

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
Zoning Map Amendment Hearing – Ross & Regular Meeting
March 26th, 2025 6:00PM

Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the zoning map amendment hearing to order at 6:00 PM. Supervisors also present were Bonnie Petruschak, Ronald Reagan and Michael Freeland; Matthew Moore online via TEAM's. Solicitor John Thompson, Zoning Officer Edmund Reid, Treasurer Lauren Hotaling, Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks and Secretary Meagan Carling were also in attendance, along with Stenographer Elizabeth Brucie to take the testimony for this hearing. Additional attendees noted on the hearing / meeting sign-in sheet.

Solicitor John Thompson gave a brief introduction of the Board members and introduced the Stenographer. Edmund Reid, Athens Township Zoning Officer was sworn in and verified all of the exhibits presented noting all processes to date had all been in compliance for both Athens Township and Nicholas Ross.

Nicholas Ross, property owner, was in attendance with Attorney Rossettie representing him. Rossettie presented the proposed zoning map amendment in regard to parcel #09-020.00-009-002-000 located off of Pump Station Hill Road in Athens Township, asking for the change to allow for a residential home to be built on the property. The property was 'residential suburban' before being changed to 'industrial' as showing this change on the 2012 and 2014 zoning maps; no changes were made to the property during this time zoned 'industrial' – at this time it is a vacant lot. It is currently bordered on two sides by 'residential suburban' zones and is still served by residential utilities. Questions from the Supervisors were answered, no questions from the public.

On motion of Tressa, seconded by Ronald; motion passed with votes of Freeland – yes, Petruschak – yes, Moore – yes, Reagan – yes, Heffron – yes, to grant the amendment to the zoning map for this parcel from 'industrial' to 'residential suburban' and adopting the Ordinance 2025-01. An executed copy of the decision will be sent to all parties.

Zoning Map Amendment Hearing adjourned at 6:11pm.

Commencement of the Regular Meeting at 6:11pm:

Bid Results for FUEL - LSD Diesel, 87 Octane Gasoline, On-Road Diesel (3 bids received):

- #1) Williams Oil Energy (WOC)
- #2) Insinger Performance
- #3) Mirabito

On motion of Tressa, seconded by Bonnie; motion passed to re-advertise for bids on FUEL as only one bid met the criteria for consideration – bid opening for Board of Supervisors April meeting.

Voice of the Residents:

Aaron Brotzman, Weaver Road – Mr. Brotzman suggested having the back gate to Round Top Park moved to the bottom of Bobcat Road rather than its present location to better prevent access when the park is closed. The Parks Committee will be relayed this information.

Dan Knolles, Weaver Road – Mr. Knolles asked if the lease proposal from oil / gas company was ever signed for the property including Round Top Park. No, nothing has moved forward in regard to any of the proposals for oil / gas leases at this time.

Luke Rae, Robb Street – Mr. Rae raised some questions / wanted clarification about a matter he discussed at the last meeting in regard to a sandblasting business near his residence, asked for an update to the permit issuance and what he can do if he wanted to contest the issuance. Solicitor John Thompson and Zoning Officer Edmund Reid provided the information in regard to the zoning and operation / uses and explained that he can file an appeal with the Zoning Hearing Board.

Athens Twp. Planning Commission

No representative in attendance; report received.

Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.

No representative in attendance; report received.

Athens Twp. Parks Commission

No representative in attendance; report received.

Documentation for a pavilion quote was discussed, the Supervisors requested the Parks have someone in attendance for the next meeting to explain the grant that was awarded and the process for using those funds / reporting and ensuring all is in compliance. TABLED to the next Board of Supervisors meeting 4/9/25.

Athens Twp. Public Works Dept.

Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks was in attendance to represent the department.

Garret presented his plan for road projects, why some will to have additional work done before considering them ready for project and the importance of getting this posted for bid soon. On motion of Michael, seconded by Matthew; Bonnie and Ronald opposed, motion passed to post the proposed projects for bid as follows:

* <u>FDR with double coat:</u>	WESTBROOK ST.	HILLCREST DR.	CENTER ST.
	ROSH RD.	PINE TREE RD.	SHUMAN HILL RD.
	BAXTER ST.	JACOB ST.	

* FDR-Pulverization, 19mm Asphalt Binder, 2A backup 2' each side: ERIN RD.

* 2A or Millings, FDR-Pulverization, topped w/ Prime Asphalt Double Seal Coat: OWASACO RD.

Annual bridge inspection standards info and notice of upcoming inspections; Noted.

Aggregates advertised in the Daily Review with bid deadline / opening 4/9/25: DSA & R-3; Noted.

On motion of Ronald, seconded by Tressa; motion passed to grant the temporary access and construction easement for the Moore Road Bridge Strengthening Project.

On motion of Ronald, seconded by Michael; motion passed to accept the bid of \$825 via Municibid for sale of the 2009 Chevy Tahoe (Truck #9), with Tressa and Ronald as authorized signatories.

PennDOT SR 4022 Resurfacing Project, suggested detour reviewed; Noted.

Public Works personnel – to be discussed in Executive Session, if needed.

Athens Twp. Police Dept.

No representative in attendance; report received.

On motion of Ronald, seconded by Bonnie; motion passed to accept the monthly reports from Planning, Fire Co., Roads, Police Dept., Building Permits – no report received from Parks.

On motion of Bonnie, seconded by Michael; motion passed to pay the monthly bills as presented.

On motion of Tressa, seconded by Bonnie; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 3/12/2025; Matthew abstained – he was not in attendance for that meeting.

Consider / Discuss

A Proclamation was made naming 3/26/25 as Ruth Casterline Day in recognition of her 36 years of dedication to the Township in many roles, but mostly as Township Treasurer. Ruth was presented the Proclamation and a “bronzed” adding machine in support of her service; she officially retired back on February 12th, 2025.

Township Auditors’ update – no one in attendance; Solicitor John Thompson advised as there may be legal filing that any update the Township Auditor’s have would need to be relayed to the public directly from one of the two of them; TABLED until next Board of Supervisors meeting 4/9/25.

Update to the yard / perimeter lights, all work complete. Noted.

On motion of Ronald, seconded by Tressa; motion passed in support of the Spalding Library’s dedication to the community with a Proclamation naming the week of April 6th – April 12th, 2025 as National Library Week in encouragement to getting more people informed of and involved in the many opportunities the library system has to offer.

Storage unit / shredding options; TABLED to next Board of Supervisors meeting 4/9/25 – will review shredding information and need to look into policy PA Historical Society has.

Discussion was had in regard to the Township opening an Amazon Business account and the options for multi-user access; the Treasurer Lauren Hotaling was advised to start with the free / one-user account.

On motion of Ronald, seconded by Michael; motion passed to approve a charge account at Irr Supply (formerly EPSCO) designating two purchasers, Barry Brosnan and Garret Stocks.

On motion of Michael, seconded by Matthew; motion passed to issue the Treasurer a credit card and to review the current credit card policy for updating at the next Board of Supervisors meeting 4/9/25.

Zoning enforcement letters had been updated but Zoning Officer Edmund Reid would like to make some further adjustments.

Update on appeals to be discussed in Executive Session if needed.

Correspondence / Information

NTRPDC, LeadHERship Workshop 4/1/25; Noted – Secretary Meagan Carling & Treasurer Lauren Hotaling may have interest in attending.

BCTOA, Spring Dinner Meeting 4/10/25; Noted – Supervisor Michael Freeland will be attending.

BC, Municipal Outreach Program 4/17/25; Noted – Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stock may have interest in attending.

COG Meeting minutes, report received; Noted.

Local LTAP courses 3/27/25 (Roadside Vegetation Control), 4/29/25 (Geosynthetics); online LTAP 4/3/25 (Pavement Preservation Techniques); Noted.

Chairwoman Tressa took the board into executive session at 7:45 PM,
for personnel and legal - litigation / enforcement.

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 PM.

There being no further business - on motion of Ronald, seconded by Michael;
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meagan Carling
Athens Township Secretary