

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

August 13, 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 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: None

Athens Twp. Planning Commission: No representative in attendance.

Correspondence from GreenKey Solar Development regarding their potential preliminary land development approval was discussed. GreenKey plans to meet with the Planning Committee Monday September 8th for plan review and if it is recommended for preliminary approval, GreenKey would like to have it reviewed by the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on Wednesday, September 10th so as they are able to attend both meetings the same week. The BOS agreed to add GreenKey to the agenda if in fact they are recommended for approval by the Planning Committee on September 8th 2025.

Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.: No representative in attendance – no business to discuss.

Athens Twp. Parks Commission: No representative in attendance – no business to discuss.

Athens Twp. Public Works Dept.:

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

Discussion was had regarding the financials received from Dave Fokken with Asphalt Zipper; TABLED – will revisit at a future BOS meeting or budget workshop / special meeting, giving time to review the figures.

Discussion was had regarding the process for repairs needed on the Miller Road Bridge and the three quotes for those repairs received by Larson Design Group were reviewed.

On motion of Moore, seconded by Heffron; motion passed to accept the quote for repairs from Vermilya Construction in the amount of \$16,500 from Act 13 fund (439.702), to approve the required DEP emergency permit after reviewed by LDG for accuracy, and to authorize the contractor to begin repair work immediately – motion is contingent upon any / all easements and permissions obtained prior to start of repairs.

Moore Road Bridge strengthening project “completion certificate” was received. Noted.

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Discussion was had regarding recent correspondence from PennDOT informing the Township of their ability to bundle the permanent replacements of Moore Road Bridge and Miller Road Bridge; both will be on a single engineering agreement and a single construction contract – constructing one right after the other by the same contractor. The project reimbursement agreement will be sent to the Township within the next month or so, PennDOT will then advertise and select a consultant to design both bridges. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the delay to start roadwork on Erin Road. Stocks needs to have a meeting with the contractor, he is concerned about the drying time not being enough based on the estimated start / completion times he was given for beginning work on August 28th and finishing on August 29th 2025. Stocks will keep the BOS updated as things progress; Carling will send a press release to the newspaper / radio noting the new dates for the roadwork.

Discussion was had regarding the Murray Creek Road Bridge preservation project. This project is expected to come to completion on Friday, August 15th 2025; reopening the road for regular traffic use. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the condition / inspection of the roads performed this past Monday, August 11th 2025 by Steve Kehoe – PennDOT Municipal Services Specialist. Kehoe's summary stated: "I was not able to review every road in the township yesterday 8/11/25, but tried to focus on some of the many heavily traveled / problematic routes to get a general overview of roads and conditions. In short, I found Athens TWP roadways to be in fair condition and within the states liquid fuel guidelines...One of the biggest improvements I noticed is amount of work that HAS been schedule/completed in the last two years...With this years two projects tackling a very problematic Erin Rd and also working on numerous streets in town. This also does not take into account the work from the township road crew...the township is making strides in the right direction...major changes in the direction of a municipality do not happen overnight, they often take years. But with a board of supervisors and Roadmaster / road crew that have a clear direction they are working towards, the changes will become evident to residents. I hope Athens Twp continues to move in the right direction with maintaining their good roads and also performing road improvements / upgrades to seal coat or asphalt on other roads as the township budget allows."

The Board of Supervisors has scheduled a "Roads Trip" for October in order to help with the budgeting of 2026 roadwork options being proposed.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to authorize the permit registration for the preliminary stream crossing culvert design per the plans outlined in the "GP-11 Application and Hydraulic Design Package for Wildwood Road Stream Crossing Project" document presented by BCCD / Jonathan VanNoy.

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Discussion was had regarding the purchase order for tires from Tallmadge Tire. Stocks explained the buy-back program Tallmadge offers (saving \$4000 on this proposed order), option for reconditioned wheels, reasoning behind proposed tire option and other local vendors pricing / offers. Stocks mentioned Tallmadge will be providing information for a yearly tire program option to keep on a rotation for spring / winter needs; this will be presented at a later BOS meeting for review.

On motion of Moore, seconded by Freeland; motion passed to approve the purchase order for tires / recon wheels from Tallmadge Tire in the amount of \$7,905.44 (which was discounted by \$4000 for used tire buy-back) from general fund (437.000).

Discussion was had regarding Stocks approved request for reallocation of liquid fuels funds for “major equipment (430.740)” to be moved to “materials (438.200)”.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve \$110,000 to be reallocated from liquid fuels “equipment” to liquid fuels “materials” as determined by Stocks and Hotaling.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed authorizing participation in Bradford County Road Sign Replacement Program, Stocks to determine needs and submit the list by September 12th 2025 deadline.

Athens Twp. Police Dept.: Chief Clink was available to represent the Police Department.

Discussion was had regarding the 2016 Chevy Tahoe - Police Department vehicle outgoing from fleet, ongoing issues and high mileage are a concern to use it in another Township capacity/dept. On motion of Reagan, seconded by Moore; motion passed to retire the 2016 Chevy Tahoe Police Dept. unit and post for sale on Municibid.

Minutes: On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 7/30/2025; Reagan abstained – he was not in attendance.

Consider / Discuss

Discussion was had regarding the condition of the Township Zoning vehicle and options for replacement; although funds were budgeted there is also a grant application for a new unit still being reviewed / to award in October or November 2025. TABLED – until the grant awards are announced; mechanic to assess any current issues.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve two members of the Public Works Department attendance to the PSATS Public Works Expo in Pocono Manor PA on December 15th & 16th 2025. Stocks to discuss with his employees and relay who is going to Carling for registration by August 19th 2025.

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

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Correspondence / Information

Hotaling provided figures reflecting the first month of banking detail from changes made to the accounts to accrue more interest. Discussion was had and increases noted.

Valley Joint Sewer Authority, 2024 Chapter 94 Report was reviewed. Noted.

Western Bradford County COG, July 2025 BC EMS power-point reviewed, August 2025 Dinner Meeting Agenda received and attendance to the dinner meeting to be submitted by Friday August 15th 2025. Noted.

LTAP Virtual Class: ASPHALT ROAD MAINTENANCE, 8/19/25 8am-12pm. Stocks encourages attendance to all virtual / in-person classes, as time allows. Noted.

Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into Executive Session at 6:43 PM,
for personnel – staff.

Supervisor Freeland excused himself from the remainder of the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Supervisor Moore excused himself from the remainder of the meeting at 7:52 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 8:03 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak;
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Carling
Athens Township Secretary