

MINUTES

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

Present: Vice-President Scott Riley, President Pro Tem Robert Williams, Council members Walter Chaykosky, Scott Molnar, Jeffrey Nason, Matthew Patton and Mayor Francis Roupp III.

Mayor Roupp led in the Salute to the Flag.

Vice-President Riley called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Vice-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 device please announce so at this time as this meeting is also being tape recorded to assist the Borough Secretary when completing the Minutes.

PRESS

The Morning Times announced they were tape recording the meeting.

PUBLIC

No one present wished to address Council.

VICE-PRESIDENT RILEY

LETTERS OF INTEREST

Vice-President Riley announced the Borough of Athens received three letters of interest for the vacant Council seat, Letters were received from Sharon Sporn, Pat Cotton and JoAnne Polzella. The term of the vacant seat expires on December 31, 2021. Should the appointee or any other interested persons wish to run for a Council position they need to obtain a petition from the Bradford County Office of Elections. Petitions are available at the Bradford County Elections Office beginning February 08, 2021. Vice-President Riley also stated the Borough Council expresses their gratitude to all interested parties and are thankful for the interest in serving our town and citizens.

Vice-President Riley invited each interested candidate to address Council as to why they would like to fill the vacant Council seat.

In order of letters received, Sharon Sporn, Pat Cotton and JoAnne Polzella took a moment to address Council on why they are interested in filling the Council vacancy.

COUNCIL VACANCY

Vice-President Riley opened the nominations to fill the Council Vacancy.

President Pro Tem Williams called for the nomination of Sharon Sporn. Council member Patton seconded the nomination for Sharon Sporn.

Council member Chaykosky called for the nomination of Pat Cotton. Council member Molnar seconded the nomination for Pat Cotton.

Vice-President Riley called for a motion to close nominations as no other nominations were called. Motion was made by Chaykosky and seconded by Williams to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Vice-President Riley called for a roll call vote in order that nominations were made.

Sharon Sporn AYES: Nason, Patton, Riley, Williams
 NAYS: Chaykosky, Molnar
 Motion carried to appoint Sharon Sporn to fill the vacancy on
Council.

Council thanked the other two interest candidates and requested that they obtain a petition to run for one of the upcoming positions available in the 2021 election.

Mayor Roupp swore in/gave the Oath of Office to newly elected Council member Sharon Sporn.

Council member Sporn took her seat at the Council table.

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT

Vice-President Riley opened the nominations for the position of President of Council.

President Pro Tem Williams called for the nomination of Vice-President Riley with a second by Council member Patton.

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

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

President Riley opened the nominations for the position of Vice-President of Council.

Council member Patton called for the nomination of President Pro Tem Williams with a second by Council member Nason.

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

APPOINT PRESIDENT PRO TEM

It was moved by Riley and seconded by Patton to appoint Matthew Patton as President Pro Tem, who will reside in the absence of the President and Vice-President. Motion carried.

MONTHLY BILLS

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

General Fund **\$33,922.96**
Sewer Fund **\$123,623.98**
Fire Fund **\$887.59** – Loan Payment #11

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

MINUTES

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

COVID-19 POLICY

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Chaykosky to adopt the Athens Borough Covid-19 policy. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 2

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Patton that Resolution No. 2021 – 2 appointing the Earned Income Tax Collection Committee Delegates with the following members appointed for the 2021 calendar year be adopted. Motion carried.

1. Primary voting delegate: Walter Chaykosky
2. First alternate voting delegate: Robert Williams
3. Second alternate voting delegate: Tara R. Campbell

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Riley called for an Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues.

FIRE COMMITTEE

President Riley stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for January was made available to Council on February 03, 2021.

President Riley also stated the new fire engine build is still on schedule with a completion date estimated in March 2021.

Fire Chief Jason Chandler announced that hydrant markers were placed on hydrants due to the recent snow events.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Vice-President Williams stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on February 02, 2021.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Council member Patton stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on February 01, 2021.

Zoning Permits Issued: 0
Zoning Permits Denied: 0
Zoning Permits to Date: 3

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2021): 27

Contractor Permits through 01/31/2021:

Issued: 2 Pending: 20 Void: 0 Issued to Date(2021): 2

ORDINANCE NO. 716

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Riley that Ordinance No. 716, an amendment to Ch. 34, Animals to allow chickens in the Borough as advertised on January 28, 2021 be adopted. Motion carried.

NAYS: Chaykosky and Williams(not in favor of the setbacks)

POLICE COMMITTEE

Council member Molnar stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on February 01, 2021.

	Monthly Report	Total for the Year
Month of January		
104	<u>Total Number of Calls:</u>	104
1	<u>Felony Arrests:</u>	61
1	<u>Misdemeanor Arrests:</u>	1
1	<u>Non-Traffic Arrests:</u>	51
1	<u>Traffic Citations:</u>	1
15	<u>Traffic Reports:</u>	15
0	<u>Parking Warnings:</u>	70
0	<u>Parking Tickets:</u>	0

Mileage

178	2013 Tahoe	102,797 Overall
1,105	2017 Tahoe	45,364 Overall
306	2019 Tahoe	18,466 Overall

District Court:

1	Total Cases:	1
1	Criminal Cases:	1
0	Traffic Cases:	0
0	Non-traffic Cases:	0
2	PFA Violations	2

PARKS AND RECREATION

Council member Chaykosky welcomed Sharon Sporn to Council again.

Council member Chaykosky also stated the Valley Playland Rebuild date has been changed to a later date again due to issues with the Lumber Supplier.

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Council member Nason stated:

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

SOLICITOR

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:18PM
STOP: 9:54PM

MINUTES – WORKSHOP

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that the minutes of the workshop meeting on January 18, 2021 be approved with the corrections as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried.

LETTER TO ATHENS TOWNSHIP – INFORMATION NEEDED

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Patton that Solicitor Foster Jr be authorized to draft a letter to Athens Township’s Solicitor requesting a draft copy of their Regional Police Force budget. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ONLY

The Borough Manager informed Council that the Borough will be implementing Borough email domains for all members of Council.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Nason that the meeting be adjourned at 9:58PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Tara R. Campbell, Secretary