

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
August 19, 2024 4:00 PM Special Meeting

Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 4:05PM.

Also present were Supervisors Bonnie Petruschak, Ron Reagan and Matt Moore; Cori Lasco was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict. Solicitor John Thompson and Secretary Meagan Carling were in attendance; along with Public Works Superintendent Garret Stocks. Tressa led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of Residents:

Rosemary Firestine & Nancy Whitt of 355 Moore Road:

Ms. Firestine & Ms. Whitt were in attendance as they had some general questions.

Firestine inquired about the timeline for the website redesign release as she feels it is difficult to find information on the current site; she was informed it was in process and the release date of the 'test site' would be announced.

Firestine asked where the legal notices are posted; she was informed they are published in the Daily Review Newspaper based on the state guidelines.

Firestine thanked Garret for getting the Public Works Dept. out to mow and do repairs to Moore Road and is still concerned about the placement of the concrete barricades putting weight on the bridge; Garret said they are placed on the ground just off of the bridge but would take a look to make sure.

Firestine asked if the Moore Road Bridge Strengthening Project was still on schedule and about the bid process for the construction; she was informed of the steps Larson Design Group will be taking this fall to post for bids / awarding by end of September, with estimated completion by end of the year.

Firestine commented about the maintenance neglect being main cause of the Moore Road Bridge closure; Garret noted he is developing a plan for better scheduled maintenance.

Whitt inquired about Act 13 funds use; she was informed the amount received was based on the active well sites in the area and funds use on roads is limited / routes with those sites.

Whitt wondered why some Township bridges are weight rated higher than the roads to them; discussion was had about the bridges being rated prior to PennDOT reviewing road ratings for oil / gas industry increasing their use – resulted in lowered road ratings.

Whitt, Firestine, Garret & Supervisors discussed "shared services" options; would benefit all.

Considered / Discussed:

Municibid update: Truck #6 auction ended 8/8/24, winning bid \$6100. Garret to contact the winner to make arrangement for pick-up once payment is received.

CabinetWorks Appeal update and documentation provided per Solicitor John Thompson for Treasurer files; no additional information to discuss.

Superintendent of Public Works MOU details discussed for clarification. On motion of Ron, seconded by Matt; motion passed to carry over Garret Stocks previously accumulated sick and vacation time into his new position as Superintendent of Public Works. Additional concerns with the MOU will be addressed at the next BOS meeting.

Police Department, Right-to-Know: TABLED, Solicitor John Thompson is waiting on guidance from the state before he can bring it before the BOS.

Bradford County COG minutes, noted; Annual Dinner Meeting, to RSVP for Ron Reagan +1 to attend.

On motion of Tressa, seconded by Bonnie; motion passed to authorize payments to the property owners and to record the deed of easement for the last Right of Way on T-321 (Murray Creek Road) over Murray Creek. Payment amounts: Weaver \$913.50, to record each of the 4 deed of easements is \$78.75 (separate payment per parcel; the other 3 payments were authorized in July).

Act 13 Funds allocation: TABLED.

Chairwoman Tressa took the board into executive session at 5:04PM for personnel and pending litigation. The special meeting reconvened at 5:44PM.

On motion of Matt, seconded by Bonnie; motion passed to suspend Jon Waltenburg for 3 days for timesheet violation; suspension will be for August 20th, 21st, 22nd. On motion of Matt, seconded by Ron; motion passed to suspend Jon Waltenburg until medical documentation is submitted to the Township regarding visits, work restrictions, return to work orders per the verbal discussions had with the Superintendent of Public Works for pay period 8/1-8/14/2024.

There being no further business, on motion of Bonnie, seconded by Matt; it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 5:58PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Carling
Athens Township Secretary