

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
April 27, 2022 5 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Supervisors also present were Susan Seck and Alan Burgess. Secretary Michelle Rude was also present. Tressa led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Solicitor John Thompson and Supervisor Christine Vough arrived right after the pledge.

Voice of the Residents:

- Bryan Clymer of 5859 Mile Lane Rd. addressed the board concerning the man camp being converted into a drug rehab facility or a drug safe house. Tressa stated we had not heard anything about a safe house and that the plans have not been brought to the board as of yet, but thanked him for expressing his concerns.
- Nick Jungers of 1003 Orcutt Creek Rd addressed road conditions near his home. Susan stated that the road is part of a FEMA project. She stated that they plan on correcting the section of road that is “sunk in” within the next couple of months.
- Dave Warner of 65 Roosevelt Street addressed the poorly done tar and chip work on his road last year. He wanted to know what was done wrong. Susan explained that one of the 2 contractors that did the work made an error and they were currently working to identify which one was responsible. The responsible party will be correcting the work. His concern was making sure the issue was properly identified prior to repairs to ensure the work is done correctly the second time. He also expressed concerns regarding the removal of their salt/snow markers and Pernell stated that they were in the right-of-way and should be moved back to avoid plow damage. Dave asked if they would be berming the roads and why. Pernell stated that it needed to be done to avoid water building on the roads. Several residents on Roosevelt Street stated that they didn’t have a water issue on their road. Pernell told them he could come out and show them and they requested that he did and asked for a time and date. Susan stated that they would not berm Roosevelt Street and they would just repair the small area on the cul-de-sac to prevent water issues.
- Ruth Cheresnowsky of 448 Brookside Drive in Hickory Heights wanted to know about liquid fuel funds and infrastructure grants and why they weren’t being used to repair the roads in Hickory Heights. Susan explained that we have applied for grants but that we have been denied. Michelle clarified that some of the new infrastructure grants have not yet been approved for use but that we are looking into them.
- John Cheresnowsky (of the same address) expressed his frustration for the road conditions of the developments within the township. He wanted to know a timeline of when these issues would be addressed and taken care of.
- Ralph Blowers of 2607 Front Street expressed to the group that the roads need to be taken down and completely rebuilt but there isn’t funding available for that. Lyle Rockwell of 166 Roosevelt Street stated that he swept up 15 – 5 gallon buckets of stone from his property as a result of the work that was done on his road last year. He also stated that the intersection of S. Waverly (Pitney St.) and Pennsylvania Ave. needs to be addressed.
- Deb Buck of 213 Roosevelt Street wanted to know if our road crew was present when the original work was done and who from our staff would be there when the repairs are being made. She stated that materials had been spilled onto the newly paved Pennsylvania Ave. and manholes had

been paved over and dug out after the fact by our road crew. She said the road looked worse after the repairs than it did before them and wanted to know who would be responsible for quality control. Tressa stated that Pernell was the Road Forman and would be responsible for quality control. Susan told the residents that they did what they thought was best and unfortunately it didn't work out as planned. She apologized. Alan told the residents that he understands their concerns and as a resident himself he also has to deal with the road conditions. He invited anyone that had ideas on how to stretch the budget to give their input. The residents finished airing their concerns and Tressa stated that the board appreciated their input and has heard them. They would address the issues and work on a plan to help moving forward.

- Daniel Stark of 230 Clinton Street and his wife Dorothy Asked why the meetings were moved from 7 pm to 5 pm. Tressa stated that at the time the board members had young children and the later meetings were getting them home between 10:30 – 11 pm. They made the move to get home to their families earlier.
- Michelle Browning of Oak Hill Drive asked if the meetings could be moved to 5:30 and Tressa told her it would be taken into consideration.

George Ballenstedt was present for the ATVFC. He stated that they are doing their fund drive now and that the Sayre Business Association would be hosting Touch-a-Truck this weekend where residents could bring their kids to talk to firefighters and see/touch/go into the trucks. He expressed that they are short-handed and would love to have more volunteers and explained that at the end of the month a new government rule on online gambling will hinder the fire department from being able to host their online raffles.

Richard Bean was present for the Township Parks Committee. He stated the loan for the pond stands at \$71,121. They received \$69,000 from the Spectrum Franchise Fee and would be paying \$35,000 towards the balance of the loan. The school district has still not been able to walk the Dunkley Hill property. Cindy is waiting on aerial photos (should have late spring) to complete the updated park brochure. They have reached out to Todd Babcock to have the Junction Canal property surveyed. The new Park Truck has had the lettering done. They took down the star on April 23rd with the help of the ATVFC. They are waiting to hear back from the Southern Tier Running Club about partnering with them for the trail run. The Committee is looking for a landscape architect to develop the 9 acres on Tozers Landing. They need an estimate for a master plan. The park inspection on April 2nd went well. Barry has started back full-time. Round Top Park will open May 7th. Richard stated that RTP road will need something put on it to hold the dust down. Susan stated that the road crew could put dust oil down. Their next meeting is scheduled for May 23rd.

Marion Carling was present for the Planning Commission. She introduced the IR Credit Union representative, Jeff Nieson, of Civil Environmental Consultants. He told the board they were planning on building a 7,000 to 9,000 sq. ft. building with several drive through lanes and 56 parking spaces. They are proposing 1 access point on McDuffee Street and 1 access point on Elmira Street (this will be right turn only). Marion stated that none of the deficiencies have been met at this time.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to grant final plan approval to the IR Federal Credit Union pending the correction of the following six deficiencies:

- a. Need surveyor and owner signatures
- a. Need acknowledgement statement signed by surveyor
- b. Need all will-serve letters
- c. Need NPDES permit
- d. Need HOPs
- e. Need lighting plan

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to have Eddie and Cindy compile a list of the last year's expenses on permits for the board to review prior to making a decision on whether or not to increase the residential fee schedule.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to ratify the decision to do a declaration of emergency for the winter storm power outages on April 19th.

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to approve the meeting minutes for February 23rd and March 30th, 2022.

The board decided to get more information about who would receive the proceeds from the food trucks before making a decision on the fee waiver request for the ATVFC Craft and Vendor Show.

On motion of Christine, second by Susan, motion passed to pay the monthly bills as submitted. A complete listing of revenues and expenditures is on file in the office of the Treasurer.

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

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into executive session at 7:00PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:29 PM.

On motion of Tressa, second by Christine, motion passed to add having Cindy do a post on social media making residents aware of the increased burning risks due to weather on April 28th and 29th, 2022.

On motion of Alan, second by Christine, motion passed to have Cindy do a post on social media making residents aware of the increased burning risks due to weather on April 28th and 29th, 2022.

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to add RESOLUTION 2022-07 to the agenda.

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to pass RESOLUTION 2022-07 for project R21000305 – bridge reimbursement.

Page Four
Athens Township Supervisors
April 27, 2022

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to add the following items to the agenda and vote on them:

On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed the advertise for bids for the paving of certain portions of Pennsylvania Ave. and Lilley Ave.

On motion of Alan, second by Christine, motion passed to allocate ARP Funds to provision of government services. John will create a Resolution for this.

On motion of Christine, second by Tressa, motion passed to hire Tessa Spears per diem as the EMC at the rate of \$25/hour, not to exceed 5 hours per month unless otherwise specified by the board of supervisors.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to pay Barry Brosnan a loyalty bonus if \$350.

There being no further business, on motion of Alan second by Tressa, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Rude
Athens Township Administrative Secretary