

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
July 28, 2021 5 PM Regular Meeting

Supervisor Kirstie Lake called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM. Chairwoman Tressa Heffron was in attendance via Zoom. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck and Christine Vough. Marion Carling, Bruce Benish, Solicitor John Thompson and Secretary Michelle Rude were also in attendance. Supervisor Alan Burgess was not in attendance. Kirstie led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kirstie called for the opening of bids for road materials DSA, 3" minus, R-4 and R-6 FOB and delivered. Three bids were submitted: Bristol Excavating, Marcus Cole Construction, and Stagecoach Transport & Crushing, LLC (see attached bid worksheet). Solicitor John Thompson read the bids and reviewed the bid packets. Kirstie stated that Marcus Cole Construction was the lowest bid. Solicitor Thompson recommended to the board that we accept the low bid from Marcus Cole Construction for delivered materials and FOB depending on the needs of the township. Marcus Cole Construction was the only bidder to include rates for both options. On motion of Christine, second by Susan, motion passes to accept the bid from Marcus Cole Construction for delivered materials and FOB as needed as they were both the low bidder and bid both options.

Voice of the Residents: Kirstie called for the Voice of the Residents. Sandra Evans Sefick of 707 Broad Street Ext. Lot 1, Waverly, NY and her niece Jennifer Evans of 2008 Elmira Street, Athens, PA were in attendance. Sandra addressed the board. She stated that in 1923 her grandfather had the first store on Elmira Street (she presented a newspaper article/pictures to the board). In 1954, Athens Township approached her family to purchase 78 feet of Elmira Street to expand the McDuffee Street School. In 1988, her father had the land surveyed so that he could build a building on his property. She is requesting a variance in order to divide the property so that she can sell it (she and Jennifer share it). Solicitor Thompson explained that the board couldn't grant a variance, the Zoning Hearing Board would have to do that. She stated that she knows but she wanted to voice her opinion. She asked when the ordinance was changed and Solicitor Thompson told her that he believed the ordinance was passed in 2001. She stated that someone should have notified her. Solicitor Thompson stated that it would have been advertised before it was passed. She expressed her frustration with the situation and stated that she feels that she should be "grandfathered in". Kirstie thanked her for coming.

Richard Bean was present for the Parks and Recreation Commission. He said that they are still waiting on an update from Cohen Law Group re: Spectrum franchise audit. The loan for the park expansion stands at \$70,880.00. The school district has not been able to walk the Dunkley Hill property. They have not received any additional funds for the overlook. The material costs have increased. Based on the review of the required project closeout documents, including the final payment request, there was \$180,618 in eligible project costs. Since the grant agreement was for \$185,100, requiring no match, DCNR will authorize the final payment of \$14,028. This is the balance of eligible funds remaining since \$166,590 was

previously paid to the township. This check will be mailed in 4-6 weeks. The remaining \$4,482 in grant funds will be disencumbered. The new restroom at the ATV trail repair cost is \$5285 and the insurance has denied the claim as they do not cover surface water. Richard did ask DCNR if the remaining balance for the grant could be applied towards the repair and were told that “they could help us out.” The Parks Commission is looking for ideas concerning how they should celebrate 50 years’ ownership of RTP. They are planning a Round Top Challenge next year and looking for a date to hold it as Guthrie Gallop is in May when they originally planned. A plaque has been ordered for Pavilion # 1 in Memorial for Dave Hafer. They are in talks concerning having a “Walk with the Doc” to be scheduled on October 9th where a doctor will walk the park and explain heart health.

Marion Carling presented the board with the J. Wesley/Janet Kocsis 2-lot subdivision located on Sutliff Hill Road. No maps were present. Bruce Benish explained the plans to the board. He stated that the deficiencies had been resolved. There was concern over a highlighted portion of the sanitation agreement. Secretary Rude will contact sanitation to clarify. On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, motion passed for preliminary/final plan approval contingent upon clarification with Bradford County Sanitation.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, motion passed to approve the minutes of June 30, 2021 as written.

At 5:32, Kirstie adjourned the Public Meeting and went into a Public Hearing for Ordinance 2021-01. There were no public comments regarding the Ordinance. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:33 and the Public Meeting was reconvened. Solicitor John Thompson presented the board with 3 copies of Ordinance 2021-01 to abandon the Clinton Street extension paper street to be signed: one for his office, one for the secretary, and one for the Ordinance book. On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, motion passed adopt Ordinance 2021-01.

Upon review of Amendment C of Reimbursement Agreement #033576, the supervisors and solicitor discussed their feelings on Aqua’s relocation in the midst of our project. There was concern that the amendment included the fee to coordinate with Aqua to ensure their relocation wouldn’t impact the project’s needs when the Aqua relocation is not necessary to our bridge project. However, it was decided that to delay the project would potentially result in a greater increase in cost in the long run and due to the rise in cost of materials it would be best to move forward without incurring further delay. On motion of Susan, second by Christine, motion passed to authorize the approval of Amendment C of Reimbursement Agreement #033576 and Resolution 2021-10 for the Thomas Avenue Bridge project.

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On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, motion passed to move \$43,000 from 438.207 to 430.700 towards the purchase of the 2009 Volvo.

On motion of Christine, second by Tressa, motion passed to move \$25,000 from 437.747 to 430.700 towards the purchase of the 2009 Volvo.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, motion passed to move \$2,635 from 438.380 to 430.700 for the purchase of the Moon Paver.

On motion of Christine, second by Susan, motion passed to move \$9,530 from 438.380 to 430.700 in General Fund towards the purchase of the mower.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, motion passed to approve the \$1,900 unforeseen cost to correct the Cole Street water issues.

On motion of Christine, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to pay the monthly bills as submitted. 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 submitted.

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Kirstie took the Board into executive session at 6:02 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:15 PM.

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to allow Edmund Reid to attend the PAFPM September Social on September 22nd in Harrisburg.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, motion passed to hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 3rd at 5 pm for general business. Michelle Rude will advertise the meeting in the paper.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, motion passed to purchase a replacement Dump Body BMT-S (serial number 29306-1) from Cleveland Brothers for \$27,498 using Liquid Fuels funds. This will replace the irreparable dump body on Township Truck 4 (1999 Blue Volvo).

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There being no further business, on motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Rude
Athens Township Administrative Secretary