

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
November 20, 2019 6 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Kirstie Lake called the meeting to order at 6 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck, George Ballenstedt, Tressa Heffron and Christine Vough. Solicitor John Thompson and Secretary Robin Smith were also in attendance. Kirstie led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents: None

Richard Bean reported for the Parks Commission. Construction of the ATV trail grant was inspected by Richard and Engineer Skip Schneider. Workmanship was good, but there was only one bear-proof trash can provided and there were supposed to be two. They will be installing the second can on November 29th. We still have not received the 4 tables from Rock Oak Lumber. The OHV club will be painting them. The club has not given Robin the number/type of trail signs to order that they will be putting up. Once everything is complete, we can call DCNR for an inspection. Barry's last day was November 15th. Round Top will close November 23rd and open after deer season for skiing on days when there is snow. The star will be taken up to Round Top December 6th, and the fire company is being asked to put it up December 8th. Cohen Law Group has been contracted to audit the Spectrum franchise. The supervisors signed a new franchise agreement last year changing the payment from quarterly to annual.

George reported for the fire company. He said they will be having elections in December, and their reorganization meeting will be the first Sunday in January. They had a Ham and Turkey party November 16th and did well with that.

The Board reviewed the proposed Noise Ordinance. Robin asked if there would be an Ag exemption for Section 4F? John said he would speak to the ordinance update committee to possibly address that in the Zoning Ordinance update. Robin asked if there is a permit template, who would be issuing the permits, and if there would be a fee? John has a template; the Chief of Police would continue to be the person to issue the permits; and there would be no fee. Christine was not comfortable with the jail time of "up to 90 days", which was also discussed. It was agreed to change the 90 days to 30 days. On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to have John advertise the ordinance for adoption at our December 18th meeting with the changes above.

On motion of Tressa, second by George, it was unanimous to adopt the Digital Resource Use Policy for all employees as reviewed.

On motion of Christine, second by Susan, it was unanimous to reappoint Marion Carling to the Planning Commission for a term to expire October 30, 2023.

Page Two
Athens Township Supervisors
November 20, 2019

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to keep our regular meeting dates as the last Wednesday of every month in 2020, with the exceptions of November 18th and December 16th.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to have Ed Reid renew his membership in the National Association of State Floodplain Managers for 2020 in the amount of \$165.

On motion of Kirstie, second by George, it was unanimous to set the Christmas Luncheon for December 23rd at noon.

Susan presented the 3 quotes for the Vetter Road relocation listed in the meeting agenda, and one additional quote from M. R. Dirt in the amount of \$3,800. She then stated that work was stopped on the bank stabilization project there because the bank was sliding and a crack appeared in the roadway. She called the engineer from Moody to come out and he said the road needs to be closed immediately because the soil material is saturated and highly unstable. Susan has closed the road, and tomorrow wants to start moving the lane over. The bids received did not seem to all agree as to what work was being requested. The situation has also changed to an emergency circumstance. On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to reject all bids on the grounds that the circumstances have changed since the quotes were requested, and due to the emergency circumstances, authorize Susan to seek telephonic quotes to immediately address the situation.

On motion of Kirstie, second by George, it was unanimous to authorize Susan Seck to enter into a contract with the lowest responsible bidder that can respond immediately for the work stated above.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie it was unanimous to approve the minutes of October 30, 2019 as written.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it passed to approve the minutes of November 6, 2019 as written. George and Susan both abstained from the vote because they were not in attendance.

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

There was no police report and only ½ of the fire report (the financials). On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to accept the Building Permits report and the Road report as submitted.

Page Three
Athens Township Supervisors
November 20, 2019

The Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce membership invoice was tabled until our December meeting.

Kirstie took the Board into executive session at 6:53 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:48 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary