

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
Regular Meeting 5 PM December 16, 2020

Vice Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Supervisors also present were Christine Vough, Susan Seck, and Alan Burgess. Solicitor John Thompson was also in attendance. Chairwoman Kirstie Lake and Secretary Robin Smith were attending via Zoom. Tressa led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents: None

On motion of Susan, second by Alan, it passed to renew the Emergency Declaration through December 22, 2020. Christine voted no.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2020-13 setting the amount of the contribution to the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company at \$100,000 for the year 2021.

On motion of Susan, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2020-14 keeping the millage rate at 12 mills for the year 2021.

On motion of Christine, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2020-15 adopting the 2021 budget as advertised: General Fund - \$3,192,441; Act 13 - \$669,278; Liquid Fuels - \$442,307; Parks and Recreation - \$97,950; Capital Reserve - \$193,489; Dirt & Gravel Roads - \$259,000; Police Pension Fund - \$202,000; Non-Uniform Pension Fund - \$190,000. Total: \$5,246,465.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to eliminate employee contributions to the Police Pension Plan and the Non-Uniform Pension Defined Benefit Plan for 2021.

On motion of Susan, second by Alan, it was unanimous to declare a state of emergency for the snow storm effective immediately.

On motion of Susan, second by Alan, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2020-17 appointing Kirstie as signatory for the Thomas Avenue Bridge paperwork.

Susan advised the Board that everything is in order with Bishop's bill for the Sunnyfield Drive paving project. Susan has an email from Steve Kehoe saying the road is good and that the overage is well under their threshold that would require additional approval. On motion of Alan, second by Susan, it passed to have Ruth pay the Bishop's bill. Christine voted no.

Susan also advised the Board that she had signed the final paperwork for the Meadowlark Drive project, so we should be able to get our reimbursement shortly. The overage of approx. \$15,000 was approved, so we should get about \$132,690.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, 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.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of November 16 and November 18, 2020 as presented.

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On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, it passed to approve the minutes of December 7, 2020 as presented. Susan abstained as she was not in attendance.

Robin advised the Board that she had the financial report for the fire company but not the chief's report as of tonight. She said Cindy had emailed her the Building Permits report so she could send it to the Board, but it didn't get to her prior to the meeting. On motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, it was unanimous to accept the police and road reports as presented.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to table the acceptance of the building permits report until we have received and reviewed it, and to release the fire company funds once the chief's report has been received.

Vice Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into executive session at 5:55 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 6:26 PM.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, it was unanimous to hire Michelle Rude as Robin's replacement, as Assistant Secretary at \$16.50/hour, 35 hours/week, 52 weeks per year contingent upon passing background clearances and being able to be bonded; completing of all paperwork with Ruth, with full-time benefits and inclusion in the newly adopted non-uniform employee contribution plan. Michelle will begin January 4, 2021 once all of the above conditions have been met.

On motion of Susan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to allow the following employees to carry over vacation days they were unable to take this year and would lose if not permitted to carry them over to 2021, with the stipulation that they be required to use these days in 2021, and not be allowed to request any additional carry over in 2021: Mike Chilson – up to 12 days; Ruth Casterline – up to 11 days; and Robin Smith – up to 4 days.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, it was unanimous to offer renewal of the District Justice office lease at \$1200/month.

Kirstie said the Sayre Police Department just purchased new radios and has offered their 13 old radios to us for a total price of \$2,325. Discussion was held. On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve this purchase, and to pay for the radios from the Capital Reserve account.

There being no further business, on motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary

