

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

June 13, 2019

Attendance: Mayor Becky Schroeder called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:02 pm in the Miller Family Community Room. Roll was taken with Councilors Pat Gibson, Carol Speed, Sally Thompson and Gene Wright present. Wayne Kostur was excused. City Recorder Nancy Parker and thirteen guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public:

Athena Chamber of Commerce: April McKenna passed out a schedule of events for the Chambers so there would be no confusion with what they sponsor and what the Main Street Association sponsors. The yard sale during the City-Wide Yard Sale was a success. They will be serving Root Beer Floats in the park during Hodaka Days and holding Tuesday Market in the park during Caledonian Games.

Main Street Association (MSA): Forty people attended the open house for the Stahl building on the 31st.

Athena Travel Club members from the High School requested permission to have concession in the park during pool hours. They would like to serve healthy food options, and will be responsible for trash and clean up. They will be traveling to Europe in the summer of 2020 and are looking for ways to raise money. A motion was made, seconded, and approve 4-0 to grant the request. They will also be holding a Recycle Fund Raiser the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Luna Dennett read a letter concerning the amount of litter, trash bags and cigarette butts in town. She would like to see more trash cans at various locations throughout town, including the park, skate park, and businesses. Councilors complimented Luna on her spirit, zeal and community involvement. They suggested she partner with the Travel Club concession area to educate others about the need to be respectful and appropriate use of trash bins. Council also encouraged her to see if this could be used as a Senior Project.

Jesse Bonifer and Eric Carlos inquired about a Community Watch Program (one currently exists), the Reserve Deputy Force, and requested a conversation with the Sheriff's Department. Both were urged to contact the Sheriff's Department directly. Council noted they would like to see a representative from the Sheriff's Department attending council meetings again.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 5/9/19 regular meeting, the financial statements and bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Actionable Items: **Joe Franell from Eastern Oregon Telecom** answered questions and concerns about the franchise. He passed out an independent customer service survey and explained how issues are addressed. After questions were answered, a motion was made and seconded to approve Ordinance 10.7 Eastern Oregon Telecom Franchise and Ordinance 10.8 Eastern Oregon Telecom Set Aside. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2019-04 Adopting the Budget, Make Appropriations, and Improve and Categorize the Tax, and **Resolution 2019-05** Declaring the City's Election to Receive State Revenues for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Motion was approved 4-0.

A letter was received from Umatilla County Commissioner George Murdock further explaining the request for funds for the County's Complete Census Committee. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to provide \$250. Motion passed 4-0.

The council appointed Nicci Harrison-Kenney to fill the vacant position on the Library Board. **Monica Becker, representing parents of the Class of 2020** requested permission to hold a Color Run fundraiser. After discussion about what it is, if it is harmful, and how to clean up after; a motion was made and seconded to approve the request. The date was left open and the Chamber would like to coordinate with them about holding it during the Community Night Out celebration.

A letter was submitted from Steven Klein about the smoking and vandalism happening on the side of the library next to his property at night. He requested the bench in that area be moved to the front of the library. Librarian Kristin Williams reported she is getting estimates to have cameras installed, she turns off the internet at night, and is addressing moving the bench.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: The planning meeting was cancelled. Councilor Speed expressed concern about commission members receiving compensation when meetings are cancelled, and how the compensation can be restructured. A heated discussion followed with no agreement reached.

Livestock: Rick Freston submitted a letter of interest and was appointed to the Livestock Commission.

Old Business: Discussion on the Chronic Nuisance property ordinance will be tabled until a new code enforcement officer is hired.

New Business: None

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Parks & Rec: Many compliments on the park were received after numerous graduation parties held there. Good job Public Works!

Fire: The EURFD contract was approved.

Public Works: A written report was submitted.

Library: Kristin reported the Library received a \$4,200 grant for coding, and submitted a proposal to discontinue charging fees for overdue books. She explained the reasoning leading to the change and why she supports it. A motion was made, seconded and approved 4-0 to accept the proposal.

Administration: Nancy attended PDIV in Tacoma this week, and will be in Salem next week for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Grant Selection Committee meeting.

Councilor Reports: None

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **July 11, 2019 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

Approved: Becky Schroeder, Mayor _____

Attested: Nancy Parker, CMC, City Recorder _____