

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
Budget Meeting 6 PM November 10, 2014

Chairman Cheryl Wood-Walter called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck and Ronald Reagan. George Ballenstedt had a prior commitment and Christine Vough arrived at 6:30 PM. Secretary Robin Smith and Treasurer Ruth Casterline were also in attendance.

Voice of the Residents: None

Keith Stackhouse and Bob Birks were present from the fire company. They had received our letter requesting the audit. Keith said, to his knowledge, they have never had an audit done. He is concerned that they will be unable to get an audit done by January and the funds will not be distributed until the audit is done. He stated that the fire company was “fined” because they did not submit their monthly reports as required in the contract. Susan asked who ‘fined’ them and Keith said the township withheld their money until the reports were received. They “live from check to check”. He also wants to know who is going to pay for this audit. Discussion was held. They had submitted a financial statement last year and Keith asked if that is what we want. Susan asked who does their financials and he said his wife, Jean, does them currently. Susan said the financial statement they submitted did not show what income was received. Keith said they can do that. They have a CPA do their 990 tax return and the Board would accept that as an ‘audit’. Robin said the contract should be updated to show any changes. Keith would like to have the plowing of the parking lot by the road crew added to the contract so they don’t have to deal with the comments when they’re asked to do it. Robin suggested they draft the changes they would like to see and submit it to the Board for review. Keith said they will do that. He also asked if the Board has made any decision on the fire company’s request for Act 13 funds, and they have not.

Robin had not prepared an agenda, but had several items for the Board. Bradford County Conservation District has granted our 2013 and 2014 Dirt and Gravel Road projects (both Murphy Road) an extension through December 31, 2015.

There was also an accident with the pickup truck with a cost of \$3,053.49. The adjuster has come and it has been submitted to our insurance. We have a \$500 deductible, so they will pay the balance.

Robin received a letter from Nationwide Insurance that they have taken over Harleysville Insurance. There were supposed to be forms enclosed for us to review and sign, but nothing was included. Nationwide will give us a proposal, and if we do NOT accept it, our insurance will be terminated at the end of the year. Robin will get more information on this.

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Robin asked if Larry Alderson had left her the 3 packets she needed from the pension board meeting. Cheryl said she has all that and she will get it to me along with the notes from the meeting.

The request for a street light at W. Lockhart St. and Pennsylvania Ave. was discussed. The people who requested this had told Robin that there were street lights at all the intersections from W. Lockhart to Pennsylvania, but Robin checked on that and there were none. No action was taken at this time.

Robin advised the Board that she had sent a letter to the winning bidder of the 1988 Mack truck, advising him that he had 10 days from the receipt of the letter to pay the balance due on the truck or we would assume he forfeits his deposit and we will rebid the item. The 10 days will be up on November 12th.

The budget workshop commenced. Christine arrived at 6:30. The question was asked as to whether we can use Liquid Fuels money for equipment we rent or any work we contract out. Robin will check on that.

Susan told Christine that at our last meeting Aaron Brotzman and Dan Knolles were here and said Christine told them that she was in charge of road "on paper", but Susan and Ron were doing roads. Both Susan and Ron said they are not in charge of roads. Susan told Christine that Aaron proceeded to rip her and Ron a new one. Ruth told Susan that she handled them very well. Christine said she did say she was named in charge of roads, but that's just on paper. She said she was just being honest.

The budget workshop continued. Christine said she would like us to consider budgeting the Act 13 funds for next year. The Board was not in favor of that because we may not get any funds next year.

On motion of Susan, second by Ron, it was unanimous to transfer the amount needed to balance the budget – approximately \$157,202 – from the Sinking Loan Fund to General Fund.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Susan, it was unanimous to move approximately \$120,955 from the Sinking Loan Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund and divide it between the Police Car and the Highway Tractor.

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There being no further business, on motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Secretary