MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular session on May 09, 2022 Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

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

Absent: Anthony Smith

Mayor Roupp 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

No one present wished to address Council.

PRESIDENT RILEY

MONTHLY BILLS

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

General Fund **$35,628.96**
Sewer Fund **$87,891.33**
Fire Fund **$768.46** – Loan Payment #27
Fire Fund **$15,000** – FD State Grant

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

MINUTES

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that the minutes of the regular meeting on April 11, 2022 be approved as written. Motion carried.

VALLEY ENERGY RATE INCREASE

It was moved by Riley and seconded by Molnar that Solicitor Foster be authorized to file a Formal Complaint with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission regarding Valley Energy's proposed rate increase. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION – PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Chaykosky to accept with regret the resignation of Regina "Lois" Allen from the Planning and Zoning Commission effective May 09, 2022. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT – PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that Matt Patton be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission effective May 09, 2022. This term expires on December 31, 2022 and automatically renews for a four year term. Motion carried.

PSAB CANNABIS LEGALIZATION RESOLUTION

Council held a discussion on whether or not Athens Borough wants to support the legalization of the cannabis industry and expungement for previous such offense in Pennsylvania. This topic was tabled until more information is released by the State of Pennsylvania.

ATHENS BOROUGH FLAG

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Chaykosky that the Borough returns the original Athens Borough flag to the designer per their request. Motion carried.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Riley called for an Executive Session to discuss Personnel.

POLICE COMMITTEE

Vice-President Molnar stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on May 03, 2022.

Month of April	Monthly Report	Total for the Year
131	Total Number of Calls:	497
0	Felony Arrests:	1
0	Misdemeanor Arrests:	5
1	Non-Traffic Arrests:	4
3	Traffic Citations:	9
16	Traffic Reports:	35
0	Parking Warnings:	11
0	Parking Tickets:	3
	Mileage	
97	2013 Tahoe	106,199 Overall
1,210	2017 Tahoe	63,062 Overall
751	2019 Tahoe	29,848 Overall
	District Court:	
18	Total Cases:	34
1	Criminal Cases:	6
2	Traffic Cases:	4
0	Non-traffic Cases:	3
0	PFA Violations	15

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

President Pro Tem Sporn stated:

The Shade Tree Commission met on April 18, 2022 at 6:00PM in town to prune trees. Their next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2022 at 5:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

HOMETOWN HERO BANNERS

The Borough Manager held a brief discussion with Council regarding the Hometown Hero Banners. An ad will be sent to the newspaper as a last call for banner applications.

MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT – CENTRAL AVENUE

Council held another brief discussion regarding the use of the Municipal Parking Lot off Central Avenue. Council has no need to continue discussions until action is needed in the future.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Council member Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on May 05, 2022.

PWD PURCHASE – DUMP BOX AND SPREADER

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Williams that quote number 9331 in the amount of $36,409.87 from Bradco Supply, Costars Contract Number 025-E22-434 Vendor Number 130588 be accepted to purchase a dump box and spreader for the 2002 Freightliner Truck. Motion carried.

PWD NEW HIRE

Applications have been received for the Public Works Department Class B position. The Executive Committee will schedule a date to hold interviews.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Council member Polzella stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on May 02, 2022.

Zoning Permits Issued: 12
Zoning Permits Denied: 0
Zoning Permits to Date: 12

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2022): 74

Contractor Permits through 05/09/2022:

Issued: 40 Pending: 18 Void: 0

P&Z MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Committee will meet on May 11, 2022 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council member Chaykosky stated:

BASKETBALL COURT - MURAL

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that Mariah Johnston be authorized to paint a mural on the wall at the basketball court. Council has approved the sketch that was provided to them and the purchase of supplies to be used. Motion carried.

FIRE COMMITTEE

President Riley stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for April was made available to Council on May 05, 2022.

MAYOR ROUPP

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Police Department Contract Negotiations will begin on May 10, 2022 at 7:30PM.

GVCC TRIATHLON

The Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce has met with the Valley Municipalities in reference to a Triathlon event that is planned for September.

ARBOR DAY

On April 29, 2022, the Arbor Day Proclamation was recited to the 4th grade class at the Arbor Day event held at Lynch-Bustin Elementary School.

PROCLAMATION



Whereas, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

Now, Therefore, I, Francis Roupp III, Mayor of the Borough of Athens, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2022 as ARBOR DAY in the Borough of Athens and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on May 09, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:54PM
STOP: 8:07PM

ADJOURN

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that the meeting be adjourned at 8:07PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

_____
Tara R. Campbell, Secretary