

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
September 28th, 2022 5 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Supervisors present were Kirstie Lake, Christine Vough, and Alan Burgess. Solicitor John Thompson and secretary Michelle Rude were also in attendance. Tressa led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. John Thompson then swore in Bonnie Petruschak as Susan Seck's replacement as the fifth member of the board.

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to add the opening of the bids for the overlook to the agenda. One bid was received from ProCon Contracting, LLC for the amount of \$22,500. John read the bid, reviewed it, and advised that everything was in order. On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to accept the bid.

Voice of the Residents: Ken Martz from EOM, representing Gen On, wanted to know why their request to change from residential suburban to agricultural was denied. John explained that the applicant did not meet its burden in the hearing. Ken stated that they were not asking for conditional use for the property at the time and John explained that the burden that wasn't met was as to why agricultural use is more beneficial to the township than residential suburban. Ken asked if they could bring it before the board again and John stated that there is a time restriction but as long as that is met he is welcome to do so.

Richard Bean was present for the Township Parks Committee. Eagle Scout Andrew Defrost of Troop 4018 will install a kayak rack at Tozers Landing. Scout Chris Defrost will be replacing the shingles on pavilion 10 at RTP for his Eagle project. The estimated cost is \$1400. The Parks Commission met on Tuesday, September 27th to have a masterplan meeting for Tozer's Landing and it went well. They have applied to Chesapeake for a \$10,000 grant to cover the costs however they never heard back so they don't think they were approved. There are 8 large trees that are dying at the Park and they are getting quotes to have them safely removed. The Commission wants to set a rental fee for Tioga County to put a tower at RTP for \$6,500/year. Their next meeting will be on Oct. 24th.

Eric Benjamin represented the ATVFD. He asked the supervisors about doing an ordinance for reflective address numbers to be put on mailboxes to make it easier for the emergency services to locate homes when they are on calls. Tressa told him that he should check with the post office first. He stated that they would be closing Tozer's Landing this Saturday night at sunset to prepare for a training they will be holding there on Sunday. He also stated that in light of issues that Litchfield's Fire Department faced recently, they would like to schedule a meeting to sit with the board and put together a contract that clearly spells out their duties. The supervisors will look at dates and get back to them. John will work on drafting a contract for review. They are hosting their annual Fire Company Banquet on October 8th at 5 pm and invited the board members to attend. They have decommissioned one of their tankers and currently have it out for bids to be scrapped.

Marion Carling represented Planning Commission. She presented the board with the maps and documentation for:

- 1) **Horton, Roberta/Barbara** – a 2-lot subdivision located on Glen Valley Road and recommended final plan approval with one (1) deficiency. They need waiver from the supervisors for easement width or need to have continuous 50’ of easement. Scott Williams with Butler Surveying answered questions concerning the property and explained the need for the waiver they were requesting. On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to approve the waiver request. On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, motion passed to approve the final plan for this subdivision.
- 2) **Dandy Mini Mart # 19** – a preliminary land development located on White Wagon Road. Recommend preliminary plan approval with ten (10) deficiencies. Willie Rowe, Dandy Project Manager, and Joshua Woodward from Hunt Engineering answered questions concerning the property, the upcoming projects, and the deficiencies. On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, motion passed to grant preliminary plan approval contingent upon providing setback lines on all relevant sheets for the final LDP, adding #5, #6, #9, and #10 from the check list to the plans (as an overlay) as well as addressing all of Skip Schneider’s previously submitted comments.
- 3) **Cameron Group, LLC.** – a preliminary/final land development located on Elmira Street. Recommend preliminary/final plan approval with five (5) deficiencies. Kevin Langan with Cameron Group answered questions concerning the project. On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to grant only preliminary plan approval contingent upon providing will serve letters for electric and gas, providing a hard copy of the post storm report, and a meeting between John, Eddie, Skip, and the Cameron Group successfully resolving the outstanding storm water issue.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, motion passed to schedule a budget meeting for October 10th and October 29th from 8 am to noon. Michelle will advertise.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to allow Kirstie to apply for the Local Law Enforcement Support Grant.

On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to pay the monthly bills as submitted. A complete listing of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to amend the approval of the monthly bills to include using \$12,720 from ACT 13 to pay the balance on the Hawbaker statement for Pennsylvania Ave.

On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, motion passed to add the minutes from the special meeting on September 13th to the minute approval list.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to approve the minutes for August 31st and September 13th, 2022. Bonnie abstained.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, motion passed to accept the monthly reports, excluding Roads as there wasn’t a report submitted.

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

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Athens Township Supervisors
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Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into executive session at 6:54 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:03 PM.

On motion of Tressa second by Kirstie, motion passed to add the following items to the agenda: approve the MOU for Chuck Wright and allow John to forward it on to him for review and approve the hiring of Chuck Write per the terms of the MOU starting on October 3rd, 2022.

On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to approve the MOU draft and allow John Thompson to forward it on to Chuck Wright for review.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, motion passed to hire Chuck Wright, per the terms of the MOU, with the physical start date of October 3rd, 2022.

There being no further business, on motion of Christine, second by Kirstie, motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Rude
Athens Township Administrative Secretary