

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
January 27, 2021 5:00 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm. Supervisors also present were Kirstie Lake, Christine Vough, Susan Seck, and Alan Burgess. Solicitor John Thompson and Secretaries Robin Smith and Michelle Rude were also in attendance. Tressa led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Roger Clink recommended Dan Thomas for promotion to SGT. On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it passed unanimously, and Dan was promoted. The Chief then recommended Chris Warren for promotion to full time. On motion of Alan, second by Susan, it passed unanimously, and Chris was sworn into his full-time duties by Tressa and his oath was signed.

Voice of the Residents: Patricia Ingrick of 171 Sharon Ave expressed her concern with flooding around her home. Susan met with 3 contractors and got quotes from \$24,000 to \$100,000 for the project. She stated that once the snow clears, they will be able to get a better idea and a more accurate estimate. Susan also told Patricia that she spoke with a representative from PennDOT and he was fine with us tying into the drains on Elmira St. When asked for a time frame Susan was unable to provide one due to several variables, however she is working diligently to get this issue addressed.

Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company: No representative in attendance.

Richard Bean reported for the Parks and Recreation Commission. DCNR has delayed the inspection of the ATV Grant due to COVID-19. Still haven't heard anything on the Spectrum audit. Loan for the park expansion stands at \$105,880. School district has yet to walk the Dunkley Hill property. Marcellus Legacy Grant is looking good. It is now a 90% grant. They have asked us for additional documentation. Money would be used to resurface Roundtop Park road. We received \$5,000 from the Bradford County room tax grant for the overlook/observation deck. We have sent several letters to local businesses and organizations to help offset the expenses. Round Top is now officially open for cross country skiing. It will close when the snow melts. The Round Top star is now unplugged and will be taken down by the fire company as weather permits. Richard expressed concern with Bishops trying to get a permit to mine stone and gravel on the north side of Round Top mountain. There are park ATV trails in part of the buffer zone as well as and new eagle's nest at the basis of Round Top that can be seen from 220 south bound. Blasting may cause interference with both. The new restroom, ATV trail, is leaning because of frost. Solid Ground has been notified and will check it out. The 2014 park pamphlet is being updated and their next meeting will be held on Feb. 22, 2021.

Surveyor Scott Williams and applicant Dalton Williams explained the changes submitted for the Dandy Corporate Ctr 2 lot subdivision on Elmira St. Planning Commission recommends preliminary and final approval. There were no deficiencies. On motion of Christine, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision.

Page Two  
Athens Township Supervisors  
January 27, 2021

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it passed unanimously to ratify renewal of emergency declaration through February 2, 2021.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to adopt the paperwork for the Valley Joint Sewer Authority Amended and Restated Agreement.

On motion of Allan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to reappoint George Ballenstedt to both Pension Boards for terms to expire January 1, 2024.

Committee assignments by Tressa were as follows:

Susan Seck -	Roads; Safety; Junk Yards
Christine Vough -	Parks; Buildings and Grounds
Alan Burgess -	Parks; Planning and Zoning; Public Relations (Facebook)
Kirstie Lake -	Police; Shared Services; Buildings and Grounds
Tressa Heffron -	Office; Shared Services; Fire

On motion by Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to approve On-Lot Sewage annual assessment from BCSC in the amount of \$6,345.

On motion by Tressa, second by Susan, it was unanimous to ratify Michelle's attendance at Basic Training for Secretaries and Administrators class 2/22 & 3/1/21 at a cost of \$75.

On motion by Kirstie, second by Alan, it was unanimous to approve 2021 SRO raises at \$.45/hour as per police contract.

On motion by Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to approve Barry's 2021 raise at \$.50/hour as per DPW contract.

On motion by Kirstie, second by Alan, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2021-06 for C&N Bank signatories (Ruth, Robin, Michelle, Tressa).

On motion by Alan, second by Susan, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2021-07 for police study participation and approve invoice for pension merger study.

It was the board's decision not to move forward changing signatories with M&T Bank via electronic signatures. Robin will contact M&T Bank and suggest other ways to sign new paperwork, in person, to ensure the security of our accounts.

Discussion was held on the possibility of having a quarterly/bi-annually township newsletter. Members of the board were asked by Tressa to think about the pros/cons and they will discuss in future meetings.

Tressa reported on the last fireworks committee meeting. The board was asked to give their input on combining our township ordinance with the other Valley municipalities and creating one ordinance Valley wide. Pros and cons were discussed by the board and their feedback will be taken back to the firework committee by Tressa.

On motion by Susan, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to grant permission to bid fuel for our February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

On motion by Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to grant permission to respond to the property sale requests from DLG Homes.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to take John's advice and have Tilden file for a new RUMA for the EOG Ashby well they took over. John will discuss with Eddie in the morning.

Robin explained the change in protocol concerning the Thomas Ave. Bridge right-of-way settlements. John will review the paperwork when received.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to appoint Michelle as RTK Officer, CAO pension plans, Deputy EMC.

Susan updated the board on her road projects. The main concern is clearing water off Sharon Ave., Sandra Ave. and going down Cole street. She will continue to work with contractors for the best plan for storm water management and maintaining those roads.

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.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve minutes of December 16, 2020 and January 18, 2021 as written.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, it passed to approve minutes of January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as written. Christine abstained as she was absent.

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

Page Four  
Athens Township Supervisors  
January 27, 2021

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Chairwoman Heffron took the board into executive session for personnel and pending litigation at 6:45 pm. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:42 pm.

There being no further business, on motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Rude  
Athens Township Administrative Secretary