MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular and teleconference session on November 08, 2021, Council Chambers, Athens Borough Municipal Building.

Present: President Scott Riley, Vice-President Robert Williams, President Pro Tem Matthew Patton, Council members Walter Chaykosky, Scott Molnar, Sharon Sporn and Mayor Roupp.

Absent: Council member Jeffrey Nason

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 conducted via teleconference and regular session per the Emergency Declaration. Please state your last name when making motions and please refrain from speaking unless you are addressing your Committee subjects. If you have a recording devise please announce so at this time as this meeting is also being tape recorded to assist the Borough Secretary when completing the Minutes.

NEW OFFICER SWORN IN

Mayor Roupp swore in Andrew Whitehead as Part-Time Officer for the Athens Borough Police Department.

PRESS

No one present.

PUBLIC

No one present wished to address Council.

PRESIDENT RILEY

MONTHLY BILLS

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Chaykosky that the November 2021 monthly bills be approved as follows:

General Fund **$125,464.17**
Sewer Fund **$115,993.60**
Fire Fund **$794.07** – Loan Payment #21

AYES: Chaykosky, Molnar, Patton, Sporn, Williams, Riley
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Nason
Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Sporn that the minutes of the teleconference / regular meeting on October 11, 2021 be approved as written. Motion carried.

TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL – NEW TWIN RIVERS LLC

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Williams the Tax Assessment Appeal per Bradford County Assessment Office for New Twin Rivers LLC, 120 Spruce Street be approved. The revised assessment is from $1,334,300 to $1,130,900. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION – PATROL OFFICER

It was moved by Patton and seconded by Sporn that the resignation of Michael Northup, 16 hour part-time/casual Patrol Officer be accepted effective October 23, 2021. Motion carried.

Nay - Molnar

NEW HIRE – PATROL OFFICER

It was moved by Patton and seconded by Sporn that Andrew Whitehead be hired as a 32 hour Part-Time Patrol Officer for the Athens Borough Police Department effective October 18, 2021. Motion carried.

APPOINT PWD LEADER – PENSION BOARD

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Patton to appoint Michael Freeland, PWD Leader to fill the vacancy on the Athens Borough Pension Board. This term expires on December 31, 2015. Motion carried.

APPOINT CITIZEN – PENSION BOARD

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn to appoint Todd Babcock, 103 Edward Street to fill the vacancy as the Citizen on the Athens Borough Pension Board. Motion carried.

2022 TAX ORDINANCE

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Chaykosky that the Borough Manager be authorized to advertise the Ordinance setting the tax rate for fiscal year 2022. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ATHENS FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022.

SECTION NO. 1

That a tax be and the same is hereby levied on all property within the Borough of Athens subject to taxation for the Borough purposes for the fiscal year 2022 as follows:

General Purposes..... 18.75 mills

Library Purposes..... .25 mill

Fire Equipment Purposes..... 1.00 mills

Making a total tax rate of 20.00 mills for all Borough purposes on each dollar of assessed valuation.

2022 POLICE PENSION ORDINANCE

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Chaykosky that the Borough Manager be authorized to advertise the Ordinance discontinuing contributions by either the Borough of Athens or the Police Force for the calendar year 2022 based on the Actuarial Valuation Report of the pension of the Police Pension Fund. Motion carried.

BOROUGH OF ATHENS
ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 22, POLICE PENSION FUND, 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 Section 22-4, Contribution Rate of the Code of the Borough of Athens hereby deletes the following:

No contribution shall be required by either the Borough of Athens or the Police Force for the calendar year 2021 based on the Actuarial Valuation Report of the pension of the Police Pension fund.

Under Section 22-4, Contribution Rate of the Code of the Borough of Athens, hereby adds the following:

No contribution shall be required by either the Borough of Athens or the Police Force for the calendar year 2022 based on the Actuarial Valuation Report of the pension of the Police Pension Fund.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – CHAPTER 84, SEWERS

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Williams that Solicitor Foster be authorized to advertise the Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 84, Sewers, changing the sewer rent rate for Residential and Commercial. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER NO. 84, SEWERS, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ATHENS, COUNTY OF BRADFORD, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.
The Borough of Athens hereby ordains and enacts as follows:

Article X Sewer Rentals; Charges; Penalties; Collection

Under §84-52. **Rentals, residential units** of the Code of the Borough of Athens, hereby **deletes** the following:

The sewer rental for each residential unit shall be $140 per quarter in arrears.

Under §84-52. **Rentals, residential units** of the Code of the Borough of Athens, hereby **adds** the following:

Effective January 1, 2022, the sewer rental for each residential unit shall be $145 per quarter in arrears.

Under §84-53. **Rentals, nonresidential units** of the Code of the Borough of Athens, hereby **deletes** the following:

Effective April 1, 2012 all owners of nonresidential units shall pay a quarterly sewer rental, which shall be the greater of a sewer rental of **$140** per equivalent dwelling unit or a sewer rental based upon actual water consumption or measured volume of wastewater, as hereinafter set forth. For the purposes of computation of sewer rentals based upon water consumption or volume of wastewater discharged into the sewer system, the amount shall be computed at the rate of **$9.52** per thousand gallons of water consumed or wastewater discharged into the sewer system during the quarter for which the billing is rendered.

A. Volume measurement. The volume of water to be used for billing sewer rentals to nonresidential units shall include any and all water purchased from the Sayre Water Company or any other private or public water company, and in addition all water obtained from any other source or sources (wells, springs, streams, etc.) as determined:

(1) By meters installed and maintained by the Sayre Water Company or any other private or public water company.

Under §84-53. **Rentals, nonresidential units** of the Code of the Borough of Athens, hereby **adds** the following:

Effective January 1, 2022 all owners of nonresidential units shall pay a quarterly sewer rental which shall be the greater of a sewer rental of $145 per equivalent dwelling unit or a sewer rental based upon actual water consumption or measured volume of wastewater, as hereinafter set forth. For the purposes of computation of sewer rentals based upon water consumption or volume of wastewater discharged into the sewer system, the amount shall be computed at the rate of $11.62 per thousand gallons of water consumed or wastewater discharged into the sewer system during the quarter for which the billing is rendered.

A. Volume measurement. The volume of water to be used for billing sewer rentals to nonresidential units shall include any and all water purchased from the Water Company or any other private or public water company, and in addition all water obtained from any other source or sources (wells, springs, streams, etc.) as determined:

(1) By meters installed and maintained by the Water Company or any other private or public water company.

THIS ORDINANCE shall take effect January 1, 2022; however the first payment on the increased amount will be billed on April 1. 2022 and due Apri 30, 2022 for the 1st quarter 2022 sewer rent.

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Riley called for an Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Confidential Information.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Vice-President Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on November 04, 2021.

TASK ORDER NO. 2 - GHD

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Patton that task order # 2 received by GHD in the amount of $4,000 be approved for the design of a new force main discharge manhole to replace an existing manhole located adjacent to Tioga Point Lane / SR 199, upstream on the S Main Pump Station. Motion carried.

POLICE COMMITTEE

President Pro Tem Patton stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on November 04, 2021.

Monthly Report

Month of October		Total for the Year
115	Total Number of Calls:	1120
0	Felony Arrests:	7
5	Misdemeanor Arrests:	14
0	Non-Traffic Arrests:	2
2	Traffic Citations:	11
13	Traffic Reports:	133
0	Parking Warnings:	1
1	Parking Tickets:	11
	Mileage	
244	2013 Tahoe	104,993 Overall
Out of Service	2017 Tahoe	57,270 Overall
1,550	2019 Tahoe	25,139 Overall
	District Court:	
6	Total Cases:	39
4	Criminal Cases:	20
2	Traffic Cases:	12
0	Non-traffic Cases:	4
0	PFA Violations	3

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Council member Sporn stated:

The Shade Tree Commission met on October 18, 2021 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. Their next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2021 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

PLANTING SHADE TREES

Council member Molnar stated 36 shade trees would be planted this week.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Council member Molnar stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on November 03, 2021.

Zoning Permits Issued: 26
Zoning Permits Denied: 0
Zoning Permits to Date: 26

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2021): 82

Contractor Permits through 11/08/2021:

Issued: 7 Pending: 1 Void: 1 Issued to Date (2021): 103

PARKS AND RECREATION

Council member Chaykosky stated:

TEAOGA SQUARE MAINTENANCE

The Borough Manager received a proposal from CEC in the amount of $9,200 for Professional Services. Discussion was held and tabled regarding conceptual designs for Teaoga Square.

FIRE COMMITTEE

President Riley stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for October was made available to Council on November 08, 2021.

MAYOR ROUPP

VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONIES

The Mayor will attend Veteran's Day Ceremonies throughout the day on November 11, 2021.

THE ANNUAL TURKEY TROT

The Turkey Trot will be held on November 25, 2021 starting at 10:00AM.

THE SAYRE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Christmas Parade will be held on Friday, November 26, 2021 at 6:30 PM in Sayre Borough.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on November 08, 2021.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:17PM
STOP: 8:00PM

COVID RELIEF FUNDING

It was moved by Patton and seconded by Sporn that the Covid Relief Funding shall be utilized to cover employees' sick time due to Covid effective March 03, 2021, per the parameters stated in the State Aid Funding. Motion carried.

AGREEMENT – JOHNSONS FARMS

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that the Agreement to dispose of leaves on Johnson's Farm be approved. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Williams that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

_____
Tara R. Campbell, Secretary