

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

May 14, 2025 6:00 PM

Regular Meeting

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Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present were Supervisors – Tressa Heffron, Bonnie Petruschak, Ronald Reagan and Michael Freeland; Matthew Moore was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict. Secretary Meagan Carling and Treasurer Lauren Hotaling were also in attendance, along with Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks and Zaccory Guiles from the Road Crew. Heffron led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents: None.

Athens Twp. Planning Commission / Zoning

No representative in attendance.

GreenKey Solar update – plans to be submitted for review soon. Noted.

Zoning Hearing Board will meet this month.

Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.

George Ballenstead spoke briefly on behalf of the Fire Co. stating the number of fires has decreased but continuing mutual aide, Bingo is still scheduled and has good attendance, forecasting need for a pumper tanker to replace an old tanker and older engine and the sign is up and running – if anything needs to be posted, contact himself or Fire Chief. A dedication for the sign is planned for May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:30pm to be held (here) at the Township Municipal Building.

Athens Twp. Parks Commission

No representative in attendance.

Round Top Park opened over the weekend, 5/10/25.

Athens Twp. Public Works Dept.

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

Discussion was had regarding the LDG construction status report and change order for the Moore Road Bridge Strengthening Project from “deterioration found in the concrete deck when the pavement was removed that will need to be patched before the new beams can be set” – “in addition, the deck is thicker than anticipated causing a modification to the original plan for removing the surface and paving”; this will potentially add 3 days to the schedule and an additional cost of \$2253.11 to the contracted amount. On motion of Reagan, seconded by Heffron; motion passed to approve the change order presented by LDG; requesting more detail as to the mitigation plan to remain on schedule for completion with the changes presented.

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On motion of Heffron, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve closure of Center St. in the area from the Aqua Building to Pennsylvania Ave to mill and pave the road; this is planned for June 9, 2025 from 7:30am – 3:30pm and will be advertised and posted giving a week notice. Noted.

Purchase order for road saw; TABLED until future Board of Supervisors meeting – quotes were not received prior to this meeting.

On motion of Petruschak, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve purchase order for dust control in the amount of \$5520.00 from General Fund (438.214); using calcium chloride and applied using Township spreader.

Discussion was had in regard to the Murray Creek Road Bridge Preservation Project update; work is scheduled to begin June 9, 2025 with the project / detour being advertised two weeks prior to starting and the detour marked the week prior as well. Noted.

Discussion was had in regard to the notice of upcoming NBIS annual safety inspections for T-321 Murray Creek Rd, T-109 Moore Rd, T-876 Miller Rd, T-317 Round Top Rd, T-105 Thomas Ave, T-862 Round Top Rd scheduled for this June. Noted.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve the Road Foreman MOU, for Zaccory Guiles.

Road Crew: part-time / temporary opportunity; TABLED to the next Board of Supervisors meeting 5/28/25 – to review details with the Solicitor.

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

Athens Twp. Police Dept.

No representative in attendance.

On motion of Petruschak, seconded by Reagan; motion passed to approve the purchase order for 2025 Ford Police Utility vehicle with graphics from New Holland Auto Group in the amount of \$52,097.00 from Capital Reserve Fund (410.702). On motion of Heffron, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to authorize Supervisor Ronald Reagan to be the signer for this vehicle purchase. Quotes for up-fitting package were requested but not yet received, they will be presented at a future meeting for consideration.

On motion of Reagan, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 4/30/2025.

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Consider / Discuss

Discussion was had in regard to the PennDOT / GPI inquiry letter for SR 199 Bridge Lighting Project; items to note in reply for “hazardous corner” from 199 into Athens Borough and night work may affect Borough residents along Main Street.

Treasurer Lauren Hotaling presented figures for the bank accounts recommended consolidations at interest rates provided by Citizens & Northern, M&T and First Citizens Community Banks; TABLED until next Board of Supervisors meeting 5/30/25 – time to review.

Hotaling relayed updated figures to note for potential need for funding; TABLED to a future Board of Supervisors meeting if the need to revisit arises.

Baker-Tilly audit update: CPA’s still working on audit, needed additional documentation from Solicitor John Thompson – response to estimated completion date was not received prior to this meeting; TABLED until the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Discussion was had in regard to revisiting the options for Zoning vehicle replacement; TABLED until a future Board of Supervisors meeting – auction sites / additional options to fit budgeted costs to be examined.

Discussion was had in regard to a purchase order for tablets to replace paper copies of meeting items; additional information relayed concerning cloud security as it would be based on Google platform and can protect files uploaded. Resident questions of ability to project documents during the meetings for public view and options to even live stream meetings arose. TABLED to a future Board of Supervisors meeting for further consideration.

Discussion was had in regard to a Township Employee time-clock; model discussed during last budget sessions was presented for review. TABLED until the next Board of Supervisors meeting 5/28/25 – would like additional quotes for review.

Discussion was had in regard to the iWorQ System; TABLED until budget sessions begin for 2026 fiscal year.

Discussion was had in regard to the TEAMSTERS notice requesting action on pension service credit provision; TABLED until a future Board of Supervisors meeting – guidance needed from Solicitor John Thompson.

Discussion was had in regard to the Sunnyfield Drive former landfill property and the need to maintain / mow it yearly; Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks to inspect the area and decide if the Township can perform this with the current equipment.

Personnel – nothing to discuss at this time, will revisit in Executive Session if needed.

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Correspondence / Information

BCCD reminder of Mosquito-borne Disease Control Program. Noted.

Tanko Lighting – Streetlight Management Program; not interested at this time.

Valley Energy – notice of rate increase proposal. Noted.

AQUA – 2024 water quality report. Noted.

LTAP upcoming local / in-person classes: 5/29/25 – Project Estimating Using Math Principals to be attended by Superintendent of Public Works and the Road Foreman

Voice of the Residents:

(continued – additional residents arrived after the first VOR opportunity)

**Linda Rogers, Peacedale Lane** – Rogers relayed the meeting today was posted on the website calendar at 6AM not 6PM. Secretary Meagan Carling will have the website calendar reviewed for additional errors but ensures the advertisement / agenda reflected the correct 6PM time.

**William King, Moore Road** – King expressed his thanks to the Road Crew for the patching job they did on Moore Rd. but wanted to relay his concern for their safety as some of the equipment currently used is in need of repair to be able to run properly. Discussion was had with the Supervisors, Superintendent of Public Works (Stocks), Road Foreman (Guiles) and residents in regard to current status of the equipment in question and a plan of correction was made for Stocks / Guiles to execute immediately.

Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into Executive Session at 7:24 PM, for Personnel – Staff.

The meeting reconvened at 8:25 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak;  
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Carling  
Athens Township Secretary