

## ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

February 25, 2015 7:00 PM

Chairman Cheryl Wood-Walter called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck, George Ballenstedt and Ronald Reagan. Secretary Robin Smith and Treasurer Ruth Casterline were in attendance. Solicitor John Thompson would be late, and Christine Vough was absent.

### Voice of the Residents:

Jim Cole was present as a resident but asked if he could be delayed until John Thompson arrived.

Ralph Blowers asked if Empire Access was now available in the township. George said he had spoken with them and they should be into Athens Twp. by June.

David Steinfelt asked if the surveys were back that were sent out for the Comprehensive Plan update. Ron said the information is still being compiled by Bradford County Planning.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed by the Board. Cheryl gave kudos to Ruth for purchasing our Quickbooks update while it was on sale, saving us about 40%.

Richard Bean was present for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Richard is still working on grants. They did receive a \$1000 grant from First Community Foundation Partnership of PA. They will also be reapplying to the CFA Marcellus Legacy Fund and will be applying for additional grant funds from DCNR. They will have a conference call on Monday with DCNR to discuss Phase One. The survey is complete. The Model Airplane Club will be clearing the large trees the weekend of March 7<sup>th</sup>. The inmates will start on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Bids will go out in early April for Phase One. They will be installing more fencing at the Jim King Memorial Park. Parks inspection will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM – starting at Tozer's Landing Boat Launch.

No one was present to report for Athens Township Authority, but they had submitted two letters of interest for the vacancy on the Board, with a recommendation. On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to appoint Jason Rogers to the Athens Township Authority Board for a term to expire December 31, 2015.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of January 28 and February 16, 2015 as written.

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On motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it passed to approve the February 2, 2015 minutes as written. George abstained as he was not in attendance.

John Thompson arrived at this time.

Jim Cole was present to ask what the status was on the changes to our firearms policy for Tozer's Landing (we had received a letter on this). On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to have Attorney Thompson amend Exhibit A of Chapter 116 of the Athens Township Code to remove the word "Firearm". Discussion was held to possibly replace this with 'No hunting' and 'No target practice'. Jim submitted a copy of a letter from Athens Borough stating they are rescinding their firearms regulations, and gave it to John Thompson for reference.

The Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company (ATVFC) contract was discussed. David DeKay and David Steinfeld were present for ATVFC. It was agreed to leave #8 of the contract to read "tax return" instead of "audit", and change #2 of Appendix A to read, "The township cannot guarantee contributions from Act 13 funds". On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to approve, sign and execute the ATVFC contract for 2015 with the above changes. Dave Steinfeld asked if there was any Act 13 money left from the year 2013. Cheryl said we haven't met to finalize disbursements. Dave asked how much was spent to date and Cheryl gave him the rundown. Robin said she would get the report figures for Dave and email them to him. The Board signed the contract and Robin gave both copies to David DeKay to get ATVFC signatures and return one copy to us with their financial statement for January. Monthly financial statements will be required with each monthly report before the contribution checks will be sent.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to register all 7 Public Works employees for the three LTAP classes to be held here at our building.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to close Pennsylvania Avenue at the request of the Athens Area School District on the following dates and times: May 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 AM to 4 PM for the NTL Track and Field Meet; May 16<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 AM to 6 PM for District IV Track and Field Meet; and for Commencement in June (date and times to be determined).

On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to have Cheryl sign the lease agreement with Athens Area School District for their equipment on our tower.

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On motion of Cheryl, second by Susan, it was unanimous to submit a flood mitigation grant application for one of the projects defined in our Hazard Mitigation Plan. There will be a 15% cash match required.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to have Bradford County Conservation District resubmit the application for Orcutt Creek. They will be doing the work as an educational project.

On motion of Ron, second by Susan, it was unanimous to participate in the COSTARS salt contract for 2015-2016. We will be submitting for 800 tons.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Susan, it was unanimous to sign the renewal agreement for participation in the Federal Surplus program.

On motion of Ron, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve Robin's attendance at her PSATS Resolutions Committee mtg. in Harrisburg on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Chesapeake has requested that the township take over their portion of King Road. They will need to prepare a deed of dedication and forward it to John for review and approval. On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to accept this road contingent upon the deed being filed.

Cheryl told those in attendance that we have finally received approval from PennDOT to remove the "No Turn On Red" sign at the Lowe's intersection. Robin had requested that the fire company remove the sign for us. David DeKay said he will get with Bob Birks to remove the sign.

Discussion was held on the Bradco and Beam Mack invoices. John Thompson will send a letter to Bradco concerning this issue.

Susan had Ray get 3 quotes for the repair of Truck 1 that he hit while backing his truck up. Decatur's Automotive Center came in at \$1,210.93; Gene's Body Shop LLC was \$1,173.42 and Precision Auto Body was \$1,175.51. On motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous NOT to turn this into insurance and to have Precision Auto Body do the repair.

On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to accept the monthly reports as presented.

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On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to pay the monthly bills and the Bradford County Sanitation Committee Assessment invoice in the amount of \$6,345 as submitted. A complete listing of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Susan said Mrs. Munn had been in just prior to the meeting to see what could be done about stray cats in her yard and their meowing under her windows at night. We don't have an ordinance regulating cats, nor do we have a noise ordinance. It would be hard to enforce something like this.

Chairman Wood-Walter took the Board into executive session at 8:44 PM. The secretary was excused at this time and the remaining minutes were taken by Susan Seck. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:33 PM.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to have John draft a letter in regard to a personnel matter.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to have John draft an appropriate letter to Clarity Connect to pay their bill.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to have John draft an ordinance to amend Exhibit A of Chapter 116 of the Athens Township Code to remove the word "firearm".

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to purchase a spare rim and spare tire for the new grader.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Susan, it was unanimous that Ray should receive double-time on holidays and weekends for 2015 and receive regular holiday and overtime pay.

There being no further business, on motion of George, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,