

Athens Township Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
April 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 6:31PM by Chairwoman, Marion Carling.

Present: Chairwoman Marion Carling, Matt Cooper, Bob Petruschak, Zoning Officer, Ed Reid, and Secretary, Cindy Parrish. Vice Chairwoman Rebecca Miller and Ron Reagan were unable to attend due to previous commitments. All others in attendance are noted on the attached sign-in sheet or noted in the minutes.

Chairwoman Carling opened the meeting by telling the residents in attendance that the Planning Commission (PC) typically holds monthly workshops to familiarize themselves with any plan submittals but that there was no workshop for this meeting. She also informed the residents that the PC is comprised of all volunteers that serve only as an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors. Carling then noted that the business before the PC for the meeting was simply to review the Bradford County (BC) Proposed Ordinance Amendment pertaining to Data Centers, and that the PC had not reviewed it prior to the meeting.

Applicants to be heard: none

Review/Comment on Bradford County Proposed Land Development Ordinance Amendment:
Data Centers:

Carling stated that she would like to table the discussion as she wanted to give the PC a chance to review the amendment and 2 members were not in attendance.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of taking questions from the residents in attendance.

Petruschak made a motion to table reviewing/commenting on the BC amendment.

Resident Rosemary Firestine inquired as to whether or not she could email her questions to Carling. Firestine also asked if the Township will reach out to other local municipalities regarding Data Centers. Resident Nancy Whitt suggested getting all the Valley communities together to discuss the issue. Discussion ensued about larger community involvement.

Supervisor Paul Kelley (attending in the audience) asked what (data center) company is coming to the Township. Cooper and Parrish stated that NOTHING is proposed for the Township at this time; PC is only set to review the BC amendment right now.

Carling noted that the PC is preparing to include Data Centers in the ongoing Zoning Ordinance updates.

A brief discussion was held about the impact on utilities.

Parrish stated that residents can email her with questions, and she will forward them to the PC members.

Cooper seconded the previous motion to table the discussion, and the motion carried.

Parrish will ask the county if there is a deadline for comments about the amendment as the accompanying letter did not indicate one.

Zoning/SALDO updates:

Cooper emailed Appendix A and B for PC members to review. Cooper said Section 3000, 700, and 800 still need to have the tables updated. Cooper will update the tables and try to have them ready by the May meeting.

Discussion was held about product signage. Reid and Parrish are still working on the verbiage that they would like to see included in this section.

Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2026, meeting was made by Cooper and seconded by Petruschak. Motion carried.

Chairwoman Carling adjourned the meeting at 7:19PM as there was no other business before the commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia R. Parrish
Secretary