The meeting was called to order at 7 PM. Supervisors present were Ronald Reagan, George Ballenstedt, Susan Seck, Christine Vough and Cheryl Wood-Walter. Solicitor John Thompson, Secretary Robin Smith and Treasurer Ruth Casterline were also in attendance.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to appoint Robin as Secretary pro tem.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to elect Cheryl Wood-Walter as Chairman.

On motion of George, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to elect Ronald Reagan as Vice Chairman.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to reappoint Robin Smith as Secretary of the Board for 2015.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous to reappoint Ruth Casterline as Treasurer of the Board for 2015.

Susan would like the Board to consider Randy Harford for the Road Foreman position since he stepped up to the plate during Ray’s absence. Ron said we should check with Randy before a decision like that is made because he would have to drop out of the union, and he may not want to do that. On motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous to table this until our January 28th meeting.

On motion of Cheryl, second by Susan, it was unanimous to hire Thompson Law Office to represent the Township for 2015 at a rate of $100 per hour.

On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to approve the following paid holidays: January 1, President’s Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Veterans Day (Nov. 11th), Christmas & 1 floating holiday for full-time Non-Uniform employees granted immediately according to date of hire. Bargaining Unit holidays as per respective contracts.

On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve paid sick days per year for full-time Non-Uniform employees (present schedule 15 days per year after 1 year of service with the ability to carry over 5 unused days accumulation not to exceed 30 days). A doctor excuse is required after 3 consecutive days. May use up to 10 days/year as FamilySick Leave ONLY if an immediate family member requires hospitalization or care afterwards. Bargaining Unit sick days as per respective contracts.
On motion of Ron, second by George, it was unanimous to approve vacation time for full-time Non-Uniform employees: After one year employment - 10 days. After 5 years employment - 15 days. After six years employment, one vacation day per year of service shall be received up to a maximum of 25 days. No more than 4 weeks can be carried over. Bargaining Unit vacation as per respective contracts.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to approve time off with pay for bereavement leave for Non-Uniform employees: for the death of husband, wife, children or stepchildren - 5 working days; mother, father, sister or brother - 5 working days; mother-in-law or father-in-law - 5 working days; aunt, uncle, grandparents, grandchild, niece, nephew, brother-in-law, sister-in-law - 3 working days. This leave time is for employee or spouse family member and also includes the death of any ‘step-‘. Granted immediately after employment. Bargaining Unit bereavement leave as per respective contracts.

On motion of Christine, second by George, it was unanimous to approve to continue to provide dental and vision coverage for each full-time Non-Uniform employee including the family plan, if applicable, as well as individual and family hospitalization benefits under NYS Teamsters Health and Hospital Fund; to provide short term and long term disability, AD&D and $75,000 life insurance for police officers through Nationwide; provide short term disability (long term disability and AD&D insurance for some) and life insurance of $30,000.00 for full-time Non-Uniform employees Bargaining Unit employee insurance as per respective contracts.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to approve 4 personal days for full-time Non-Uniform employees. Granted immediately and prorated according to date of hire. Bargaining Unit employee personal days as per respective contracts.

On motion of Cheryl, second by George, it was unanimous to approve and provide the Township Non-Uniform Pension Plan and contribute $96,073 to it and provide a Police Pension Plan and contribute $147,884 to it for 2015. The employee will be enrolled immediately upon hiring.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to approve that any supervisor in office during 2015 shall be authorized to perform any duties pertaining to Township affairs, whether administrative, road work, etc.

On motion of Ron, second by Susan, it was unanimous to give authority to Chairman of the Board to purchase supplies and small items of equipment without formal approval of the Board; give authority to the Vice Chairman if the Chairman is unavailable; and give authority to the other three supervisors to act in the same capacity in the event of emergency when the Chairman or Vice Chairman are not available.
On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to appoint Richard Bean as a member of the Vacancy Board for 2015.

On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to appoint Code Inspections, Inc. as the building code enforcement entity for Athens Township in 2015.

Voice of the Residents – none

On motion of Cheryl, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2015-01 designating C & N Bank and M & T Bank as our depositories for 2015.

On motion of Ron, second by Christine, it was unanimous to adopt RESOLUTION 2015-02 appointing Cheryl Wood-Walter and Susan Seck as Athens Township’s two representatives to the Bradford County Sanitation Committee Appeals Board for 2015.

On motion of Susan, second by Cheryl, it passed to table the approval of Chief Hurley’s Memorandum of Understanding until our January 28th meeting to allow Attorney Thompson to review it before action is taken. Christine voted no.

On motion of Ron, second by Susan, it was unanimous to allow the Treasurer to pay bills during the month that become due or will be discounted before our meeting at the end of the month.

On motion of Christine, second by Cheryl, it was unanimous to send George, Robin, Clif, Eddie and the road foreman (if they want to go) to the PSATS Convention in April, and to have George be the Voting Delegate for the township.

On motion of George, second by Susan, it was unanimous to approve the Bradford County Humane Society contract for 2015 in the amount of $1,312.75.

Robin told the Board that they still need to review the fire company contract proposed revisions, and reminded them that we are still operating under the ‘old’ contract until such time as any revisions are approved.

Ruth had reminded Robin that the Board needs to set the Clothing Allowance/Reimbursement for Non-Bargaining/Non-Contract employees. The Board will discuss this further.

Ray had asked Robin to discuss an issue concerning the box we purchased from Bradco for the new truck. Bradco, while installing the box, put in a hydraulic valve on the new spreader “that they thought would be adequate”. The valve is NOT adequate, and Bradco is telling us that WE need to pay for a different valve. Discussion was held. On motion of Ron, second by Cheryl, it
was unanimous NOT to pay for a new valve for this truck, and to have Bradco bear the cost of that. Ray has ordered it, because we need it right away.

Cheryl appointed the committees as follows:

Christine: Sewer, Safety, Insurance
George: Fire, Police, Recycling
Susan: Roads, Parks, Junkyards
Cheryl: Finance, Insurance, Right-To-Know
Ron: Office, Buildings/Grounds, Planning, Zoning

Ron asked the Board what nights of the week are good for them for a special meeting. He will be contacting Andy Harding about our building and see if he is available on a Wednesday night.

Chairman Wood-Walter took the Board into executive session for personnel at 7:40 PM. The secretary was excused and the remaining minutes were taken by Ron Reagan. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:18 PM.

There being no further business, on motion of Cheryl, second by Ron, it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin L. Smith
Secretary