MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on January 12, 2026, Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

Present: President Matthew Patton, Vice-President Joanne Polzella, President Pro Tem Robert Williams, Council member Walter Chaykosky, Patrick Cotton, Scott Riley, Sharon Sporn and Mayor Todd Babcock.

Mayor Todd Babcock led in the Salute to the Flag.

President Matthew Patton called the meeting to order 7:00PM.

President Matthew Patton 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 device, please announce so at this time.

**PRESS**

No one present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**START:** 7:01PM
**STOP:** 7:31PM

**PUBLIC**

Dale Bowen, 203 Bridge Street, stated he won't be able to address Council in the three minutes allowed but he would highlight from his copy he brought for the Borough. Mr. Bowen directed his attention to President Pro Tem Williams asking him if he owned property at 215 Chestnut Street and 211 Chestnut Street.

President Pro Tem Williams stated yes he does own those properties.

Mr. Bowen asked if Mr. Williams has sold off any portion of his properties.

President Patton stated he was unsure if this was Council business or personal business.

Mr. Bowen stated he would get to his point. Mr. Bowen stated that Mr. Burgess and Mr. Hutchinson lied to Mrs. Polzella and himself and that he was going to prove that point.

President Patton requested a separate meeting with Mr. Bowen to discuss the concerns.

Mr. Bowen stated that he would be happy to meet with President Patton and Solicitor Foster.

Ben Hoke, Staggering Unicorn, 314 S Main Street, just wanted to introduce himself to Council as a Business owner and Athens Business Association member.

## PRESIDENT PATTON

## MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that the January 2026 monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$34,738.98**
Sewer Fund **$100,914.13**
Fire Fund **$401.99** – Loan Payment #77

AYES: Chaykosky, Cotton, Polzella, Riley, Sporn, Williams, Patton
NAYES: None
Motion carried.

## MINUTES

It was moved by Polzella and seconded by Chaykosky that the minutes of the regular meeting on December 08, 2025 be approved as written. Motion carried.

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Cotton that the minutes of the Reorganization meeting on January 05, 2026 be approved as written. Motion carried with an abstain from Sporn as she was not present at the meeting.

## 2026 COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Riley that the 2026 Committees Appointed by Council list be approved. Motion carried.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Vice-President Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on January 06, 2026.

Zoning Permits Issued: 0
Zoning Permits Denied: 1
Zoning Permits to Date: 47

**Customer Requests: 52**

**Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:**

Total to Date (2025): 212

**Contractor Permits:**

Issued: 121 Pending: 3 Void: 0

**P&Z MEETING**

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold their Reorganization meeting on January 14, 2026 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

**SOLAR PANEL DRAFT ORDINANCE**

Solicitor Foster tabled this topic until the February meeting.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

President Pro Tem Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on January 06, 2026.

**PWD CLASS B OPERATOR**

Jordan Peppard has successfully completed the 6 month probationary period as a Class B Operator.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-1**

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Chaykosky that Resolution No. 2026-1, sale of the 1995 Giant Leaf Vac Leaf Collector be adopted. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 1

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF ATHENS, BRADFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING A RESOLUTION TO SELL PERSONAL PROPERTY WITH A VALUE OF $3,300.00.

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to sell Borough personal property, specifically a 1995 Giant Leaf Vac Leaf Collector.

WHEREAS, The 1995 Giant Leaf Vac Leaf Collector has exceeded its planned years of use within the Athens Borough Public Works Department.

WHEREAS, The 1995 Giant Leaf Vac Leaf Collector has been replaced by a 2014 Leaf Vacuum Trailer Leaf Picker.

WHEREAS, the Athens Borough Council approves the sale of the 1995 Giant Leaf Vac Leaf Collector to Matthew Burke of Huntsville, Alabama in the amount of $3,300.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ATHENS, BRADFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA THAT ATHENS BOROUGH SHALL SELL THE PERSONAL PROPERTY MENTIONED IN THIS RESOLUTION.

**POLICE COMMITTEE**

Council Member Sporn stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on January 09, 2026.

Monthly Report

| Month of December | | Total for the Year 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| 117 | Total Number of Calls: | 1,721 |
| 2 | Felony Arrests: | 39 |
| 1 | Misdemeanor Arrests: | 92 |
| 1 | Non-Traffic Arrests: | 36 |
| 7 | Traffic Citations: | 80 |
| 7 | Traffic/ Parking Reports: | 316 |
| 0 | Truancy Reports: | 0 |
| 2 | PFA Violations | 22 |
| 0 | Parking Tickets/Warnings | 11 |

| | Mileage: | |
|---|---|---|
| 189 | 2017 Tahoe | 101,151 Overall |
| 742 | 2019 Tahoe | 62,388 Overall |
| 512 | 2023 Tahoe | 31,320 Overall |

| | District Court: | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Criminal Cases: | 53 |
| 7 | Traffic Cases: | 70 |
| 1 | Non-traffic Cases: | 50 |
| 0 | Truancy | 0 |
| 9 | Total Cases: | 173 |

## CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Civil Service Commission held their reorganization meeting on January 07, 2026 at 2:00PM.

It was moved by Riley and seconded by Cotton that Bart Callear be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Civil Service Commission. This term ends December 31, 2031 and will renew automatically for another six year term. Motion carried.

## COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Council member Riley stated:

## SHADE TREE

The Shade Tree Commission will meet on January 19, 2026 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council member Chaykosky stated:

## ATHENS LITTLE LEAGUE

Council member Cotton stated the Athens Little League wants to purchase a shed with running water and place it near the ball field at the Athens Park. The Borough Manager stated that their first step needs to be contacting the Code Department.

## FIRE COMMITTEE

Council member Cotton stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for December was made available to Council on January 07, 2026.

## MAYOR BABCOCK

Mayor Babcock took a moment to thank Council and employees for welcoming him as the new Athens Borough Mayor.

## SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on January 07, 2026.

## ADJOURN

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Riley that the meeting be adjourned at 7:47PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Tara R. Campbell, Secretary