

January

ATHENA CITY NEWSLETTER 2019

CITY COUNCIL

Rebecca Schroeder,
Mayor

Rebecca Schroeder,
Comm of Parks

Chet Sater,
Comm of Fire Services

Carol Speed,
Comm of Public Works

LaVerne Mitchell
Comm of Administration

Pat Gibson,
Comm of Library

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday
8am – 5pm
Closed all legal holidays

CITY PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall 566-3862
City Shop 566-0228
Library 566-2470
Emergency 911
Non-Emergency
Dispatch 541-966-3651

JANAURY MEETINGS

Library Board

Monday, 7th @ 5:30pm

Planning Commission

Wednesday, 9th @ 6:00pm

City Council

Thursday, 10th @ 6:00pm

Cemetery

Tuesday, 15th @ 5:00

PLANNING COMMISSION POSITION VACANCY

The Athena City Council is seeking a citizen to serve a four-year term on the Athena Planning Commission ending December 31, 2022. Please inquire at City Hall, or call 541-566-3862, and submit letters of interest by 5:00 pm January 9, 2019.



January Events at the Library.....

Happy New Year! The library will be closed on New Year's Day but we have some fun activities planned for the rest of the week.

January 2 from 2:00 – 4:00: Muggle Magic: Science and Harry Potter

January 3 from 3:00 – 4:45:

SLIME! Crafternoon

January 4 at 2:00: Movie afternoon with Incredibles 2

Remember, every Thursday at 3:00pm we have Crafternoons where we do fun projects for all ages. Follow Athena Public Library on Facebook to keep up with all our fun activities.

CITY OF ATHENA ORDINANCE REMINDER Ordinance 5-6.17

Snow & Ice: No owner or person in charge of property, improved or unimproved, abutting on a public sidewalk shall permit: **Snow** to remain on sidewalk for a period of longer than the first four hours of daylight after the snow has fallen.

Ice to remain on the sidewalk for more than four hours of daylight after the ice has formed unless the ice is covered with sand, ashes or other suitable material to assure safe travel.

TIME TO RENEW CITY LICENSES

Licenses are renewable as of January 1, 2019. Citizens over the age of 62 do not pay to renew animal licenses but do need to register and provide proof of shots and altering of the animal.

Business License - \$50.00
(\$55.00 after 2/15/19)

Dog & Cat License - \$12.00
(\$15.00 after 2/15/19)

Livestock Permit – 30.00
(\$35.00 after 2/15/19)

Congratulations to the Christmas Lighting Contest Winners!

Religious – Tom & Deb Munck 612 N. 3rd

Traditional – Bill and Rena Watson 504 E. College

Chevy Chase – Duane & Sue Smalley 408 E. Washington

Honorable Mention – Allen & Sally Thompson 824 N. 5th Street

Business – Sugar Shack



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The Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Athena City Council

December 13, 2018

Attendance: Mayor John Shafer called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:00 pm in the Miller Family Community Room. Roll was taken with Councilors Pat Gibson, LaVerne Mitchell, Chet Sater, Becky Schroeder, and Carol Speed present. City Recorder Nancy Parker, Librarian Kristin Williams, Assistant Recorder Michelle Fox, and eight guests were also in attendance. Mayor Shafer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public:

Athena Caledonian Games: Sue Friese requested permission to apply for a grant to design and place metal art work over the bridge leading to the park, and one to hang on the pavilion. A motion was made and seconded, with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve. Motion carried 5-0. Sue also requested permission to use the park for the Games July 13th & 14th. A motion was made and seconded to approve, with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

Code Enforcement: Ben Carlson introduced himself as the code enforcement officer. He explained the process he will be using, and verified Council would like a soft approach for the initial contact. Ben is willing to work with folks as long as progress is being made. He also explained the citation process, including all tickets going to Circuit Court in Pendleton. Councilor Speed asked for a monthly report on the number of contacts made and progress on each. Everyone agreed it will be a slow process for the first six-twelve months. The main goal is to work with residents and get properties cleaned up.

Athena Chamber of Commerce: Christine McBean announced the Citizen of the Year banquet will be held on February 18th at 6:00 pm at the Athena Christian Church. Please mark your calendars.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 11/8/18 regular meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve.

Actionable Items:

Fire Chief John Reitz was unable to attend the meeting, but sent a letter to Council detailing his concerns and listing the reasons he supports an Inter-Governmental Agreement for joining forces of the Athena Volunteer Fire department with the Helix Fire Department, East Umatilla County Fire District, and the East Umatilla County Health District. A motion was made and seconded to move forward with the Fire District Merger. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve.

A Business license renewal and modification was received from Humbert Tires, due to additional services they are now providing. A motion was made and seconded to approve the business license for Humbert Tires. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: Chris McBean reported a building permit was approved for A-W School District to add additions to both sides of the storage shed on the football field.

Old Business: Water Improvement Project: Brad Baird discussed the 1-year Warranty Inspection that was completed in September, the corrective work on Well No. 5, and the Water Management and Conservation Plan. The items on the inspection list needing attention were Well No. 5 and some paint work on the reservoir. The painting will occur in the spring after the weather warms up. The well motor burned up, and the pump was most likely damaged by running backward for about four weeks in 2017. Both the motor and pump have been replaced. Once flushing of the well is complete samples will be tested, and when approved the well will be put back in service.



December 13, 2018

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The City now has an additional one-year warranty on the new well pump. Brad also highlighted the Water Management and Conservation Plan; then detailed the eight - ten measures the city is required to implement. After lengthy discussion and clarification, a motion was made and seconded to submit the Conservation Plan to the State and County for approval. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve.

New Business:

Due to his election as Umatilla County Commissioner, Mayor John Shafer submitted his resignation as Mayor. A motion was made and seconded to accept Mayor Shafer's resignation. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, Schroeder, and Speed voting to approve. Mayor Shafer was thanked for his years of service to the city, both as Councilor and Mayor. He will be missed.

Per the City charter, Council President Becky Schroeder accept and was installed as Mayor to finish Mayor Shafer's term. Continuing to following the City Charter, the Council by majority appointed Chet Sater as Council President.

Also, under Charter direction, the Council, by majority, needed to appoint a resident to complete Becky Schroeder's term. Four letters of interest were received. Gene Wright and Christy Duncan both attended the meeting, gave a short personal history, and stated why they were interested in serving on City Council. A motion was made and seconded to appoint Gene Wright to fill the remainder of Becky Schroeder's term of office, which expires 12/31,2020. Motion carried 4-0 with Councilors Gibson, Mitchell, Sater, and Speed voting to approve.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Fire: Continuing to work on the IGA for consolidation.

Library: Will be closed December 24th & 25th, close at 4:00pm on the 31st, and closed January 1st.

Administration: Nancy met with auditors today to wrap up the audit, which will be presented at the January meeting.

City Hall and Public Works will be closed December 24th & 25th, 31st and January 1st.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **January 10, 2019 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

**East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District
Medic 400
December 2018 Newsletter**

The staff, crew and volunteers of Medic 400 would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Safe and Healthy New Year in 2019. This year we have set a record by responding to 265 runs with a few days left to go in December 2018. We are very proud of the fact we were able to respond quickly and a few times we were able to staff a second ambulance. A big thank you to all our staff and volunteers!

There was a public informational meeting in Weston on December 11, 2018. The meeting was well attended by community members and directors from the East Umatilla County Rural Fire Protection District, Helix Rural Fire Protection District, the City of Athena and the East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District. Two speakers from Special Districts of Oregon gave a presentation on their experiences with agency consolidation in Lane County.

The above agencies are exploring a possible cooperation agreement between agencies to improve efficiencies and service. Public input is welcome. Comments and suggestions can be submitted to this agency at the above address or the other local agencies listed.



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CHAMBER NEWS

Save the Date!

The 2019 Citizens and Business of the Year Banquet will be held on February 18, 2019 at the Athena Christian Church at 6pm. Nomination forms are available at the Post Office, City Hall and you can email the Chamber to request a form: athenachamber@gmail.com

City Hall Closures

Athena City Hall, Public Works and Library will be closed December 31st & January 1st for New Years

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(100,000 Welcomes)

JANUARY
2019

ATHENA NEWSLETTER

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