

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Regular Meeting

July 30, 2025 6:00 PM

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Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Present were Supervisors – Tressa Heffron, Bonnie Petruschak, Matthew Moore and Michael Freeland; Ronald Reagan was not in attendance due to a scheduling conflict. Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks, Road Foreman Zaccory Guiles, Secretary Meagan Carling and Solicitor John Thompson were also in attendance. Heffron led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bid Opening: 3 bids received

5500 tons (+ / -) PA State Certified DSA, 2A Aggregate – Type S (delivered)

Lopke Rock Products, Apalachin NY.....\$25 per ton delivered / \$137,500 contract total

Stagecoach Crushing, Wyalusing PA.....\$24 per ton delivered / \$132,000 contract total

**Johnson Quarries, Inc, Stevensville PA.....\$20 per ton delivered / \$110,000 contract total**

On motion of Moore, seconded by Heffron; motion passes to accept the bid from Johnson Quarries in the amount of \$20 / ton delivered – totaling \$110,000 per the contract.

Voice of the Residents:

***Janan Cem-Riegel, Jacklin Road*** - Not in attendance, email received regarding potholes on Orcutt Creek & Jacklin Roads from stormwater erosion. Also asked about prior grant funding and or budgeted projects for rebuilding these roads and addressing drainage. Stocks stated the potholes were already filled and he had spoken with Janan prior to this meeting.

Athens Twp. Authority:

No representative in attendance; monthly report received.

Athens Twp. Planning Commission:

Monthly report received; Chairwoman Marion Carling represented the Planning Commission. She presented the board with the maps and documentation for two cases.

***Thompson, Janice / 2-lot subdivision on Wildwood Road (#25-01)***: On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to accept the Planning Commission recommended preliminary / final approval of the subdivision with zero deficiencies noted.

***Dandy Mini Marts #19 / final land development on White Wagon Road. (#25-02)***: On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to accept the Planning Commission recommended approval of the final land development with zero deficiencies noted.

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Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.:

No representative in attendance; monthly report received.

Athens Twp. Parks Commission:

No representative in attendance; monthly report received.

Discussion was had regarding the underground water-line leak at Tozers Landing causing excessive usage and high bills; Jeff Paul Plumbing & Heating came to inspect / advise on 7/23/25 and was able to do an immediate on-site repair and restore the water. Usage will be monitored to ensure problem is corrected.

Discussion was had regarding notes from the information session Parks Chairman Meade Murtland had with Spectrum / Charter Communications for the final projected layout to run fiber-optics along existing Tri-County Electric utility poles along Bobcat Road / Round Top Park, with a portion of the route along the park's upper road needing to be underground by pavilions #8 / #7 / #6 / #4 / #3, and continuing between the center of the top overlook swings. The underground section would only affect the park for 1-2 days (equipment / weather permitting) and is forecasted for September; Spectrum will be in communications with the Township once the permits are received to coordinate this project around scheduled pavilion rentals.

The Parks & Recreation Committee set-up a display for the Senior Expo held last week, and had representatives in attendance to promote the Township Parks.

Athens Twp. Public Works Dept.:

Superintendent of Public Works Garret Stocks and Road Foreman Zaccory Guiles were in attendance to represent the department.

Safety Policy Manual / RESOLUTION – the scaled down the applicable sections from the PennDOT Manual for final review; Solicitor to discuss the options to ensure compliance with the Union Representatives from Teamsters before can proceed. TABLED until adjustments completed; will revisit at a later Board of Supervisors meeting.

Discussion was had regarding the Moore Road Bridge status and response letter from L.C. Whitford. The strengthening project was completed on 7/29/25 with the final walk-through / official opening on 7/30/25. In response to the letter sent by the Township Solicitor requesting payment for the days delayed completing the project, L.C. Whitford letter in reply states they are welcoming discussion for a resolution to the project completion being 29 days past scheduled deadline; Solicitor to continue to facilitate a fair resolution.

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Discussion was had regarding the Miller Road Bridge inspection report and needed repairs. Larson Design Group has forwarded the reported needs to several contractors to quote; these should be received within the next week for review; the bridge weight limit has been temporarily lowered to 10 tons with an increase in inspection frequency to every 3 months until the repairs are completed. Immediate action should prevent further issues.

Discussion was had regarding the truck #12 fire, update on the insurance claim, the DEP report and next steps with quotes for consideration:

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to move forward with the DEP clean-up option (#1) providing the DEP representative inspect the site with a photo ionization detector ensuring all impact areas have been excavated with the Township responsible for proper disposal of the materials – reporting back to DEP with documentation as receipt / closure of the case. Stocks to schedule the DEP representative inspection for first available date as the clean-up was completed and materials stored awaiting confirmation they can be disposed of.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve the valuation report from Selective Insurance to continue with the claim. Valuation was determined as \$230,518 with the deductible of \$1000, making the settlement \$229,518 total payout.

On motion of Moore, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve the purchase of a replacement truck, 2026 Western Star 47X Dump Truck (cab / chassis only) from Sherwood Trucks – Dunmore PA in the amount of \$168,422.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to authorize Garret Stocks to be the signatory for the 2026 Western Star 47X – designated him to sign any paperwork necessary to procure the truck and up-fitting as approved.

This new unit will need to be up-fitted with a dump box / plow once it is built / arrives at the dealer. Stocks to start getting quotes for the up-fitting but estimating the cost being \$70,000. On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to post the spreader used solely with (former) truck #12 – 2024 Mack GR64F, for sale on Municibid with proceeds being allocated toward the purchase of the dump box / plow up-fitting to the 2026 Western Star 47X unit or new spreader.

Pendell Companies scheduled to complete the repairs to the garage ceiling beginning 8/18/25 with the quote for repairs being \$8500; Selective Insurance deductible is \$2500 / net claim providing \$6000 toward total cost.

Liquid fuels funds reallocation confirmed totals from ‘major equipment’ to ‘road materials’; TABLED until next Board of Supervisors meeting 8/13/25– Treasurer is not in attendance to present this information.

Discussion was had regarding the Asphalt Zipper and financials; TABLED – Stocks to request a copy of the contract to begin reviewing and will be held for budget discussion.

Road Crew, potential vacancy – TABLED to Executive Session.

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Athens Twp. Police Dept.:

No representative in attendance; report received.

Copies of the updated MOU between the Athens Area School District and Athens Township Police Dept were provided, making items more detailed / specific. Noted.

Reports:

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to accept the monthly reports from Authority, Planning, Fire Co., Parks, Roads, & Police Dept.

Discussion was had regarding the Building Permits report. On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to authorize Zoning Officer Ed Reid to send the 'final notice for clean-up' to a watch-list property on Route 220. On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to accept the amended Building Permits report reflecting the 'final notice for clean-up' letter being sent for July.

Bills:

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

Minutes:

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 7/19/2025. Moore abstained as he was not in attendance for that meeting.

Consider / Discuss:

Lowes appeal - to be discussed in Executive Session.

Baker-Tilly audit update, TABLED – no information received to present.

Discussion was had regarding the quotes and sketches from Reynolds Business Systems for installing custom storage solutions / rolling filing in the Township Meeting Room to enable all files in storage at the Enterprise Center could be kept in-house, no need to renew the contract for the storage unit as it is up June 2026. On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve funding sources to be searched and the quotes for these systems submitted for the applications. Quotes also to be held for budget discussion.

Discussion was had regarding open / upcoming grant windows for submitting applications; brainstorming ideas and checking for submittal requirements for Round Top Park roads applicability. Noted.

Pension, payout determination – to be discussed in Executive Session.

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On motion of Moore, seconded by Heffron; motion passed approving payment of the annual invoice from General Code renewing online document management maintenance to eCode360 another year – verify line item number from Hotaling, it was budgeted for 2025 renewal. Discussion was had regarding how eCode360 works with the website; Cindy to ensure up to date to be ready when new website is live, freeing up space for other uploaded items.

Audio / Video Recording of TWP meetings policy, TABLED until next Board of Supervisors meeting 8/13/25 to ensure most recent version is one reviewing.

Discussion was had regarding beginning budget sessions; first budget workshop scheduled for Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 9am.

Discussion was had regarding the Roadway Management Conference being held in Ocean City MD in October. Stocks raised concern of the information being geared / directed more toward road maintenance / conditions in the Mid-Atlantic Region and little toward the NE PA area; he would rather attendance be at the PSATS Public Works Expo in December 2025. The PSATS Public Works Expo will be on the agenda for discussion at the next Board of Supervisors meeting 8/13/25.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed for Ed Reid to attend the PA Floodplain Managers Annual Conference in the amount of \$175 for registration and lodging from 9/14-9/16/25.

Personnel – to be discussed in Executive Session.

Correspondence / Information:

Discussion was had regarding the progress of the website – no update. Noted.

FCC Radio Station License, renewal approved – expires 8/2034. Noted.

Ford Extended Service Plan – plan option of extended service are being looked into by Chief Clink for the new unit purchased in May 2025. Noted.

Chairwoman Heffron took the board into Executive Session at 7:05 PM,  
for legal/personnel.

Supervisor Freeland exited the meeting at 7:40 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 7:52 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore;  
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Meagan Carling  
Athens Township Secretary