

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ATHENS
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT Mayor Herb Scott, Deputy Mayor Rob Layng
Councillors Darin Alguire, Anne Marie Dancy, Todd Evans,
Greg Kearney, Matt Smith

STAFF PRESENT Darlene Noonan, CAO/Clerk Treasurer
Chris Fenlong, Director of Public Works
Gerry Bell, CBO/Fire Chief

ALSO PRESENT Margaret Rusland, Sally Smid, Dana Boyer, Josh Greer,
Katherine Pattemore, Addison Kennedy, Terri Bridgeman,
Sheena Fitzpatrick

CALL TO ORDER

- H. Scott – call to order - hope everyone had a great summer for those who participated in local events, first class job.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- move #9 to #6 A.D.H.S. delegation

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- None -

MINUTES

MOVED BY T. EVANS

SECONDED BY R. LAYNG

THAT Council approve the minutes of July 14, 2025 meetings as circulated.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- R. Layng - garbage container – C. Fenlong - spoke with them, hasn't been delivered yet after two calls.
- R. Layng - Events Sign – C. Fenlong - trying to figure out another company.
- R. Layng - Drains – C. Fenlong - going through it but there is a lot.
- R. Layng - anything further on septic tank inspections at Charleston – H. Scott – no.
- A. Dancy – garbage - big Rubbermaid, holds cans get 6-8-10 bags in it maybe home hardware.

DELEGATION(S)

- **D. Boyer, Pineview Principal – traffic concern.** - D. Boyer – come to Council concerning a problem around Pineview every morning from George St. to parking lot, driving straight through to parking lot and from Wiltse St. straight into parking lot, high rate of concern for potential accidents or tragedy with walking students they have to wait until bell time to enter school grounds (9:10 a.m.) with no stop signs – no signage or direction. - D. Alguire – are you proposing stop signs on George and Wiltse Streets? – D. Boyer - not sure, proposal don't know what can be done there but currently not yielding they are straight through entering parking lot. – C. Fenlong – met with D. Boyer one other time to figure out a solution, it's a terrible design (the new parking areas), do not recommend a 3 way stop – suggest maybe would be stop on George St. and stop sign coming out of parking lot in front of the church on George St. – it's difficult where to put stop sign, no good visibility due to church at corner it would be trial and error to see if it would work – other parking lot I watched do you know how many arrows on that parking lot they are all over the place and every which way - why not a one way rather than all over the place – D. Boyer - flopped parking lot last year, its flow has improved but it's people off George St. entering or Wiltse St. and entering – those streets are problematic – C. Fenlong – there weren't problems before this new design and land purchase/extension, maybe George St. stop and Wiltse St. through way – D. Boyer - need to stop Wiltse St. too – C. Fenlong - would need one as well from parking lot – D. Boyer - all buses now enter on Wiltse St. so buses don't come up George St. to turn into parking lot. - A. Dancy – flashing red light student zone when school is in – C. Fenlong - a lot larger cost. – G.

Kearney – no left turn by fire hall and everyone has to come in other side by the church – have to come Wiltse St. – C. Fenlong - make George one way? Problematic. - D. Noonan - have you contacted the board? – D. Boyer – did, superintendent. – D. Noonan - it's terribly confusing, the parking lot looks like it is part of or an extension of the street. – T. Evans - any way to do a trial and error? temporary stop for a month or 2 – 3 weeks – C. Fenlong - would have to be six months to a year. – H. Scott – township and board need to get together to see what can and can't be done, get this straightened out. – M. Smith – stop on Wiltse St. and stop on George St. or yield on one of the two and maybe school board needs a curb on George Street. – R. Layng – similar to M. Smith - would it hurt to put a stop at Wiltse St. and see what happens with that – buses and vehicles, all have to stop there before they go across – M. Smith - one way stop – C. Fenlong – Wiltse Street is a main road – flow – George St. easier to stop, Wiltse St. if buses and vehicle are stopping you'll line up and block back to Elgin St. – G. Kearney - it is a school zone people always in a hurry shouldn't even be an issue – C. Fenlong - one question why are they waiting on Wiltse St why can they not enter school ground – D. Boyer - 9:10 supervision starts, they aren't permitted on school property until then - C. Fenlong - so now it's our problem and liability for the school board leaving kids on sidewalk — C. Fenlong - a curb at parking lot side of George would be winter issue – H. Scott - Township problem but school board problem as well, we need the two bodies together and make a recommendation we can accept. – D. Boyer - would have to see and time frame to put the pieces together for student safety. – H. Scott - a rough draft together D. Boyer, her facility supervisor and C. Fenlong. C. Fenlong - needs to read policies on it – D. Boyer - there aren't any school zone signs either. – R. Layng - crossing guard there maybe? It's not a crossing issue it's a wait on street for school entry. – T. Evans – what's the thought to C. Fenlong – make Wiltse St. one way street? Then to Wellington – C. Fenlong - easiest is talk with board is trial and error, stop street on George St. and see, but need to meet with the board – H. Scott – D. Boyer - can you arrange for the first of next week if it is big enough, issue to bring here it's big enough for the board to look at. – D. Boyer - will start tonight the meeting process. C. Fenlong - meet with them then a breakdown of what's going on after meeting to Council. – H. Scott - first step, the UCDSB personnel need to be there first hand to see the issues going on.

- K. Pattemore - ADHS Blue Party – Country Fair Parade Proposal – Prime Minister, grade 11 – Deputy A. Kennedy – expand our tractor parade tradition to include ATV's – we talked to OPP and are in favour – involved in our school and our principal and enthusiastic and excited. Smith Falls ATV – could do a safety meeting at start. October 3rd it's a Friday – Centre 76, Henry, Wiltse, George, Main, Elgin S, Church to soccer field. H. Scott - applaud you for bringing it forward and moving forward – G. Kearney - nice presentation – A. Dancy - great idea – D. Alguire - love the idea – D. Noonan - explained the hold harmless and county and insurance – K. Pattemore said the OPP will give escort with ATV. – H. Scott - everyone supports the initiative – Thank you and good luck.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

MOVED BY R. LAYNG

SECONDED BY T. EVANS

THAT Council approve the accounts for payment as circulated.

CARRIED

REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

- Director of Public Works – Layng Dr. Speed bump/hump request - Residents (3) request for speed humps/bumps on Layng Dr., after C. Fenlong's report and discussion members feel that it is potentially one known street resident offender and the OPP should be contacted by the residents and there are too many negatives to a hump/bump installation.

- CBO – building activity - one more SFD in the next little bit, we are sitting good and going well feedback has been positive – H. Scott - congratulations and thanks for what you're doing.

– CAO – request from Bell Canada door-to-door promotion of bell TV, internet, home phone – as requested, and advised in September 2023 – request not approved – due to past complaints from residents regarding door- to – door sales and the accessibility of internet and online information, it was felt at this time a transient trader license would not be issued or approved.

- CAO – 2025 budget vs. YTD - D. Noonan advised the credit card bank charge savings since not accepting phone credit card payments and adding an admin charge for over-the-counter credit card payments.

CORRESPONDENCE

- None -

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- None -

PLANNING

- None –

BY-LAWS

MOVED BY T. EVANS

SECONDED BY M. SMITH

THAT Council introduce and read a first and second time a bylaw to enter into a canteen lease agreement at Centre '76. **CARRIED**

MOVED BY M. SMITH

SECONDED BY T. EVANS

THAT Council read a third time and finally pass a bylaw to enter into a canteen lease agreement at Centre '76. Signed by the Mayor and the Clerk and numbered 2025-13. **CARRIED**

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

- S. Smid – last meeting in July the “press release” G. Bell – D. Noonan advised although referred to as press release – it’s basically knowledge that Jan. 1st 2025 the Township has hired G. Bell as CBO as split duties as Fire Chief as well.

QUERIES AND COMMENTS BY COUNCIL

- **D. Noonan** – nothing

- **D. Alguire** - nothing

- **A. Dancy** – nothing

- **G. Kearney** – had a call – an individual went to transfer site, impressed with attendants but thought they should have uniforms. I think we do but will bring it up and get them some and thought they should look more township like and I said we would see what we could do. – C. Fenlong - to look into it – they are supposed to be in reflective wear. G. Kearney – rescue truck – G. Bell - brought a proposal K. Hartley found it, to C. Fenlong and T. Fenn – here’s the package 2006 - \$50,000 – 25,000 miles – this side of Hamilton – this is the sales sheet and this is it – would fit our needs for sure – setup as an auto extrication and everything could be taken from pump 2 and this would then do 70% of our calls – G. Kearney - can we move the one that’s at the works garage and get it out of there – G. Bell - now down a truck people are taking personal vehicles which is a further liability – G. Bell - this unit is better than ambulance and last longer – will leave or email.

- **T. Evans** – great job on Heffernan hill and road – Cornfest was a success – numbers show a profit, go up from there – better up at the park thank you to Council for that – H. Scott - wonderful to see the small kids a pile of them there using things.

- **M. Smith** – truck to C. Fenlong? – C. Fenlong - it just arrived they need 3 to 4 days to have it ready started taking stuff off. - M. Smith – and is there enough bins at waste site? C. Fenlong - yes, there is now – were going to 4 I said 2 and it’s working – on a two day cycle – C. Fenlong - a lot of complaints – no shelter there bought umbrella and told them to switch out – going well.

- **R. Layng** – tonight before we came in D. Noonan forwarded K. Dejong retirement invite to everyone – date and time – certificate? – D. Noonan – yes, get me dates.

- **C. Fenlong** — Heffernan hill completed – next week Water Street starting.

- **G. Bell** - nothing

- **H. Scott**— county hired a new public works Sarah McDonald, 20 year experience starting October 14th – tomorrow ribbon cutting at Maple View by invitation and Minister who came and started process rolling will be there, also to Sherwood Park Manor and do that one as well – problem at George Tackaberry & Family Home two weeks or 3 weeks ago – someone told to go on roof and cut a hole and cut hole in wrong place then right place but didn't fix wrong place, water on 3 floors – McDonald Brothers haven't turned over to County so they foot the bill. – see there is another campaign for people to donate and G. Tackaberry will match the first \$50,000 they collect from that campaign. - Charleston not last holiday but one before and went to see parking spots on that holiday weekend at 9:30 a.m. – 15 empty parking spots in Charleston so not as full as the guy with the black truck had said. - H. Scott – tanker – last I heard in Perth and then to Ogilvie's in Smiths Falls – G. Bell - last Friday canceled so going two weeks – H. Scott - quote? – Perth \$32,000 and then rescue - \$80,000 – for those two vehicles – D. Noonan - explained reserves and where it would have to come from and discussed. – G. Kearney - do we throw an offer to this rescue vehicle? - H. Scott - see what it would take to buy it – D. Noonan asked G. Bell to discuss his Camp Bucko experience – and he did – \$11,000 for boot drive.

NOTICE OF MOTION

MOVED BY A. DANCY

SECONDED BY G. KEARNEY

THAT Council close the regular public meeting and enter in camera at 8:15 p.m., for the purpose of personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees. **CARRIED**

MOVED BY D. ALGUIRE

SECONDED BY A. DANCY

THAT Council close the in camera at 8:45 p.m., which was for the purpose of personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, and reopen the regular public meeting. **CARRIED**

- Request for review of arena seasonal/part time staff wages approved increase \$1.00/hr.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY A. DANCY

SECONDED BY D. ALGUIRE

THAT there being no further business this meeting of Council adjourn at 8:48 p.m., Council to meet again Tuesday, October 14th 2025 at 7:00 pm or sooner at the call of the Mayor. **CARRIED**

MAYOR

CLERK