

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
June 28th, 2023 5 PM Regular Meeting

Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Supervisors also present were Kirstie Lake, Alan Burgess and Christine Vough. Solicitor John Thompson, secretary Michelle Rude, and treasurer Ruth Casterline, and Chuck Wright were also in attendance. Tressa lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Bonnie Petruschak arrived right after the pledge.

Dave Walter presented the Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Dept. report. Michele Browning presented the Parks Commission report and Chuck Wright presented the Public Works Dept. report. All reports are on file with the township.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Alan, motion passed to accept the monthly reports as submitted.

On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, 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 Tressa, second by Bonnie, motion passed to approve the minutes for May 11th, 2023. Alan and Kirstie abstained.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Bonnie, motion passed to approve the minutes for June 6th, 2023. Alan abstained.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, motion passed to approve Eddie attending the PAFPM 2023 Annual Conference Sept 26th and 27th.

On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to accept the ATA resignations for Mike Murphy and Earl Carney.

The board decided to revisit the fireworks ordinance discussion next month.

Tressa met on Tuesday with Tom Thompson from Progress Authority, Kim Jennings from Northern Tier Planning and Development as well as the County Commissioners to discuss funding for the bridge replacement issues in the township. She was limited in finding funds due to open PHEMA/PEMA projects and lack of estimated costs for repairs. Tressa asked Chuck to get replacement costs/repair costs with longevity estimates for Murray Creek and Moore Rd. bridges as well as for the Round Top Road pipe culvert. She asked him to work towards closing the PHEMA/PEMA projects so we know how much money will be available for grant matching. Chuck stated the extension for those projects is up in August (may need to re-extend) and that he has files in place, the computer work just needs to be completed.

On motion of Alan, second by Bonnie, motion passed to declare June 29th, 2023 Izaak Hobday Day for his accomplishments in the Special Olympics. Tressa will present the declaration at his homecoming parade on the 29th.

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On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to approve launching phase 1 of the shared services trash proposal with Sayre Borough, allowing them to send a letter offering trash services to our residents, with the option of expanding into phase 2 in October.

On motion of Tressa, second by Christine, motion passed to approve the Reimbursement Agreement for T-321 Murray Creek with PennDOT and executing the resolution and lobbying certificate.

On motion of Christine, second by Bonnie, motion passed to approve the informational brochure and preparedness letter drafted by Tessa Spears. Tessa will look into the cost to have it printed/distributed.

On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to allow Midland Asphalt to work with our crew on July 19th, 2023 to lay EDP emulsion for dust control on Campbell Rd., Cole Hollow Rd., Highland Dr., Meadowlark Dr., Weaver Rd., Beaver Pond Rd., Braddock Rd., Round Top Rd., Pump Station Hill Rd., Sutliff Hill Rd., Macafee Rd., Alleyhoot Rd., Murphy Rd., Chamberlain Rd., Bluebird Rd., and Orcutt Creek Rd. in the amount of \$16,300. \$15,000 will come from general fund account 438.214 and \$1,300 would come from ACT 13 fund account 438.206. A PO has been submitted by Chuck Wright.

The supervisors decided to table the discussion on the new radio for truck 12.

On motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, motion passed to approve the purchase of new bulletproof vests for the police department in the amount of \$18,188 using ACT 13 funds.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed to add getting a cost analysis for the Murray Creek pipe culvert and hiring MK Flaggers for the dust oil project to the agenda.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, motion passed to have Chuck Wright pursue a cost analysis for the replacement of the Murray Creek pipe culvert contingent upon what services the county will be providing.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Bonnie, motion passed to approve the PO prepared by Chuck Wright for MK Flaggers Inc to assist with the dust oil project on July 19th, 2023 in the amount of \$1528, to be paid from road repair account 438.45.

Voice of the Residents: Matt Moore addressed the board and wanted to know if we have had the opportunity to discuss with our bordering municipalities the option of working together to maintain dirt roads that also extend into their municipalities. John explained that we do have agreements in place with some of these municipalities currently.

Correspondence/Information was as listed in the meeting agenda.

Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into executive session at 6:41 PM for personnel and pending litigation. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:57 PM.

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On motion of Tressa, second by Alan, motion passed to add Brian Haney's pay increase and renewing the Enterprise lease to the agenda.

On motion of Alan, second by Tressa, motion passed increase pay from \$15/visit to \$17/visit for Brian Haney to open/close the gates at Round Top Park retroactive to the parks opening date of Saturday, May 13, 2023.

On motion of Kirstie, second by Tressa, motion passed to renew the Enterprise lease with the new owners, Kellar Industries, LLC., for 3 years at \$5000/year and to authorize Ruth to pay the first invoice due July 1st, 2023.

There being no further business, on motion of Alan, second by Kirstie, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Rude
Athens Township Administrative Secretary