

## ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

August 26, 2015 7 PM

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

Cheryl led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents:

Dave Steinfelt was present for Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company (ATVFC). He said last month he presented a letter from the company requesting Act 13 funds, and hopes that is still on the table. He said if they receive funds, they will put the money towards the loan for the tower truck, which was purchased as a direct result of the gas industry impact. Dave also said they applied for a PA Department of Forestry grant which they did receive. They will be using those funds to make their brush truck more adequate and safer.

Fire Chief Bob Birks was also present and updated the Board on the request for a hydrant on Cole Street. Bob met with Randy Simmons of Aqua to see if there would be a suitable site for an additional hydrant, but there was not. Bob recommends two hydrants be installed in both Chelsea Park and in Airport Seniors Community. These are both private entities, so the expense of hydrant installation and rental would be the responsibility of the respective parks. Bob also was concerned that Airport Seniors is serviced with a 4" water line and there is a possibility that the line could collapse because it is not adequate. Robin will contact both parks with our request for 2 hydrants in each park. Bob also remarked that the fire company would like to see hydrants in the new Trehab development, and would like to see sprinklers as well.

Bob also met with the ISO people and should have the numbers back soon. He said the rating will go down – the lower the rating the better the insurance rates will be for township residents. They will also be doing these reviews every 3 years now instead of every 15 years. Our current designation is 9 for our rural area and 6 for town. He expects both of those to go down.

The fire company is also looking to restart the auxiliary. They want it to be for people who are interested in helping the fire company with fundraising or other non-active business, but don't want to join the company as a fire fighter. They are looking for someone to recruit people for this, and once they have that in place, they will be making people aware – through their annual fundraising letter, their Facebook page and their website.

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The Board reviewed the Treasurer's report. Ruth was present but there were no questions on her report. Item #6 would be discussed later. On motion of Christine, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve all the monthly bills as presented. A complete listing of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to have Ruth register for the PSATS webinar, "Employment Law Checklist for Municipal Employers" on September 16, 2015 from noon – 1:30 PM at a cost of \$30.

Richard Bean was present for Parks. They are still waiting to hear on the DCNR Phase 2 grant. Zack Smith will be building 6 picnic tables as his Eagle Scout project. Lumber has been ordered for 12 tables for the first pavilion. M.R. Dirt is on schedule with the project. The Commission will need to come up with a road name for the new road. The pavilion will cost an additional \$12,500. M.R. Dirt will credit the Park Commission \$2,860 if they can find volunteers to put the roof on the new pavilion. Material will cost approx. \$1,500. They have accepted the quote of BestWay Fence in the amount of \$6,500 for the fence installation in East Athens. They did not receive the grant from the Bradford County Impact Fee Program. The chain across Bobcat Road is working well for our gatekeeper to keep people out of the lower level when he's closing the park.

The date for the NHS Bradford Conditional Use Hearing was set for October 1, 2015 at 6 PM. John Thompson will do the legal notice and schedule a stenographer for the hearing. Budget workshop dates were set for Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> and Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, both at 6 PM.

Susan reported for Roads. They have worked Farr Road and Pump Station Hill Road. They need to do Cole Street. On motion of Susan, second by George, it passed to ratify the purchase of the 2000 Sterling dump truck with a one-year drive train labor only warranty – customer supplies parts, with Susan, George, Christine and Cheryl voting 'yes' and Ron voting 'no'. Susan said we should have the truck in the next couple weeks. On motion of Susan, second by George, it passed to rescind the motion to bid for a used chassis that will fit our box that was made at our July 29, 2015 meeting. Christine abstained as she was not at that meeting.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to ratify the hiring of Eva Fletcher and Brandon Fauver on August 19, 2015 as recycling substitutes at minimum wage on an as-needed basis.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Christine, it was unanimous to approve, sign and execute the 2015 Bradford County Community Economic Development Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for document management.

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On motion of Ron, second by George, it passed to ratify the following motion that was made on August 5, 2015: “On motion of Ron, second by George, it passed to grant preliminary and final plan approval to the Verizon Wireless tower land development off Murray Creek Road as submitted”. Ron, George, Cheryl and Christine voted ‘yes’, with Susan voting ‘no’.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to have the fire company remove the flags from the Route 199 bridge permanently. (thank you, ATVFC!!)

Robin advised the Board that the quarterly Emergency Management training this month was about NIMS (National Incident Management System). Elected Officials who oversee emergency management activities are required to have the following courses at a minimum: ICS-100, ICS-700. It is also recommended that they have ICS-200, IS-702 and IS-800. If we are not compliant with NIMS, we will not be eligible for grant funds. Robin gave everyone the information to access the courses online.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it passed to approve the minutes of July 29, 2015 – with Christine abstaining as she was not in attendance; and the minutes of August 20, 2015 – with Cheryl abstaining as she did not attend the meeting.

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

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Chairman Wood-Walter took the Board into executive session at 8:07 PM for personnel. The secretary was excused at this time and the remaining minutes were taken by Ronald Reagan. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:32 PM.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to replace the speed limit signs on Elmira Street to reflective.

On motion of Susan, second by Christine, it passed to pay for the used 2000 Sterling truck out of Act 13 funds. Ron voted no.

On motion of Susan, second by George, it was unanimous to advertise the sale of Truck 3 for our September 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, and to remove all references to “Athens Township” from the truck.

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On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to give \$30,000 of Act 13 money to the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM. There was no motion made.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith, Secretary