

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

February 11, 2026 6:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Page 1 of 4

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

Present were Supervisors – Tressa Heffron, Bonnie Petruschak, Ronald Reagan, Matthew Moore and Paul Kelley. Secretary Meagan Carling, Treasurer Macen Raupers and Solicitor John Thompson were also in attendance. Heffron led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voice of the Residents: None

Athens Twp. Authority: No representative in attendance – no business to discuss.

Athens Twp. Planning Commission & Zoning Dept.: No representative in attendance. Discussion was had briefly regarding Meadowlark Drive – special exception application received. Noted.

Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Co.: No representative in attendance – no business to discuss. Fire Chief Austyn Merrill apologized for his absence due to several recent scheduling conflicts; encouraged BOS to reach out to him anytime as needed.

Athens Twp. Parks Commission: No representative in attendance – no business to discuss. Kelley noted he had spoken with Chairman Murtland and plans to meet with him soon regarding Parks Committee to which he has been assigned to oversee.

Athens Twp. Public Works Dept.: No representative in attendance; Director of PW Tony Lundy is presently attending an LTAP training in State College PA. Lundy provided some notes to BOS from the previous two weeks for review. Noted.

Discussion was had briefly regarding some project estimates for this year's road work based on Lundy's feedback / advice from PennDOT Rep. Steve Kehoe; funds will need to be reviewed and he will have more information to finalize plans at the next BOS meeting 2/25/26. Noted.

Discussion was had briefly regarding Lundy's plans to purchase a back-up dump truck, looking for COSTARS or municipal sale options and funds will need to be reviewed for possible reallocation. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding roadwork performed by a resident on Weaver Rd and Bobcat Rd; Lundy documented road clearing / shoulder work and noted the damage a piece of tracked heavy equipment can do to the road grading / surface. Lundy thought it necessary to relay this

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

February 11, 2026 6:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Page 2 of 4

information as there are numerous complaints throughout the year regarding ruts, water drainage / 'wash-boarding', etc. of these roads in particular. Noted.

Discussion was had briefly regarding PSATS request for Lundy to attend a Flagger Instructor certification course on 4/1/26; upon course completion and certification received he can provide any flagging instruction needed to TWP employees or outside via PSATS coordination. Noted.

Discussion was had briefly regarding the Machine – Equipment Operator (MEO) vacancy / applications received; to be further discussed in Executive Session as needed.

Athens Twp. Police Dept.: Chief Clink was available to represent the Police Department – no business to discuss.

Discussion was had briefly regarding the Chief of Police job posting on Indeed needing an amount for "starting pay, pay range, exact pay or maximum pay" entered in order to complete the posting, if nothing is entered it will default to a range calculated by the hiring platform based on job title alone; to be further discussed in Executive Session as needed.

Bills:

On motion of Moore, seconded by Reagan; motion passed to approve payment of bills due.

Minutes:

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve the Board of Supervisors regular meeting minutes from 1/28/2026. Reagan abstained as he was not in attendance for that meeting.

Consider / Discuss

Discussion was had regarding the Solicitor's response to resident's questions / concerns raised at the BOS meeting 1/28/26 regarding procedures for issuing bonuses for two employees back in December 2025. The Solicitor explained the two ethics cases referenced by residents at the previous meeting were not the same circumstances / did not relate to the bonuses issued to the Athens Township employees; 'Reading vs. Reading Eagle pertained to the necessity of the BOS to provide additional information concerning litigation' and the 'Green Township Supervisors' case was the BOS paying themselves using ARPA funds/setting their own rate of payment – as a result they were required to repay a portion of what they had illegally given themselves.' Discussion concluded with residents reiterating their disapproval of the bonuses given.

Discussion was had regarding the Expand Energy oil / gas lease, locations and authorized representatives for signing lease documents.

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

February 11, 2026 6:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Page 3 of 4

On motion of Reagan, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to adopt RESOLUTION 2026-10 designating Tressa Heffron as the authorized representative for signing the Expand Energy lease documents, with Meagan Carling to attest.

Discussion was had regarding the received completed reports from Industrial Appraisal Co and invoice as per the contract approved at BOS meeting 9/24/25.

On motion of Petruschak, seconded by Moore; motion passed to approve payment of the Industrial Appraisal Co invoice in the amount of \$7250.00 for the professional appraisal services.

Discussion was had regarding engagement letters / quotes received from Baker-Tilly, HallockShannon and Guthrie & Co for their CPA services regarding the 2025 fiscal year audit requirement. Treasurer Raupers briefed the BOS on the processes and average hours the audits take to complete based on his experience. TABLED until the next BOS meeting 2/25/26 to get additional information regarding the rates for services outside of the general scope of work.

Discussion was had briefly regarding the traffic signal re-timing scenario. "Holiday" timings at Lowes / Walmart traffic signals allowed more GREEN time to shoppers' signals resulting in poorer progression along Elmira St.; with a shift to online shopping, shopping centers traffic volumes would not go up as significantly so it is recommended the single set of timings remain to maintain optimum corridor progression along Elmira St. Noted.

Discussion was had regarding the 2026 EMHR Annual Grants Workshop 2/20/26, the speakers presenting, attendance by TWP; Carling to attend and ensure Parks Committee is aware.

On motion of Heffron, seconded by Petruschak; motion passed to approve providing a letter of support to EMHR as they pursue a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation through the National Park Service.

Discussion was had regarding the 2026 DGLVR Annual Meeting 3/18/26; PW Dept. to attend, Kelley voiced interest – any other Supervisor interested in attending, contact Carling.

BOS meeting schedule to remain as stated for time being, 2 meetings a month (2nd Wednesday & last Wednesday) @ 6pm.

A draft ordinance presented by the Solicitor for establishing regulations for winter weather emergencies. TABLED until the next BOS meeting 2/25/26 for time to review.

Personnel – Staff: nothing to discuss at this time, will revisit in Executive Session if needed.

ATHENS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
February 11, 2026 6:00 PM
Regular Meeting

Page 4 of 4

Correspondence / Information

Floodplain Management Activities Annual Report, submitted per Reid. Noted.

Statement of Financial Interests forms (Ethics Commission requirement), due 5/1/26. Noted.

Chairwoman Heffron took the Board into Executive Session at 6:35 PM,
for legal – litigation & personnel – staff.

The meeting reconvened at 6:58 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Petruschak, seconded by Reagan;
it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Carling
Athens Township Secretary