

MINUTES

The Athens Borough Council met in regular and teleconference session on October 11, 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 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

No one present.

PUBLIC

No one present wished to address Council.

PRESIDENT RILEY

MONTHLY BILLS

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

General Fund	<u>\$95,342.31</u>
Sewer Fund	<u>\$4,524.86</u>
Fire Fund	<u>\$758.74</u> – Loan Payment #20

AYES: Chaykosky, Molnar, Patton, Sporn, Williams, Riley

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Nason

Motion carried.

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It was moved by Chaykosky and seconded by Williams that the minutes of the teleconference / regular meeting on September 13, 2021 be approved as written. Motion carried.

VETERAN'S EXEMPTION RENEWAL

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Patton that the Veteran's Exemption Renewal request of Harry W Wright, 768 S Main Street be approved, effective January 01, 2021. The Bradford County Commissioners granted this request on August 26, 2021. Motion carried.

TAX ASSESSMENT REFUND – PHOENIX INDUSTRIES

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Patton the Tax Assessment Refund per Court Order for DMP #07-020.14-138-000-000, 101 N Main Street, owned by Phoenix Industries LLC be approved. The refund applies to years 2019, 2020 and 2021 in the amount of \$69,402.13. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 4

It was moved by Sporn and seconded by Molnar that Resolution No. 2021 – 4 the sale of the Rec Center to the Central Bradford Progress Authority in the amount of \$118,000 be adopted. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 4

A RESOLUTION OF ATHENS BOROUGH, AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF
ATHENS TO SELL REAL ESTATE

AND NOW, this 11th day of October, 2021, the Athens Borough Council adopts the foregoing Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Borough Code permits the sale of real estate directly to an authority as defined as 53 Pa. C.S. 5602;

WHEREAS, the CENTRAL BRADFORD PROGRESS AUTHORITY is an authority as defined as 53 Pa. C.S. 5602;

WHEREAS, the BOROUGH OF ATHENS by this Resolution authorizes the sale of a portion of Bradford County Parcel Number 07-020.14-156-000, to become 07-020.14-156-001, to the CENTRAL BRADFORD PROGRESS AUTHORITY for a purchase price of one-hundred and eighteen thousand dollars (\$118,000.00);

WHEREAS, Bradford County Parcel Number 07-020.14-156-000 has the following legal description:

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ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, situate lying and being in the Borough of Athens, County of Bradford and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point the Northeast corner of South Main Street and Satterlee Street thence along the East side of South Main Street North 89 degrees 48 minutes 55 seconds West, a distance of 166.99 to a point; thence running along the lands of now or formerly of Pennsylvania Lines LLC North 39 degrees 26 minutes 34 seconds East, a distance of 372.11 feet to a point; thence running along the lands of now or formerly Athens Borough South 14 degrees 11 minutes 55 seconds East, a distance of 387.59 feet to a point along Satterlee Street; thence running along North side of Satterlee Street South 75 degrees 48 minutes 05 seconds West a distance of 298.12 feet to a point and place of beginning.

CONTAINING 1.904 acres and identified as Lot No. 1 on the CEC Preliminary Subdivision Map dated September 16, 2019 recorded as Bradford County Instrument Number 201911645.

EXCEPTING AND RESERVING Lot No. 2 and Lot No. 3 on the CEC Preliminary Subdivision Map dated September 16, 2019, recorded as Bradford County Instrument Number 201911645, which is being retained by Grantee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Athens, a portion of the real estate known as Bradford County Parcel Number 07-020.14-156-000 as more fully described above shall be sold to the Central Bradford Progress Authority for a purchase price of one-hundred and eighteen thousand dollars (\$118,000.00), and now effective this 11th day of October 2021, the foregoing Resolution is adopted.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 BUDGET

On November 08, 2021 the Borough Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00PM, at which time the public may address the Council concerning the 2022 budget proposal.

The Ordinance setting the tax rate for 2022 will be presented at the November 08, 2021 meeting of Council. The Ordinance is scheduled for adoption at the December 13, 2021 meeting of Council.

2022 TENTATIVE BUDGET

	2021	2022 PROPOSED BUDGET
1. General Fund	\$1,650,065.00	\$1,733,130.00
2. Library Fund	\$ 12,500.00	\$12,500.00
3. Street Maintenance Fund	\$ 98,000.00	\$99,500.00
4. Fire Equipment Fund	\$ 50,000.00	\$50,000.00
5. Sewer Revenue Fund	\$1,098,950.00	\$1,079,550.00
 TOTAL	 \$2,909,515.00	 \$2,974,680.00

REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY

	2021	2022 PROPOSED
1. General Fund	18.75 mills	18.75 mills
2. Fire Equipment Fund	1.00 mills	1.00 mills
3. Library Fund	.25 mills	.25 mills
TOTAL LEVY	20.00 mills	20.00 mills

SEWER RENT CHARGES

	2021	2022
1. Residential	\$140.00/edu/quarter	\$145.00/edu/quarter
2. Commercial/Public	\$140.00/edu/quarter or \$9.52/thousand gal water/quarter (whichever is greater)	\$145.00/edu/quarter or \$11.62/thousand gal water/quarter (whichever is greater)

CALL FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice-President Williams called for an Executive Session to discuss Personnel.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

President Riley stated:

The Public Work's Department report was made available to Council on October 05, 2021.

SALE OF PROPERTY – SEWER PIPE AND FITTINGS

The Secretary-Treasurer opened and read bids for the sale of SDR Schedule 26 4" sewer pipes and fittings at 3:00PM on October 07, 2021.

List of Bidders

Vacri Construction Corporation One Brick Avenue Binghamton NY 13901	\$ 2,330.00
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It was moved by Williams and seconded by Chaykosky that the Borough Manager be authorized to advertise on Municibid with a reserve of \$4500, the sale of an estimated 1300 feet of 4" SDR sewer pipe and numerous 4" pipe fittings. Motion carried.

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Chaykosky that the bid received by Vacri Construction Corporation in the amount of \$2,330 for the sale of SDR Schedule 26 4" sewer pipes and fittings be rejected. Motion carried.

2021 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

FIRST and FOURTH WARDS: November 1 through November 5
November 8 through November 12

SECOND and THIRD WARDS: November 15 and November 19
November 22 through November 26

All leaves must be raked to the curb line. If there is no area between the curb and sidewalk, place the leaves as close to the sidewalk as possible. Per Athens Borough Ordinance, DO NOT PLACE LEAVES IN THE STREET, Violators will be subject to a fine. Do not place sticks, brush or garbage in the leaf pile. If there are any sticks, brush or garbage in the leaf pile, the pile will not be picked up. The Borough understands that the leaves may not have fallen at your time of scheduled collection, once your leaves fall, please place them along the sidewalk as directed.

VALLEY PLAYLAND – PARKING

Council held a brief discussion about parking concerns at the Valley Playland and whether or not parking can be expanded. Chief Hutchinson and the Borough Manager were asked to look into the idea to expand parking.

POLICE COMMITTEE

President Pro Tem Patton stated:

The Police Chief's monthly report was made available to Council on October 07, 2021.

	<u>Monthly Report</u>	Total for the Year
Month of September		
171	<u>Total Number of Calls:</u>	1005
0	<u>Felony Arrests:</u>	7

0	<u>Misdemeanor Arrests:</u>	9
0	<u>Non-Traffic Arrests:</u>	2
1	<u>Traffic Citations:</u>	9
19	<u>Traffic Reports:</u>	120
0	<u>Parking Warnings:</u>	0
1	<u>Parking Tickets:</u>	11
	<u>Mileage</u>	
228	2013 Tahoe	104,749 Overall
1,331	2017 Tahoe	57,270 Overall
661	2019 Tahoe	23,589 Overall
	<u>District Court:</u>	
2	Total Cases:	33
1	Criminal Cases:	16
1	Traffic Cases:	10
0	Non-traffic Cases:	4
0	PFA Violations	3

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Council member Sporn stated:

The Shade Tree Commission met on September 20, 2021 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building. Their next meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2021 at 6:00PM at the Athens Borough Municipal Building.

SHADE TREE GRANT

The Tree Pennsylvania Bare Root Tree Grant Program has sent notification that Athens Borough was awarded the grant consisting of 20 assorted tree species.

Council member Sporn enlightened Council of an idea to construct a rain garden at the Valley Playland. A rain garden is a plant pond and can help water seep into the soil and away from causing harm elsewhere. Council members Sporn and Molnar will be working together to develop the idea into a plan that could possibly be implemented in the future.

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Council member Molnar stated:

The Zoning Officer's monthly report was made available to Council on October 05, 2021.

Zoning Permits Issued: 3
Zoning Permits Denied: 0
Zoning Permits to Date: 26

Property Maintenance Violation Notices Issued:

Total to Date (2021): 82

Contractor Permits through 09/13/2021:

Issued: 1 Pending: 2 Void: 1 Issued to Date (2021): 96

PARKS AND RECREATION

Council member Chaykosky stated:

VALLEY PLAYLAND

The camera system is scheduled to be installed the week of October 18th.

FIRE COMMITTEE

President Riley stated:

The Fire Department's monthly report for June was made available to Council on October 06, 2021.

SALE OF PROPERTY – 1992 PIERCE FIRE ENGINE

The Secretary-Treasurer opened and read the bids for the sale of the 1992 Pierce Fire Engine at 3:00PM on October 07, 2021.

List of Bidders

Scott M Wolfe \$9,100
287 S Sheridan Rd
Newmanstown PA 17073

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Patton that the bid received by Scott Wolfe in the amount of \$9100 for the sale of the 1992 Pierce Fire Engine be accepted. Motion carried.

MAYOR ROUPP

NEW BUSINESS – RIBBON CUTTING

There will be a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 11AM for Moody and Associates, Inc. located at 101 N Main Street(Entrance is located on the far right of the building near Willow Street.)

HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES

Trick or Treat Night in Athens Borough is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2021 from 6:00PM to 8:00PM.

The 64th Annual Halloween Parade will be held in Sayre Borough on Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 10AM.

SOLICITOR

The Solicitor's report was made available to Council on October 11, 2021.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

START: 7:46PM
STOP: 7:53PM

PWD LEADER

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Sporn that Mike Freeland, Class A Operator be appointed the position of PWD Leader effective October 12, 2021. Motion carried.

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ADJOURN

It was moved by Molnar and seconded by Sporn that the meeting be adjourned at 7:54PM. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Tara R. Campbell, Secretary