulations. Willy will get his paperwork in order and will attend the February 10th meeting of the Planning Commission.

John Amato was present to request a waiver from Section 406(D) of the SALDO, which requires him to install electric underground to the new house he is building on King Road. He would prefer to place 4 electric poles from Wilawana Road to his driveway as it would be cheaper. The Board is also sending him to Planning Commission for review and recommendation on this issue. He will be on the March 2nd agenda. On motion of Tressa, second by George, it was unanimous to grant this waiver contingent upon Planning Commission review and approval.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to authorize John Thompson to sign the agreement for the Valley Joint Sewer Authority camera rental at \$200/hour (which also includes operator and equipment).

On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to have Chief Clink purchase the 2020 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$50,107.00 through COSTARS from New Holland Auto Group.

On motion of Tressa, second by George, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of December 18, 2019 and January 6, 2020 as written.

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

Dog licenses will be available for purchase here at the township building on February 6, 2020 from 9 AM to 2 PM.

Page Three
Athens Township Supervisors
January 29, 2020

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Chairwoman Lake took the Board into executive session at 7:10 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:10 PM.

Discussion was held on the possible purchase of Athens Borough's used street sweeper. On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to respectfully decline the offer from Athens Borough for the purchase their street sweeper.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to have Roger Clink approve the part-time officer and SRO credit card purchases.

Kirstie announced that she had made some changes to her committee assignments. The following is a list of the new assignments that will be effective immediately:

Kirstie: Police, Shared Services, Planning and Zoning, Junkyards
Christine: Planning and Zoning, Recycling, Public Works
Tressa: Shared Services, Office, Building and Grounds
George: Public Relations, Fire, Parks
Susan: Public Works, Building and Grounds, Parks

There being no further business, on motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary