MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on January 08, 2024, Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

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

President Riley 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

Daniel Bump, Gillett, PA addressed Council with his concerns of unfair discrimination of the hiring process he was participating in.

Council listened to his concerns. Chief Dieg asked Mr. Bump what he would outcome he would like to see in order to rectify his concerns. Mr. Bump stated that he would like both candidates to either be hired or the other candidate to be disqualified.

President Riley stated this would be discussed further with Solicitor Foster who will be in contact with Mr. Bump.

PRESIDENT RILEY

MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Smith that the January 2024 monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$23,078.04**
Sewer Fund **$79,539.00**
Fire Fund **$596.60** – Loan Payment #49

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

MINUTES

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Chaykosky that the minutes of the regular meeting on December 11, 2023 be approved as written. Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that the minutes of the Reorganization meeting on January 02, 2024 be approved as written. Motion carried.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Riley called for an Executive Session to discuss personnel.

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Vice-President Sporn stated:

The Shade Tree Commission will meet on January 17, 2024 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

The Borough Manager has applied for the Tree Pennsylvania Spring 2024 Bare Root Tree Grant.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

President Pro Tem Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on January 05, 2024.

Zoning Permits Issued: 1
Zoning Permits Denied: 1
Zoning Permits to Date: 27

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2024): 57

Contractor Permits through 12/31/2023

Issued: 112 Pending: 3 Void: 0

DDS CONCERNS

The Code Officer has looked into the concerns brought to Council's attention at the December 11, 2023 meeting.

P&Z MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on January 17, 2024 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 December 01, 2023.

SEWER TAPPING FEES

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Polzella that Solicitor Foster be authorized to advertise the ordinance amendment to Chapter 418, Sewers, for the Tapping Fees. Motion carried.

BOROUGH OF ATHENS ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER NO. 418, SEWERS, PART 2 RATES, RULES AND REGULATIONS, ARTICLE IX TAPPING FEE OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ATHENS, COUNTY OF BRADFORD, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The Borough of Athens hereby ordains and enacts as follows:
Under Article IX Tapping Fee, Section 418-50 Notice; amount of fee of the Code of the Borough of Athens hereby deletes the following:

Upon the completion of said section of the sewer system constructed by the Authority, the Borough or others, the Borough shall give notice to all owners required to connect to such section to connect thereto and shall advise owners not required to connect of their opportunity to do so. Each such owner who shall apply for a connection permit within120 days of the date of such notice shall pay a tapping fee of $500.

Under Article IX Tapping Fee, Section 418-50 Notice; amount of fee of the Code of the Borough of Athens hereby adds the following:

Upon the completion of said section of the sewer system constructed by the Authority, the Borough or others, the Borough shall give notice to all owners required to connect to such section to connect thereto and shall advise owners not required to connect of their opportunity to do so. Each such owner who shall apply for a connection permit within 120 days of the date of such notice shall pay a tapping fee based on the actual cost of installing the tapping in the line; the Borough will obtain three quotations for installing the tapping in the line with the fee will be the actual cost of the lowest estimate.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Council Member Patton stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on January 04, 2024.

Monthly Report

Month of December		Total for the Year
122	Total Number of Calls:	1645
0	Felony Arrests:	9
1	Misdemeanor Arrests:	37
1	Non-Traffic Arrests:	37
0	Traffic Citations:	11
15	Traffic Reports:	163
12	Truancy Reports:	65
3	Parking/Tickets Warnings:	4
2	PFA Violations	10
	Mileage:	
118	2017 Tahoe	83,355 Overall
524	2019 Tahoe	46,314 Overall
686	2023 Tahoe	2,825 Overall
	District Court:	
13	Total Cases:	141
0	Criminal Cases:	27
0	Traffic Cases:	14
1	Non-traffic Cases:	30
12	Truancy	70

FIRE COMMITTEE

Council member Smith stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for December was made available to Council on January 05, 2024.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on January 05, 2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START – 7:19PM
STOP – 8:01PM

ADJOURN

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Smith that the meeting be adjourned at 8:01PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

_____
Tara R. Campbell, Secretary