

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
November 18, 2015 7 PM

Chairman Cheryl Wood-Walter called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Supervisors also present were Sue Seck, George Ballenstedt, Christine Vough and Ron Reagan. Attorney John Thompson and Secretary Robin Smith were also in attendance. Cheryl led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. The board welcomed Scouts from Epiphany Troop 17 who were here to observe our meeting.

Voice of the Residents: None

On motion of George, second by Christine, it was unanimous to pay the annual invoices for the Daily Review and for the Western Bradford COG.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to pay the monthly bills as presented. A complete listing of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

No one was able to attend from Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company, but Dave Steinfelt had sent an email to Robin for the meeting. The fire company had a successful ham and turkey party. Only one person showed up at the auxiliary meeting (George Ballenstedt). They still need more help for fundraising and clerical work. They have been very busy with fires again and car accidents. Dave thinks the fire company would be willing to do something for the lighting of the star event, even if it's cooking hotdogs or passing out coffee and hot chocolate. He would like us to let him know what we would like them to do. The fire company also received their new ISO rating, which is 05/5Y and will be effective 2-2-16.

Richard Bean reported for the Parks Commission. He has 4 Eagle projects in the works. The park expansion project Phase I is almost complete and looks great. They will leave the pavilion natural color. They are also looking at solar power for that area. DCNR will inspect when Phase I is complete. There was a request for the star to be put up earlier, but the Park Commission decided it should not be put up prior to the end of hunting season. The 'Lighting of the Star' event will be December 13th at 5:30 PM here at the municipal building, with Larry Green lighting the star up at Round Top. Cheryl will get the details together for a press release. The Commission is considering selling their 20 acres on Dunkley Hill Road, because it has not been used since they acquired it. The board will discuss this further. The parasailing group found a surveyor's pin where they are clearing trees, so they are talking with that landowner. Barry's last day was November 13th. The Park will close on November 21st. Pavilion rates will increase for 2017. Richard also has invoices that need to be paid now and has requested to borrow from the budget until his funds are received. On motion of Ron, second by Christine, it was unanimous to allow the outstanding Park invoices to be paid with Act 13 funds, and then repaid when their grant funds and franchise funds are received. Ron asked if they are still having problems with the engineering company. Richard said they are, but he will talk to John after DCNR approves Phase I.

Clif Cheeks presented the Gateway Commons 2-lot subdivision for review and approval. Christine asked for clarification as to whether there would be taxes generated from this development. Dave Young was present for the developer and said he's not sure – that would be a question for the developer. He knows there are tax credits, and some taxes are paid, but he doesn't know at

what level they are paid. We can ask that question at the land development review. On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision, and to sign the sewage module.

Dave Young said 2 waivers were granted at the Conditional Use hearing, but he would like three more waivers to be acted upon tonight. This is something that should be done at the land development review, and we don't have comments back from our review engineer yet. Dave is requesting the following waivers:

- 1) Our ordinance has a higher formula for calculating rainfall data than NOAA's formula. He would like to use the NOAA formula and requests a waiver from the ordinance requirements.
- 2) Our ordinance requires maximum slopes of 3:1 and he requests a waiver from the requirements of our ordinance to 2:1 slopes in 2 areas.
- 3) Our ordinance requires 4' shoulders on the access drive and he would like a waiver to only have 1' shoulders. He said trailer parks don't have to have 4' shoulders so he is requesting this waiver from the ordinance requirements.

Ron asked how they will maintain the 2:1 slopes and Dave said they are very small areas. Ron wants to make sure our engineer is okay with these changes and said this will be taken care of at the land development review. Dave said he would like the waivers taken care of tonight so he won't have to revise his design if they are not granted, as they would like land development approval at our December 16th meeting. On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it passed to grant all three waiver requests contingent upon our review engineer's comments regarding the stormwater. Christine voted no.

Next was Sayre Health Phase II final land development approval located at 151 Keefer Lane. Most of the deficiencies have been taken care of. Some of the light poles came in damaged, and they will be installed as soon as replacements arrive. There is also some grass planting that will need to be done in the spring. On motion of Ron, second by Sue, it was unanimous to grant final land development approval contingent upon the remaining lights being installed and the grass planted in the spring.

The Macafee 6-lot subdivision was presented by Chris Gilbert. Robin said Ed had reminded her that Lot 6 and Lot 3 needed the rear setbacks corrected. Ron said Lot 3 is correct but Lot 6 will have to be corrected. Discussion was held on the holding tanks. They will need to put in the deeds that those parcels within 150' of the sewer line will need to hook to the public sewer when it becomes available, and pumping agreements will be needed for the holding tanks. John will draft something for that. On motion of Ron, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2015-06 to complete the sewage module for this subdivision. On motion of Ron, second by Christine, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to this subdivision, contingent upon the setbacks being corrected for Lot 6, and having the solicitor provide language of inclusion when the deeds are transferred.

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No one was present for Athens Township Authority.

Sue reported for the highway department. The guys are preparing for winter. They have widened Macafee and Murphy Roads, replaced some bad sluices and done some tree removal. George asked how Cole Street is holding up and Sue said very well. Ron asked if she was going to use snowfence this year. Sue said she had inmates lined up to come next week, but now they've decided to just do a couple spots to see how it works. Cheryl and Ron volunteered their land for this. Sue would also like to do the top of Murphy Road and Murray Creek Road by Hiley's.

On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to allow Larry to purchase a new 4WD police car with funds allocated from the Capitol Reserve fund. He will probably order in December or January.

No action was taken on the dissolution of the NBA because Attorney Jon Foster will be preparing one ad that will include all the parties instead of us each doing our own.

On motion of Christine, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to advertise the proposed 2016 budget of all funds for adoption at our December 16th meeting.

The Christmas luncheon will be held on December 24th at noon.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to have Robin purchase a 20-year plaque for John Fedorchak.

On motion of Ron, second by Sue, it was unanimous to keep our meeting dates as the last Wednesday of the month, exception being May 18th.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it passed to approve the minutes of October 28th and November 10, 2015 as written. George abstained from the November 10th minutes as he was unable to attend.

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.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to pay Ed's ASFPM membership for 2016.

Cheryl took the Board into executive session at 8:24 PM for pending litigation and personnel. The secretary was excused at this time and the remaining minutes were taken by Ron Reagan. The regular meeting reconvened at 9:27 PM.

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On motion of Cheryl, second by Sue, it was unanimous to have John contact Empire Access for an accounting of the basis for the franchise fee check forwarded.

There being no further business, on motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Secretary