

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Regular Meeting

January 28, 2026 6:00 PM

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Chairwoman Tressa Heffron called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present were Supervisors – Tressa Heffron, Bonnie Petruschak, Matthew Moore, and Paul Kelley; Ronald Reagan was not in attendance due to a scheduling conflict. Solicitor John Thompson, Secretary Meagan Carling, Treasurer Macen Raupers and Director of Public Works Anthony Lundy were also in attendance.

Heffron led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents:

Aaron Brotzman, Weaver Road – Mr. Brotzman discussed his frustration with a drainage pipe he has been waiting on having installed, was noted upon Stocks leaving as Superintendent of Public Works as on the “to-do” list back in September but has yet to be completed; Brotzman stated it seems like he requested this three years ago. Lundy assured Brotzman he would get this done. Brotzman also requested the MSDS sheet for the dust control materials used on the dirt roads to know what is being put down / what he is ultimately is breathing in. Moore informed him it was calcium chloride and Lundy said he would get that sheet for him this week. Brotzman also wanted information regarding the bonuses approved at the BOS 12/17/25 meeting; he was assured that would be discussed later in the meeting as it was on the agenda.

William King, Moore Road – Mr. King inquired about the trucks in dis-repair and if there is a process for daily inspections to keep record of the maintenance needed / status’. Lundy stated he has developed a maintenance tracker system to ensure it is all being logged / status posted; last vehicle for inspection (expires 1/31/26) is having repairs done now. King questioned the expiration of inspections all being the same timeframe, asking why they are not more staggered out; Lundy stated he would like to have them more staggered out too, but for now they are due. King also noted that Furman & Jones are still doing inspections / have openings; Lundy was told they were not, so will note that information for the next need.

Rosemary Firestine, Moore Road – Ms. Firestine believes the road conditions have not improved over the past two years with Moore being assigned as the Supervisor overseeing the Public Works Dept. / Roads and would like Heffron to reconsider Kelley to oversee those areas. Firestine expressed interest in having the monthly bills information available for the meeting in which they are being discussed and would also like a monthly balance sheet all of the financial accounts available for review as well. Heffron noted her interests.

Athens Twp. Authority:

No representative in attendance; monthly report received.

Athens Twp. Planning Commission:

No representative in attendance; monthly report received.

Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.:

No representative in attendance; monthly & annual reports received.

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Athens Twp. Parks Commission:

No representative in attendance; monthly report received. Resident observation - abundance of garbage at Tozers Landing noticed recently; noted.

Athens Twp. Public Works Dept.:

Director of Public Works Anthony Lundy was in attendance to represent the department; monthly report received.

Lundy reopened the request for new tires on Truck #1 addressed at the last BOS meeting with no motions having been made; discussion was had regarding the tires just not working for this winter weather as they were from a former unit / had previous wear / are not gripping with the weight of the plow causing a safety concern – Lundy presented quotes for reconsideration.

On motion of Petruschak, seconded by Heffron, opposed by Kelley; motion passed to approve the purchase of tires for Truck #1 from Steve Shannon in the amount of \$800.00 from general fund (437.200). Kelley sited opposition as he did not believe the tires were needed, questioning the amount of issues noted.

Kelley re-stated for the record that he had previously offered to be the Road Supervisor for \$1.00 but did not believe it was ever noted in the minutes.

Discussion was had briefly regarding Truck #3 recent repairs and scheduled for inspection. Noted.

Draft bid for overhead garage bay door replacement (4), with header damage repair (1) was not completed to present at this BOS meeting for consideration. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the update to 2026 WesternStar truck status as it was delivered to Bradco Supply for dump box installation on 1/22/26; there are still some units scheduled ahead of it so it will not be a quick turn-around to get it on the road. Lundy explained he had started looking for a back-up dump truck that is compatible with current fleets plows / spreaders to consider in case another breaks down; he has sourced a few close-by and will provide more detail at the next BOS meeting. Moore added to look into possible re-allocation for funds too.

Discussion was had regarding the upcoming PAAMA Regional Pavement Preservation & Recycling Training being held in State College PA on 2/12/26; Lundy expressed interest in attending – no cost for this training as via LTAP.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve Lundy's attendance to the training.

Athens Twp. Police Dept.:

Chief Clink was in attendance to represent the department; monthly & annual reports received.

Discussion was had regarding the purchase order presented for payment to Kai Pan Consulting for repair / data recovery for Chief's computer which crashed.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the purchase order in the amount of \$1229.00 from general fund (410.260). Kelley inquired why a new computer was not presented

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for purchase instead as it would likely be cheaper than the repair; Chief explained the computer in question has years of administrative reporting saved on it that would need to be retrieved either way, which is most of the cost.

Reports:

Discussion was had regarding the reports received / reviewed; noting receipt of Zoning Permits monthly and annual reports. Kelley revisited the Police Dept. report and asked Chief Clink questions about mileage & fuel usage.

On motion of Moore, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to accept the monthly and annual reports from Authority, Planning, Fire Co., Parks, Roads, Police & Permits.

Bills:

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to pay the monthly bills as presented and to include “motion to pay bills due” on each meeting agenda – not just for the end of the month meeting.

Minutes:

On motion of Moore, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 1/14/2026.

Consider / Discuss:

Discussion was had regarding the Baker-Tilly CPA and audit submittal status; both the single audit and DCED audit have been submitted and approved.

On motion of Moore, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to accept the audit submittals and approve payment in the amount of \$2205.00 for the final billing invoice.

Discussion was had regarding the status of CPA options for the 2025 fiscal year audit. Raupers explained the DCED 2024 audit has been submitted out to a handful of CPA’s for use in determining quotes for service, hoping to have engagement letters for review at the next BOS meeting on 2/11/26. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the proposed gas lease from Expand Energy for two parcels of Township property (not the previously proposed Round Top properties). The updated contract verbiage still reflects ‘subsurface’ access of the Township properties for \$1500 / acre return for duration of 5 years.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve the updated contract and move forward with the lease process – Heffron is only signatory listed for required signatures.

Discussion was had regarding the bonuses approved at BOS meeting held 12/17/25. Solicitor John Thompson confirmed the legality of issuing performance based bonuses; it was discussed as personnel matter during Executive Session with motion made after adjourning from that session and resuming the regular meeting. Residents questioned how the amount was determined, and by whom, to be issued to the recipients (Secretary Carling & Treasurer pro tem Hotaling), to which Heffron stated the BOS determined the amounts based on “time & service”. Residents questioned if proper steps taken, some referencing other legal cases for comparison / ‘question of ethics’, to which the Solicitor addressed - yes, proper steps were

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followed and no, it was not questionable in regards to ethics but would look at the cases referenced to provide the differences / clarification.

Discussion was had regarding question of cameras being used in the Township yard / at the fuel tanks. Chief Clink stated, yes – there are cameras in the Township yard at the fuel tanks to monitor use.

Discussion was had briefly regarding the updated renewal invoices for 2026 IT support / security services from Kai Pan Consulting previously presented at BOS organizational meeting but needed separate invoices for Township Office services / Police Dept. services as they use separate budgets.

On motion of Moore, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the 2026 Kai Pan Consulting renewal IT support / security services for the Township Office in the amount of \$4015.00 from general fund (400.325) and for the Police Dept. in the amount of \$1785.00 from general fund (410.260).

Discussion was had briefly regarding the Conrad Siegel actuarial service invoices for both pension plans spanning 8/26/24 – 1/11/26.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve payments to Conrad Siegel for both pension plan actuary services from general fund in the amount of \$6450.00 for the Non-Uniform Employee Pension Plan (489.313) and \$6450.00 for the Police Employee Pension Plan (489.314).

Discussion was had regarding the 2026 COLA calculations provided by Conrad Siegel per the ordinance. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the traffic signal re-timings two options for review. TABLED until BOS meeting 2/11/26 – more information needed on positives / negatives of both options.

Township meetings schedule reviewed; discussion was had regarding reducing Board of Supervisor meetings back to once a month. TABLED until BOS 2/11/26 for more time to consider and hear Reagan's input.

Discussion was had regarding the snow storm 1/24/26, current process for declaring any weather emergency (ex. 'snow emergency'), options to adjust procedure moving forward. TABLED until a future BOS meeting – Solicitor will need to assess and draft a policy or ordinance.

Personnel / Staff – to be discussed in Executive Session as needed.

Correspondence / Information:

TIP Program – Miller Rd & Moore Rd Bridge Replacements status email relaying field surveys are to be done over the next few months, notice of "intent to enter" letters will be sent to adjoining property owners soon, Dawood was selected to perform the design work for the project and PennDOT is working on finalizing the contract. Noted.

Annual Liquid Fuels Report submitted to PennDOT 1/27/26 & approved. Noted.

FDR Project Report (for liquid fuels funds usage) was submitted to PennDOT 1/27/26 & approved. Noted.

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PennDOT process for emergency request for salt received / reviewed in the event it is needed. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the Growing Greener Grant funding update email relaying the stream crossing (culvert) project on Round Top Rd. has roughly \$80,000-\$90,000 allocated toward its replacement, the geotechnical studies / designs / engineering / permitting are complete and BCCD is working with Bradco Supply Co & Contech Engineering to develop full project cost estimates; information requested from the Township regarding if any funds were budgeted for this in 2026 and if the Township plans on having their crew do the install or will it be contracted out (nothing was budgeted for 2026 and it will have to be contracted will be the reply back to BCCD).

LTAP Training opportunities discussed briefly, upcoming classes (virtual). Noted.

- 2/5/26 – Asphalt Preservation, Micro Surfacing 11am-noon
- 2/19/26 – PennDOT Adoption of 2023 MUTCD 11am-noon

Chairwoman Heffron took the board into Executive Session at 7:18 PM,
for personnel – staff & legal - contracts.

The meeting reconvened at 7:32 PM.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve advertising for Township Chief of Police position in the Daily Review to run Thursday – 2/5/26, Saturday – 2/7/26 and Tuesday – 2/10/26, with applications / resumes to be received by Friday – 2/20/26 for review & interviews to follow and post opening to Indeed.

There being no further business, on motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak;
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Carling
Athens Township Secretary