MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on January 13, 2025, Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

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

President Scott Riley led in the Salute to the Flag.

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

President Scott 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 device, please announce so at this time.

President Riley presented a Dedicated Service Certificate to Daniel Kwasnoski for his time spent as a Planning and Zoning Commission member for Athens Borough.

PRESS

Sayre Morning Times announced they were recording the meeting.

PUBLIC

No one present to address Council.

PRESIDENT RILEY

MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that the December 2024 Supplemental monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$17.711.43**
Sewer Fund **$303.16**
Library Fund **$1,228.35** – 2024 Real Estate Taxes

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

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Williams that the January 2025 monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$22,871.77**
Sewer Fund **$96,339.77**
Fire Fund **$498.60** – Loan Payment #63

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

MINUTES

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Polzella that the minutes of the regular meeting on December 09, 2024 be approved as written. Motion carried.

LEVEE CONDUIT INSPECTION GRANT

It was moved by Smith and seconded by Sporn that the letter of mutual consent between DEP and Athens Borough amending the period of performance for the Levee Conduit Video Inspection Grant be approved. The emended term is January 01, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025 - 1

It was moved by Smith and seconded by Williams that Resolution No. 2025 – 1 in support of the Broadband Ready Communities Program through DCED for broadband access in Bradfor County be adopted. Motion carried.

BOROUGH OF ATHENS
RESOLUTION NO. 2025 -1
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
BROADBAND READY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM APPLICATION

WHEREAS, ATHENS BOROUGH seeks to obtain designation from the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA) as a Broadband Ready Community; and

WHEREAS, the Broadband Ready Community Designation allows for increased opportunities for broadband infrastructure investment through the reduction of procedural, policy, and permitting barriers to broadband deployment at the municipal level; and

WHEREAS, ATHENS BOROUGH will be promoted by the PBDA to internet service providers and broadband implementation firms for obtaining Broadband Ready Community designation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ATHENS BOROUGH authorizes an application to the PBDA for a Broadband Ready Community designation.

2025 COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY COUNCIL

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that the 2025 Committees Appointed by Council list be approved. Motion carried.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Riley called for an Executive Session to discuss personnel.

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Vice-President Sporn stated:

SHADE TREE

The Shade Tree Commission will meet on January 20, 2025 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

The Borough Manager has submitted the Spring 2025 Bare Root Tree Grant preliminary application.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

President Pro Tem Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on January 02, 2025.

Zoning Permits Issued: 0
Zoning Permits Denied: 1
Zoning Permits to Date: 39

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2024): 206

Contractor Permits:

Issued: 119 Pending: 7 Void: 0

P&Z MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Commission will met on January 08, 2025 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. Their next meeting is scheduled on April 09, 2025 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

P&Z RESIGNATION

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Williams that the resignation of Daniel Kwasnoski from the Planning and Zoning Commission effective December 11, 2024 be approved. Motion carried.

P&Z APPOINTMENT

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Patton that Christian Steckel, 121 Edward Street be appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission, term ending December 31, 2025 and renews automatically. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Council Member Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on January 02, 2025.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Council Member Patton stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on January 03, 2025.

Monthly Report

Month of December		Total for the Year
99	Total Number of Calls:	1747
3	Felony Arrests:	21
8	Misdemeanor Arrests:	72
3	Non-Traffic Arrests:	40
0	Traffic Citations:	71
10	Traffic/Parking Reports:	234
0	Truancy Reports:	16
1	PFA Violations	31
0	Parking Tickets/Warnings	89

	Mileage:	
79	2017 Tahoe	91,970 Overall
443	2019 Tahoe	54,211 Overall
1,241	2023 Tahoe	18,900 Overall
	District Court:	
2	Criminal Cases:	37
9	Traffic Cases:	64
0	Non-traffic Cases:	36
0	Truancy	16
2	Total Cases	153

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council member Chaykosky stated:

REC TAP GRANT AGREEMENT

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Smith that the REC TAP grant agreement in the amount of $2,500 between Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society, Athens Borough and Civil Environmental Consultants be approved. Motion carried.

ICE CREAM STAND

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Smith that the lease with Penn York Opportunities for the Ice Cream Stand located at 402 S Main Street be renewed with term ending December 31, 2025. Motion carried.

FIRE COMMITTEE

Council member Smith stated:
The Fire Department's monthly report for December was made available to Council on January 09, 2025.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on January 13, 2025.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:09PM
STOP: 7:51PM

ADJOURN

It was moved by Smith and seconded by Sporn that the meeting be adjourned at 7:51PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Tara R. Campbell, Secretary