

April 11, 2024

Attendance: Mayor Schroeder called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:00 pm. Roll was taken with Councilors Sally Thompson, Katie Zmuda, Wayne Kostur, Gene Wright, and John Manderscheid being present. City Recorder, Michelle Fox, and 6 guests were also present. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public:

AMA - Katie Zmuda reported for AMA. The Citizen of the Year banquet was held Friday, April 5, 2024. Congratulations to Citizens of the Year John McBean and Katie Funderburk. Also, congratulations to Ken Bjorklund for receiving the Lifetime of Service Award. Clean Sweep/Free Dump Day will be held on May 4, 2024. If you have large items you would like to have picked up to go to dump, please call Nutrien to get on their pick-up list. The AMA's annual meeting is April 22, 2024. They are always looking for new members.

Kristin Williams informed the Council and congratulated Debra Johns for receiving the Library Supporter of the Year Award from the Oregon Library Association. Thank you, Debra, for all your years of support to the Athena Public Library!

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 3/14/24 meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 5-0.

Actionable Items: Union Employee Contract - Mayor Schroeder asked if there were any questions regarding the changes to the contract. It was asked if questions and a discussion could take place in executive session before voting on new contract. This item was moved to executive session.

A business license for Athena Hardware and Mercantile was reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the business license for Athena Hardware and Mercantile. Motions carried 5-0.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission: The Comprehensive Plan is being reviewed.

New Business: All councilors have completed their SEI Filing.

The closure of the city burn pile was discussed. Mayor Schroeder stated the burn pile has been temporarily closed due to the misuse by the community. The burn pile will remain temporarily closed for maintenance. It will be cleaned out, leveled, and fencing and cameras will be installed. Once this is complete, the burn pile will re-open. City Hall will keep the community informed of progress and re-opening date. A few members of

the community also stated that they would like to see the burn pile reopened and agreed with the changes that need to be made.

Mayor Schroeder read and signed a Proclamation of May 2, 2024 as "The National Day of Prayer".

Old Business: Congressman Bentz, Senator Hansell, County Commissioner Cindy Timmons, city councilors, city staff, and a few residents toured the Umatilla County Housing Authority property. Congressman Bentz has agreed to help the City of Athena fight to keep the Umatilla County Housing open.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: Stephanie has started working on her summer reading program.

Parks & Rec:

Public Works: Beginning spring work. Seasonal worker, Kim King will start on May 1st.

Fire: Jeremy Lasater, representative for the EUCFD informed the council that the fire station will be complete in July.

Sheriff: The sheriff's report is in packet.

Administration: Administration is working on budget.

The public meeting was closed at 6:30 and executive session pursuant to ORS192.660(2)(d) was opened at 6:31. Executive session was closed at 6:52

The public meeting was reopened at 6:52.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Union Employee three-year contract, and the City Recorder's two-year contract. Motion carried 4-0 with Wayne Kostur abstaining.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **May 9, 2024 @ 6:00 pm.**

Approved: Becky Schroeder, Mayor _____

Attested: Michelle Fox, City Recorder _____