

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

June 11, 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 and Matthew Moore. Secretary Meagan Carling and Treasurer Lauren Hotaling were also in attendance, along with Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks. Heffron led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents:

Caitlin Bleiler & Mitchell Hall / Center St.- Bleiler & Hall stated their disappointment regarding Center St. “closing for paving” notice for 6/9/25 to which they closed their business (R&G Auto) because of the questionable access. Stocks and the Board of Supervisors apologized and discussed a hesitation by the Township on 6/6/25 to move forward with paving. Stocks decided leave the closure in place as the notice would also cover other work the Road Crew was scheduled to perform. Stocks to provide more detail for paving options / costs at this meeting.

Athens Twp. Planning Commission / Zoning: No representative in attendance.

GreenKey Solar update – sketch plans submitted, aiming for Planning Meeting in August.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to accept the corrected Zoning Report for May 2025, with dates for notices sent added.

Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.: No representative in attendance.

ATVFC has donated the old sign to Encounter Church; someone will be in contact to schedule its deconstruction / removal.

Athens Twp. Parks Commission: No representative in attendance.

On motion of Reagan, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve the construction quote from Robinson’s Contracting / Landscaping for the pavilion assembly at Tozer’s Landing – Moore abstained as he is related to the contracting company owners.

To note: PARKS exhausted their efforts for volunteer groups / school projects, giving them the first right of refusal.

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 for the Moore Road Bridge Strengthening Project. An updated schedule was not received in time for this meeting but an email from LDG noted a delay in delivery of steel beams for the next phase; will have to revisit at the next meeting once more information has been received.

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On motion of Moore, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve paving of Center St. in the area from the Aqua Building to Pennsylvania Ave to be added to Suit-Kote road project already contracted. Center St. was originally discussed to be included in the “FDR-seal coat” bid but was missed by an oversight on the Township. General cost estimate from Suit-Kote is almost half what the Township has projected to perform this work, which was planned for June 9, 2025, and will free up time to focus on other needs. Preliminary work was done 6/9/25, taking advantage of the closure notice. Stocks to bring the actual costs before the Board of Supervisors at the meeting 6/25/25.

Discussion was had regarding the road projects status / timeline. Stocks explained weather being an issue, but still on track for completion for both projects in early August (before school starts), and, per the contractors, will take approximately:

- * 7 days for WESTBOOK ST / PINE TREE RD / ROSH RD / HILLCREST DR / JACOB ST / LAMBERT ST / BAXTER ST / SHUMAN HILL RD / CENTER ST + OWASCO RD

- * 2 days for ERIN RD

Discussion was had regarding a quote from Pendell Companies for the repairs to the garage ceiling. TABLED until the next Board of Supervisors meeting – waiting on a second quote and the insurance to inspect.

Discussion was had regarding the update to Growing Greener Grant funds distribution from awardment to BCCD’s submission of a bridge bundle – including Round Top Rd Bridge. BCCD is working through the design and engineering of the structure and are estimating around \$80,000 available toward that culvert replacement (installation); once further along with the design a cost estimate will be reviewed for the TWP’s responsibility to contribute. Noted.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to accept the job description for “Highway Department Temporary Position” opportunity with revisions discussed noted. On motion of Moore, seconded Freeland, Reagan opposed; motion passed to advertise / post the position to hire with pay rate open / to be determined by the Board of Supervisors – based on level of experience.

Athens Twp. Police Dept.: No representative in attendance.

Minutes: On motion of Freeland, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 5/28/2025.

Consider / Discuss

On motion of Moore, seconded by Reagan; motion passed for a Proclamation to be made naming 6/18/25 as Dorothy Geiger Day in recognition of turning 108 years old. Chairwoman - Heffron to present the document to her / her family next week, before her birthday on Wednesday.

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Discussion was had regarding the PennDOT proposed detour for a bridge project in Sayre Borough in April 2026. The proposed detour will utilize Shepard Road, as SR 1062 will be closed during the construction. Noted. Stocks added that Shepard Rd. was just paver-patched but will have it inspected again for additional needs prior to the project detour.

Baker-Tilly audit update: CPA was in-house today to work on the audit, needed additional documentation on the Thomas Avenue Bridge Project, revised asset record and lease / purchase agreement copies for a few items; she will follow-up next week. TABLED until the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Discussion was had regarding the options for IME and feedback from the insurance companies; TABLED – Solicitor John Thompson will have to review this information and provide guidance at the next Board of Supervisors meeting 6/25/25.

Discussion was had regarding Active Shooter Incident Management – advanced training being held locally from July 8th - 10th; Ed Reid interested in attending as the Townships Public Information Officer (Emergency), verified there are openings and no cost.

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

Correspondence / Information

Notice from Chesapeake – proposal for utility line stream crossing, Orange Hill Rd. Noted.

Susquehanna / Wyoming Annual Equipment Show, 7/31/25 @ Tunkhannock PA. Noted.

Integrity Energy – information packet not received prior to this meeting.

LTAP upcoming local / in-person classes: 6/24/25 – Managing Utility Cuts. Noted.

Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into Executive Session at 6:46 PM, for Personnel – Staff.

The meeting reconvened at 7:38 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Moore, seconded by Petruschak;
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Carling
Athens Township Secretary