MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on August 14, 2023 Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

Present: President Scott Riley, Vice-President Scott Molnar, President Pro Tem Sharon Sporn, Council members Walter Chaykosky, Joanne Polzella, Anthony Smith, Robert Williams and Mayor Francis Roupp III.

Mayor Roupp led in the Salute to the Flag.

President Riley called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

President Riley stated that this meeting is being tape recorded to assist the Borough Secretary in the preparation of the Minutes. When approved by Council the tapes will be reused and not preserved. If you have a recording devise please announce so at this time.

PRESS

No one present.

PUBLIC

Austin Lister, 105-107 Central Avenue asked Council if a decision has been made on whether he is able to convert his commercial property to residential. President Riley explained the Planning and Zoning Commission had advised Council not to make the change in the Zoning for the property in question.

David Rosenbloom, Business Owner in Athens, questioned if a variance would help their case for the change but Chief Hutchinson explained there are new FEMA regulations that make this change almost impossible to happen. Vice-President Molnar stated that if Athens Borough went against FEMA regulations, Borough residents and business owners would be a risk of having their flood insurance canceled.

Chief Hutchinson stated the property is allowed to have the second level apartments but that the first level could be used as a store front as long as they don't exceed 50% new construction.

PRESIDENT RILEY

President Riley started the meeting by thanking all departments involved in the storm that hit Athens Borough on August 12, 2023. He stated all departments provided exceptional services to the community as well as the Bradford County Drone Team that helped assess damages.

Mayor Roupp agreed, commenting that all departments worked very well together.

MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Smith that the August 2023 monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$129,347.97**
Sewer Fund **$68,705.67**
Fire Fund **$592.51** – Loan Payment #44

AYES: Chaykosky, Molnar, Polzella, Smith, Sporn, Williams, Riley
NAYES: None
Motion carried

MINUTES

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Molnar that the minutes of the regular meeting on July 10, 2023 be approved as written. Motion carried.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Riley called for an Executive Session to discuss personnel.
Solicitor Foster Jr called for an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Vice-President Molnar stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on August 13, 2023.

Monthly Report

Month of July		Total for the Year
122	Total Number of Calls:	1019
0	Felony Arrests:	5
8	Misdemeanor Arrests:	20
2	Non-Traffic Arrests:	10
3	Traffic Citations:	4
11	Traffic Reports:	88
0	Truancy Reports:	45
1	Parking Warnings:	2
0	PFA Violations	4
0	Parking Tickets:	1

	Mileage:	
0	2013 Tahoe	107,603 Overall
1143	2017 Tahoe	81,642 Overall
1104	2019 Tahoe	42,641 Overall
	District Court:	
4	Total Cases:	74
4	Criminal Cases:	13
0	Traffic Cases:	8
0	Non-traffic Cases:	8
0	Truancy	45

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

President Pro Tem Sporn stated:

The Shade Tree Commission met on July 19, 2023 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. Their next meeting is scheduled on August 16, 2023 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Council member Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on August 01, 2023.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Council member Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on August 01, 2023.

Zoning Permits Issued: 16
Zoning Permits Denied: 0
Zoning Permits to Date: 16

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2023): 22

Contractor Permits through 07/01/2023:

Issued: 71 Pending: 11 Void: 0

P&Z MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Commission met on July 12, 2023 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended no change be made to the Business District Zoning upon the request to allow residential on the first floor. Their next meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2023 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council member Chaykosky stated:

ATHENS PARK REPAIRS

The metal roof has been installed on the park restrooms and the concrete pads have been installed for the pavilions. Construction of the pavilions is anticipated in a couple of weeks.

FIRE COMMITTEE

Council member Smith stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for July was made available to Council on August 13, 2023.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on August 07, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START – 7:16PM
STOP – 8:18PM

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – CODE/ZONING OFFICER

It was moved by Smith and seconded by Williams that the Memorandum of Understanding between Athens Borough and Christopher Hutchinson for the Part Time position of Zoning / Code Enforcement Officer as amended be approved. This MOU is effective October 09, 2023 through December 31, 2027. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Molnar that the meeting be adjourned at 8:19PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Tara R. Campbell, Secretary