

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
December 18, 2019 6 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Kirstie Lake called the meeting to order at 6:03 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:

Jim Secrist was here to thank the Board for doing Vetter Road. The Board thanked him for all the help he gave us on that project.

George reported for the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company. He said they had their regular monthly meeting last Wednesday night. They will be buying a badge ID printer so the members will be able to have ID when they respond to incidents. There will be a Super Bingo in April with a jackpot of \$10,000. Tickets are pre-sale only and he believes they are almost gone already.

Next was the Sayre Valley, LLC 2-lot subdivision at 2900 Elmira Street. The plaza owner, Sayre Valley, LLC, is subdividing the old Kmart portion of the building from the rest of the building, and the corresponding parking lot section. This will be purchased by Guthrie Clinic and used to house clinical services. They had requested a waiver of the 90-day recording fee, but it was determined we do not have the power to grant such a waiver because that regulation is in the Municipalities Planning Code. On motion of George, second by Christine, it was unanimous to grant preliminary and final plan approval to the subdivision.

John Thompson presented the noise ordinance for adoption. He had made the changes the Board had requested. On motion of Tressa, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adopt ORDINANCE 2019-05 as our noise ordinance.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to reappoint Michael Murphy to the Valley Joint Sewer Board for a term to expire 12/31/2024.

On motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to reappoint Steve Sumner to the Athens Township Authority for a term to expire 12/31/2024.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2019-14 setting the millage rate for 2020 at 12 mills.

On motion of George, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2019-15 setting the contribution amount to the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Company at \$100,000 for 2020.

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On motion of Tressa, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2019-16, adopting the budget for 2020 in the amount of \$4,695,848.00.

On motion of Tressa, second by George, it was unanimous to contribute \$500 to Sirens for Santa.

Susan reported for roads. She said the crew is working together well and helping each other out. Vetter Road is done, with plans to top it next year. Guide rail was also discussed.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to approve the minutes of November 20, 2019 with the removal of the sentence under the fire company saying they will have elections next year (elections will not happen for another year).

On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, 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.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to accept the monthly reports as submitted.

On motion of George, second by Tressa, it was unanimous to pay our annual invoice for membership in the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce for 2020 in the amount of \$450.

Chairwoman Lake took the Board into executive session at 6:40 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:17 PM.

On motion of Kirstie, second by George, it was unanimous to have Ruth put the \$87,647.50 received from FEMA in the Act 13 Fund.

Discussion was held as to what expenses would be acceptable for the part time police and the SROs. On motion of Kirstie, second by Christine, it was unanimous that they can use their township credit cards for the following:

- 1) Training approved by the Supervisor who oversees the police department, and the associated expenses.
- 2) Uniforms, boots, and any other necessary expenses, all of which need to be approved by the Supervisor who oversees the police department prior to purchase.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Susan, it was unanimous to have Ruth cut a check in the amount of \$35,000 as a payment on the park loan. The \$35,000 will be repaid to Act 13 by the park commission once the loan is paid off.

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John Thompson advised the Board that he will be raising his hourly rate for solicitor services for 2020 to \$110/hour.

There being no further business, on motion of George, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Athens Township Secretary