MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council held their reorganization meeting on January 05, 2026, Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

Present: Walter Chaykosky, Patrick Cotton, Matthew Patton, Joanne Polzella, Scott Riley, Robert Williams and Mayor Todd Babcock.

Absent: Sharon Sporn

Mayor Babcock took his seat at the head of the Council table.

Mayor Babcock gave the Oath of Office to newly elected members of Council: Patrick Cotton and Joanne Polzella.

The newly elected Council members took their seats at the table.

Mayor Babcock called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Mayor Babcock led in the Salute to the Flag.

Mayor Babcock asked for a Roll Call for attendance purposes.

Mayor Babcock opened the floor for any Council members wishing to express their interest in the Executive positions.

Scott Riley expressed to Council that he has served in an Executive position for 5 years where he has learned and participated in many aspects of the Borough. He stated he has respect for the position of President and would like to retain the seat.

Robert Williams expressed to Council that due to the lack of communication two years ago, he almost resigned. He stated he is hopeful communication amongst Council members improves and he would like to be considered for the seat of Vice-President.

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT:

Mayor Babcock opened the nominations for President of Council.

Council member Matthew Patton called for the nomination of Scott Riley for the position of Council President.

Council member Joanne Polzella called for the nomination of Matthew Patton for the position of Council President.

Roll Call vote for Scott Riley:
AYES: Chaykosky, Patton, Riley
NAYS: Cotton, Polzella, Williams
ABSENT: Sporn

Roll Call vote for Matthew Patton:
AYES: Cotton, Polzella, Patton, Williams
NAYS: Chaykosky, Riley
ABSENT: Sporn

Matthew Patton is elected President of the Athens Borough Council for the calendar years 2026-2027.

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Mayor Babcock opened the nominations for Vice-President of Council.

Council member Patrick Cotton called for the nomination of Joanne Polzella for the position of Council Vice-President.

President Patton called for the nomination of Scott Riley for the position of Council Vice-President.

Roll Call vote for Joanne Polzella:
AYES: Chaykosky, Cotton, Patton, Polzella
NAYS: Riley, Williams
ABSENT: Sporn

Joanne Polzella, elected Vice-President of Council for the calendar years 2026-2027.

NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT PATTON TAKES THE CHAIR – 7:10PM

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Appoint President Pro-Tem

President Matthew Patton called for a motion to appoint Scott Riley as President Pro-Tem who will preside in the absence of the President and Vice-President. Died for lack of a motion.

President Matthew Patton called for a motion to appoint Robert Williams as President Pro-Tem who will preside in the absence of the President and Vice-President. It was moved by Walter Chaykosky and seconded by Patrick Cotton. Motion carried.

Council member Robert Williams is appointed President Pro-Tem for the 2026-2027 calendar years.

Council Meetings 2026-2027

President Matthew Patton called for a motion to set the monthly meeting date and time for the calendar years 2026-2027. He stated there has been interest shown in possibly changing the meeting time to an earlier start time.

It was moved by Robert Williams and seconded by Walter Chaykosky that the monthly meetings of Council be kept with no change and held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00PM. Motion carried.

December 2025 Supplemental Bills List

It was moved by Walter Chaykosky and seconded by Robert Williams that the supplemental December 2025 bills list to close the 2025 calendar year be approved as follows:

General Fund $20,545.74
Sewer Fund $1,740.46
Library Fund $1,124.36 – 2025 Real Estate Taxes

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

Committees of Council

President Matthew Patton stated that he will establish a new list of Committees at the regularly scheduled meeting to be held on January 12, 2026. President Patton also stated that if a Council member wishes to chair a particular committee they should let him know immediately so that he may take their request under consideration.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S CONTRACT

It was moved by Robert Williams and seconded by Scott Riley that the Borough Manager's contract be approved. The term shall reflect the PA Borough Code and is effective January 01, 2026 through December 31, 2027. The Borough Manager's contract reflects the benefits and wages that are followed by the Non-Uniform employees. Motion carried.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

It was moved by Walter Chaykosky and seconded by Scott Riley that the Secretary-Treasurer's Memorandum of Agreement be approved for the term of January 01, 2026 to December 31, 2030. The Secretary-Treasurer's Memorandum of Agreement reflects the benefits and wages that are followed by the Non-Uniform Employees. Motion carried.

No one called for an Executive Session.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Walter Chaykosky and seconded by Scott Riley that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 7:18PM.

ATTEST:

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Tara R. Campbell, Secretary