MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on June 13, 2022 Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

Present: President Scott Riley, Vice-President Scott Molnar, President Pro Tem Sharon Sporn, Council members Joanne Polzella, Anthony Smith and Robert Williams.

Absent: Walter Chaykosky 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

The Morning Times announced they were recording the meeting.

PUBLIC

A handful of members of the public (Athens and Sayre) were present to address Council with their concerns regarding the SR199 Penn DOT project. These residents, business owners and employees voiced concerns of the negative impact and financial hardship caused by the street reconstruction project.

The following members of the public addressed Council: Jeff Sanderson and Derek Brown with Agway, 100 N Main Street; Jamison Reeves, Decatur's/Reeve's Automotive, 106 S Main Street; the Parrish Family, Derek, Gail and Mark, Parrish Family Deli, 501 S Keystone Avenue.

Solicitor Foster advised the members of the public to voice their complaints with Tina Pickett's Office as she is a direct liaison with Penn DOT. He advised that if Penn DOT receives a complaint in writing that they are mandated to respond. Solicitor Foster also advised that he can provide the contact information of the local Penn DOT Project Manager.

The Secretary-Treasurer passed a notepad and pen around requesting the members of the public leave their name and email addresses which was then provided to the Borough Manager. Council advised that these concerns would be passed along to the local Penn DOT Project Manager.

PRESIDENT RILEY

MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Smith that the June 2022 monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$52,149.40**
Sewer Fund **$166,496.95**
Fire Fund **$754.81** – Loan Payment #28
Library Fund **$9,741.66**

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

MINUTES

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that the minutes of the regular meeting on May 09, 2022 be approved as written. Motion carried.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Foster called for an Executive Session to discuss Litigation.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Vice-President Molnar stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on June 08, 2022.

Monthly Report

Month of May		Total for the Year
175	Total Number of Calls:	672
0	Felony Arrests:	1
0	Misdemeanor Arrests:	5
3	Non-Traffic Arrests:	7
5	Traffic Citations:	14
27	Traffic Reports:	62
6	Truancy Reports:	21

0	Parking Warnings:	11
0	Parking Tickets:	13
	Mileage	
249	2013 Tahoe	106,448 Overall
1,490	2017 Tahoe	66,552 Overall
1,315	2019 Tahoe	31,163 Overall
	District Court:	
17	Total Cases:	51
1	Criminal Cases:	7
7	Traffic Cases:	13
3	Non-traffic Cases:	7
0	PFA Violations:	3
6	Truancy Cases:	21

TRAFFIC CONTROL – SR 199 AND S MAIN ST

Council held a brief discussion on the need for a traffic control device at the intersection of SR 199 and S Main Street.

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Riley that Solicitor Foster be authorized to draft a letter of request to Penn DOT in reference to placing a traffic control device such as a yellow flashing caution light at the northbound approach of the SR 199 and S Main St intersection. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

President Pro Tem Sporn stated:

The Shade Tree Commission met on May 16, 2022 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. Their next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2022 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 June 01, 2022.

NEW HIRE – CLASS B PWD EMPLOYEES

It was moved by Smith and seconded by Molnar that Jeffrey Robbins be hired effective June 20, 2022 as a Public Works Department Class B Operator. Motion carried.

TIOGA POINT LANE MANHOLE

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Smith to approve the quote from Austin's Excavating in the amount of $14,265 to replace the Tioga Point Lane manhole. Motion carried.

PWD CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Information Only, the PWD contract negotiations will continue on June 28, 2022.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Council member Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on June 08, 2022.

Zoning Permits Issued: 13
Zoning Permits Denied: 0
Zoning Permits to Date: 13

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2022): 82

Contractor Permits through 06/08/2022:

Issued: 68 Pending: 7 Void: 0

P&Z MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Committee will met on May 11, 2022 and June 02, 2022. Minutes were sent to Council via email.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – FLOODPLAIN

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Smith that Solicitor Foster be authorized to advertise the amendment to the floodplain ordinance for the revised floodplain language. Motion carried.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

President Riley stated:

ATHENS PARK – FENCING OR NATURAL BARRIER

Council held a brief discussion on the need to place a fence or natural barrier to prevent vehicles from entering the park via the open space north and south of the basketball court located on the west side of the park as well as any other open space at risk of vehicles entering without permission. The Borough Manager presented Council with options such as fencing and/or a more natural barrier.

It was moved by Riley and seconded by Sporn that the Borough Manager be authorized to utilize the Rebuild Valley Playland Grant funding, not to exceed $10,000 to place a natural barrier and/or gate/fencing at the open spaces of the park where the park is at risk of vehicles entering without permission. Motion carried.

FIRE COMMITTEE

Council member Smith stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for May was made available to Council on June 07, 2022.

Fire Chief Mike Davidson stated that Council is invited to attend an event at the Emergency Responder Open House at the Bradford County Department in Public Safety in Towanda. The event includes: resources from across Bradford County: drones, mobile command, virtual reality, MCI resource capabilities, specialty rescue equipment and more.

MAYOR ROUPP

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

President Riley stated Police Department contract negotiations will continue on June 28, 2022 at 6:00PM.

FLAG PRESENTATION – BOB ROGERS

Mayor Roupp will present Bob Roger's flag (Athens Borough flag design) on Friday, June 17, 2022 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on June 10, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:47PM
STOP: 8:02PM

ADJOURN

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Molnar that the meeting be adjourned at 8:02PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Tara R. Campbell, Secretary