

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

March 12, 2020

Attendance: Mayor Becky Schroeder 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, Sally Thompson, Gene Wright and Katie Zmuda present. Councilor Wayne Kostur attended by phone. City Recorder Nancy Parker and two guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public:

Athena Chamber of Commerce: The Chamber Banquet was very successful. Bob Irvine & Vern Purcell were named First Citizens, and Wheatland Insurance received the Business of the Year award. Congratulations!! The Chamber is excited to announce they received a \$900 grant from the Umatilla County Cultural Coalition, to be used for the Community Night Out celebration. The Chamber and Main Street Association will merge in April.

Main Street Association (MSA): Council was reminded the Clean Sweep and Adopt a Highway dates are May 2nd, which is also free dump day.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2/13/20 regular meeting, the financial statements and bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Actionable Items:

A motion was made, seconded and carried 5-0 to adopt the Budget Calendar as presented.

Mayor Schroeder appointed Michelle Fox as the Budget Officer for the 2020-2021 budget year.

Mayor Schroeder appointed Jerry Baker and Chuck Vickery to additional three-year terms on the Budget Committee.

The Selection Committee for hiring the new City Recorder reviewed the internal applications and is pleased to recommend Michelle Fox, current Assistant City Recorder for the position of City Recorder/Treasurer. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to hire Michelle as the City Recorder when Nancy retires.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: Steve & Kim Curtis submitted permit application 2020-03 for a pre-built outbuilding at 136 E Darwin. The application was approved.

Dennis Olson withdrew permit 2020-02, and submitted permit 2002-04 to replace it, with Parcel 1995-35 to be split into three lots. The existing buildings and Diamond Eye property will remain Parcel 2, zoned Industrial. Parcel 1 & 3 would then be rezoned Residential. Nancy explained if the split is approved a public hearing would be held on May

13, just before the regular Planning Commission meeting. If there are no reasonable objections from neighboring property owners, the Commission could approve the split and rezone as requested. An ordinance change could then be approved by the Athena City Council at the May 14th meeting. Diamond Eye is not using the proposed lots for their business, nor do they see a need in the future. Due to the limited number of available lots to build on in Athena, and the desire of the Planning Commission to promote growth in the city, the permit request was approved.

Old Business: Panels have been ordered to complete the bridge project. They should arrive in 6-8 weeks.

New Business: None

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: Librarian Kristin Williams reported the security cameras have been installed; beginning in May the Library Board will meet the 3rd Monday of the month; and she presented a revised Emergencies & Safety Policy adopted by the Library Board. After review and discussion, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adopt the policy. Kristin presented the statistical report for January and February 2018, 2019 & 2020. She stated due to the Corona virus, all library programs have been cancelled until April 1st. Councilor Wright would like Kristin to check into backup lights for the library interior in case of a power failure.

Parks & Rec: Notices were posted that we are accepting applications for pool Lifeguards.

Fire: EURFD is going forward with flyers, signs and public meeting to inform the public about the upcoming election.

At 6:27 Mayor Schroeder recessed the regular meeting to move to Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) - Labor Negotiations.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 6:38, where a motion was made and seconded to approve the City Recorder contract for Mitchell Fox, beginning 7/1/2020. Motion was approved 5-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **April 9, 2020 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

Approved: Becky Schroeder, Mayor _____

Attested: Nancy Parker, MMC, City Recorder _____