

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
March 29, 2017 7 PM

Chairman Cheryl Wood-Walter called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck, Christine Vough and George Ballenstedt. Solicitor John Thompson and Secretary Robin Smith were also in attendance. Cheryl led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents: None

Cheryl expressed thanks to the road crew for all their hard work during the last snowstorm. She thanked them as Chairman and also as a resident.

Auditor Chairman Bill Morris presented the audit report to the Board, stating this audit shows the township is growing and growing. He told the Board they should be thankful they have a great treasurer in Ruth Casterline. Cheryl thanked Bill for the report.

No one was present for the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Ruth had requested a motion to ratify bills paid since the last meeting. The Board discussed a motion made at the January 3, 2017 organization meeting that should cover this for 2017, but will include it in the motion tonight at Ruth's request. On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to pay the monthly bills as presented, and to ratify any invoices paid since February 22nd. A complete listing of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

Ron Reagan arrived at 7:10 PM.

Robin said Ruth needs an answer from the Board as to whether or not they are in agreement with the PTO log sheets for the employees that she passed out for the last meeting. On motion of Christine, second by Susan, it passed to approve the distribution of all the PTO log sheets for 2017. Ron voted no, as he was against the change in the vacation calculation for the police department.

Robin presented Ruth's Treasurer's Bond (\$2,445) and her own financial bond (\$7595). In calling the bond company, Robin was told that her bond is higher because she is the Township Secretary and is covered by a Public Official's Bond. After much discussion, the bond company told Robin if she was given the title of "Assistant Treasurer" (to more accurately reflect what her bond is for), her bond rate would drop to the same as Ruth's. Robin said this would save the township \$5150 per year. On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to appoint Robin as Assistant Treasurer.

Page Two
Athens Township Supervisors
March 29, 2017

Richard Bean reported for the Parks Commission. They have given Insinger until April 21st due to the weather. The playground equipment is ready to go up. They have not heard anything from Mustang Carriers concerning the \$3000 damage to the Tozer's Landing sign. Young Lungs At Play signs have been received and will be installed by Barry and the inmates. The body work has been completed on the Park truck. Electric installation for the park expansion has been delayed because of the snow and very wet ground. Inmates will start Tuesday, and Barry is now back to work. Park inspection is scheduled to start at Tozer's Landing at 9 AM on April 8th. The Park will open May 13th. Bids for Phase III will be going out. Our engineer is running behind schedule and that will affect the completion date.

Robin presented the non-building waiver for Milan Energy LLC's cell tower in Sheshequin Township for approval. This tower is located on a parcel off Bradley Road - the greater majority of which is Sheshequin Township - and a very small portion is in Athens Township, with the parcel being taxed in Athens Township. Bradford County Sanitation Committee has sent a non-building waiver to both townships to sign. On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to approve, sign and execute the non-building waiver for this tower.

On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-03 eliminating employee contributions to the pension plans for 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Larry has requested an increase in the internet 'speed' as currently the officers have problems uploading their reports before they time-out. He has money in his budget for the increase. This will improve the internet in the entire building. On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to have Larry arrange this upgrade, and to have it paid for from his budget.

Robin presented 2 quotes from Webster's for roof repair over the police department (\$7478) and interior work to repair where the leaks were (\$948). The roof quote has an Option A and an Option B - either for the same price. On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to accept both proposals. Larry will contact Webster's and make the decision on which option to do, and to schedule the work.

Page Three
Athens Township Supervisors
March 29, 2017

On motion of Christine, second by Ron, it was unanimous to have Ed Reid attend the Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop at PEMA HQ in Harrisburg on April 17th and 18th, and to pay for his reasonable expenses for hotel and meals.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it passed to adopt ORDINANCE 2017-01 for Non-Uniform Pension Plan restatement of the definition of “part-time”. Susan abstained from the vote as she is a member of the Non-Uniform Pension Plan.

Susan requested permission to put the dump truck we just replaced on Municibid with a reserve of \$22,000 in place. Discussion was held. Ron asked what was wrong with it and Susan said it has leaks in the engine and the transmission. Susan will get Robin a spec for the truck, plow, spreader and everything else with it. On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to put the truck on Municibid with the \$22,000 reserve and to put that money back into the account we drew from to purchase the 2005 Volvo.

On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to send the highway department to the Vestal Asphalt breakfast on April 10th in Windham. Susan will RSVP for the department.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Christine, it was unanimous to send the highway department to the Dirt and Gravel Road Program refresher course at the Best Western in Sayre on April 19th and 20th. Susan will register everyone.

Susan presented information on a vehicle undercoating process that Decatur’s is doing. She said they will warranty for the life of the vehicle if it’s done every year (new vehicles). She would like to do that for the dump trucks and pickup trucks. The Board said this is something to look into further for our newer vehicles.

On motion of Susan, second by Christine, it was unanimous to hire Gene Millard as a Heavy Equipment Operator at the current contract rate for new hires, with a 1-year probation period, conditioned upon passing all clearances and effective upon the completion of all employment paperwork.

Bradford County Emergency Services had requested a total of each municipality’s total storm costs to see if we would meet the threshold for federal disaster aid. Our total for the highest 48-hour period was \$23,158.32. They will update us when all the data for the County is compiled.

Page Four
Athens Township Supervisors
March 29, 2017

Robin reported that our one buyout application was not funded in this round.

Robin asked if everyone had the chance to do their road inspection and they said they will have their lists for our meeting on April 19th.

On motion of Christine, second by Ron, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of February 22, 2017 as written.

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 8:05 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The secretary was excused at this time and the remaining minutes were taken by Ronald Reagan.

The flags on the Chemung River bridge need to be replaced due to being in poor condition. Christine will look into it.

There being no further business, on motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary