

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
September 20, 2016 6 PM Budget Workshop

Chairman Cheryl Wood-Walter called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Supervisors also present were Ronald Reagan, Christine Vough, George Ballenstedt and Susan Seck. Treasurer Ruth Casterline and Secretary Robin Smith were also in attendance.

Voice of the Residents: None

Robin presented the MMO calculations for 2017. The Non-Uniform Pension contribution will be \$101,593 and the Police Pension contribution will be \$94,486.

On motion of George, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2016-10 regarding gas royalty deductions.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to hire JRC Cleaning, Inc. to clean the township building 3 days a week, at a cost of \$135/week, and they will supply the cleaning products and equipment.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous to respond to PennDOT's letter regarding the Thomas Avenue Bridge ownership and advise them that we do not want the bridge to remain in its location and we do not want to own this bridge. They also asked for our criteria on the bridge if someone else would step forward to assume ownership, and the letter states that the township will require that the bridge be removed from its current location prior to the new bridge being constructed in its location, with no further delay of the project schedule.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to choose the DocStar Silver package for 2017, and to pay for it from General Fund by October 1, 2016 in order to get the 15% discount.

On motion of Ron, second by Susan, it was unanimous to purchase the Snapper mower from Northeast ATV at a cost of \$4,262.63 to be paid for from the Act 13 fund 5th check.

Discussion was held on the possibility of establishing a Local Services Tax (LST). Ruth said Berkheimer would collect the tax at their current rate. Cheryl disagrees with this tax because people who don't earn much will really be affected by something like this. Susan said the other side is that elderly find it hard to keep their homes with the cost of property taxes. No action was taken at this time.

Page Two
Athens Township Supervisors
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The budget workshop commenced at this time. The next budget workshop was set for October 4, 2016 at 6 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Secretary