MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on March 09, 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 and Sharon Sporn.

Absent: Mayor Todd Babcock

President Matthew Patton 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

The Sayre Morning Times announced they were recording the meeting.

PUBLIC

No one present wished to address Council.

PRESIDENT PATTON

MONTHLY BILLS

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

General Fund **$37,779.80**
Sewer Fund **$90,535.12**
Fire Fund **$363.09** – Loan Payment #79

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

MINUTES

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that the minutes of the regular meeting on February 09, 2026 be approved as written. Motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Vice-President Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on March 03, 2026.

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

Customer Requests: 11

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2026): 91

Contractor Permits:

Issued: 11 Pending: 1 Void: 0

P&Z MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on April 08, 2026 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

SOLAR PANEL DRAFT ORDINANCE

Solicitor Foster requested to table this topic until the April meeting.

MUNILOGIC CONTRACT

It was moved by Riley and seconded by Cotton that the Munilogic contract extension be approved through April 01, 2027. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

President Pro Tem Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on February 27, 2026.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Council Member Sporn stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on March 04, 2026.

Monthly Report

Month of February		Total for the Year 2026
107	Total Number of Calls:	217
3	Felony Arrests:	3
3	Misdemeanor Arrests:	17
3	Non-Traffic Arrests:	4
2	Traffic Citations:	8
24	Traffic/ Parking Reports:	51
0	Truancy Reports:	0
3	PFA Violations	6
0	Parking Tickets/Warnings	0
	Mileage:	
224	2017 Tahoe	101,699 Overall
438	2019 Tahoe	64,486 Overall
602	2023 Tahoe	32,487 Overall
	District Court:	
3	Criminal Cases:	6
2	Traffic Cases:	10
3	Non-traffic Cases:	8
0	Truancy	0
8	Total Cases:	24

POLICE PENSION ACT 49 OF 2024

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Riley that Girard Pension Services be authorized to conduct an actuarial cost study for a one-time fee of $1000 to determine the financial impact of the Police Pension Act 49 on the Uniform Pension Plan. Motion carried.

PATROL OFFICER SPONSORSHIP

It was moved by Chaykowsky and seconded by Williams that the proposal to sponsor two Patrol Officers to attend the Mansfield Police Academy be approved. Motion carried.

PER DIEM PATROL OFFICERS

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Chaykowsky that the Letter of Understanding and Agreement between the Teamsters Local 118 and Athens Borough regarding the Per Diem Patrol Officers be approved. Motion carried.

CURRENT PD NEW HIRE APPLICATIONS

Chief Dieg updated Council on the status of applications received to date during the second round of the Civil Service Process.

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Council member Riley stated:

SHADE TREE

The Shade Tree Commission met on February 16, 2026 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2026 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

BRADFORD COUNTY PROPOSED EMS SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING GRANT

Council was presented with information regarding the Bradford County Proposed EMS Sustainability Funding Grant. Council member Cotton gave his opinion and support of the grant funding and also stated he has been in contact with Derek Hall, Chief/Executive Director of Greater Valley EMS who is willing to attend a meeting with Council to provide more information and answer any questions Council may have.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 4

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Patton that Resolution 2026 – 4, adopting the 2026 Bradford County Hazard Mitigation Plan be adopted. Motion carried.

BRADFORD COUNTY 2026 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
Municipal Adoption Resolution
Athens Borough, Bradford County, Pennsylvania

Resolution No. 2026 - 4

WHEREAS, Athens Borough, Bradford County, Pennsylvania is most vulnerable to natural and human-made hazards which may result in loss of life and property, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety, and,

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires state and local governments to develop and submit for approval to the President a mitigation plan that outlines process for identifying their respective natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities, and,

WHEREAS, Athens Borough acknowledges the requirements of Section 322 of DMA 2000 to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan as a prerequisite to receiving post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds, and,

WHEREAS, the Bradford County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Bradford County Commissioners and the Bradford County Emergency Management Agency in cooperation with other county departments, and officials and citizens of Athens Borough, and,

WHEREAS, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted to develop the Bradford County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and,

WHEREAS, the Bradford County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan recommends mitigation activities that will reduce losses to life and property affected by both natural and human-made hazards that face the County and its municipal governments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body for Athens Borough:

- The Bradford County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of Athens Borough, and,

- The respective officials and agencies identified in the implementation strategy of the Bradford County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan are hereby directed and implement the recommended activities assigned to them.

FIRE COMMITTEE

Council member Cotton stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for February was not made available to Council.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Council member Chaykosky stated:

DONALD GUTHRIE FOUNDATION COMMUNITY BENEFIT GRANT

Futurescapes and the Borough Manager have submitted an application for the Donald Guthrie Foundation Community Benefit Grant requesting $5,496.50. The grant is for necessary repairs to the Diahoga Walking Trail fence and trail surface.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on February 06, 2026.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:27PM
STOP: 7:56PM

ADJOURN

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that the meeting be adjourned at 7:56PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Tara R. Campbell, Secretary