



ATHENA CITY NEWSLETTER 2020

CITY COUNCIL

Rebecca Schroeder,

Mayor

Wayne Kostur,

Comm of Police

Gene Wright,

Comm of Fire Services

Katie Zmuda,

Comm of Library

Sally Thompson

Comm of Administration

Pat Gibson,

Comm of Public Works

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

JUNE MEETINGS

Library Board

Monday, 15th @ 5:30pm

Planning Commission

Wednesday, 10th @ 6:00pm

City Council

Thursday, 11 @ 6:00pm

Cemetery

Tuesday, 16th @ 5:00

CALEDONIAN GAMES

Since the first picnic and Games in 1899, Athena Caledonian Games has celebrated our Scottish tradition. The Caledonian Association regrettably cancels the festival in 2020. Please "Haste Ye Back" for 2021.

BIG CONGRATULATIONS!!!

The staff here at the City of Athena would like to congratulate the graduating class of 2020 for all your hard work and perseverance. Good luck in all your future endeavors!!

Events at the Library.....

We are still making some service changes due to Covid-18 but the library is currently opened regular hours! We are offering appointments for computer use. The appointments are for 30 minutes and we are keeping 15 minutes between appointments so that we can sanitize the computer stations. Three people at a time are welcome to browse and check out books. We're asking people to enter through the main street door and exit through the alley door at this time. These limitations could change as restrictions are eased so keep checking in! The library has activated voice mail on our phone line so if you call and no one answers, please leave a message and we'll get back to you.

Kids of all ages, from birth to adult, get ready for summer reading! We are having a summer reading program this year, it will just look a little different. We won't have regular in person programming but starting June 16 we'll have weekly challenges available. The challenges might include searching for something around town, helping someone out or building something cool. Challenge bags will also include a craft of the week and a suggestion for a book to read. You must sign up to get a weekly challenge bag! Completing weekly challenges and reading books will earn you points toward a fun end-of-summer surprise. Call or email the library to find out more and sign up! 541-566-2470 or athenalibrary@cityofathena.com

MESSAGE FROM HUMBERT REFUSE

Humbert Refuse will be moving the Cardboard recycle bin to the landfill (will be accessible to all 7 days a week) **IF** the community will not help keep the area clean and quit putting garbage in the bin.

Absolutely no garbage
Absolutely no milk jugs
Absolutely no garbage left around the bin
MUST break down boxes

We have boxes in Weston, Helix, and Adams and we do not have any problem with any of them.

WELCOME KARRAH

The City of Athena is happy to introduce our new Assistant City Recorder. Karrah will begin work Tuesday, June 2. Welcome Karrah!!!



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The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Athena City Council

May 14, 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, Wayne Kostur, Sally Thompson, and Katie Zmuda present. City Recorder Nancy Parker, Assistant Recorder Michelle Fox and four guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Schroeder opened the Public Hearing to take comments on a proposed tax lot split and rezoning requested by Dennis Olson. Fred & Edna Kirk commented they were not opposed to the property split, but would like to see the city extend High Street from East to West. Nancy explained to extend the road it would need to go through Dennis Olson's' property, and a city road cannot be extended through private property. There being no further comments the public hearing was closed.

Business from the Public:

Athena Mainstreet Association (AMA): Brenda Vorhauer reported the Athena Chamber of Commerce has merged with AMA. This will benefit both organizations due to duplicate members and funding. They would like to acknowledge donations of \$1,000 from Sunset Housing and George Vorhauer Memorial. Electrical work will take place in the Stahl Building during June. June will also see a virtual Tuesday Market, with the traditional market returning during July & August. AMA also requested permission to use Duggar Park for the market and asked the city to again provide the porta potties. Discussion was held about the cost difference of a regular unit and one that includes a hand washing station. Brenda suggested AMA could pay the difference.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 3/12/20, 4/21/20 and 4/29/20 meetings, the financial statements and bills. Motion carried 4-0.

Actionable Items: Mayor Schroeder asked if there was any further discussion or questions on the Dennis Olson Tax Lot Split/Rezone. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to approve the tax lot split/rezone and Ordinance 525C. The motion was approved 4-0.

A motion was made and seconded to allow Tuesday Market in Duggar Park during July & August and for the city to again supply a porta potty. Motion was approved 4-0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the design presented by the Athena Caledonian Games to install an arch in the park. Motion carried 4-0.

Livestock permits were submitted by Chuck Vickery and Rob & Dusty Pickard. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Vickery permit for chickens. Motion passed 3-1, with Councilor Thompson voting no. A motion was made, seconded and passed 4-0 to approve the permit for Pickards.



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Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: The meeting was cancelled due to no permit activity. Reports were submitted by email and phone.

Old Business: 3rd Street Bridge - The remainder of the panels have been installed and look great. We are waiting for them to return to repair the riprap that washed away during the high water in February.

New Business: None

Councilor Gene Wright arrived at 6:26 pm.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: Librarian Kristin Williams submitted a statistical report, which also included information of events happening during the COVID-19 shutdown. Creative programs include a weekly Facebook Live Trivia Night, weekly ZOOM party, and distribution of craft kits. She also reviewed her policy for each phase of reopening.

Parks & Rec: Lifeguards have been hired and the city is planning to open the pool this summer, depending on state COVID-19 restrictions.

Fire: Gene reminded everyone to vote on the Fire Department consolidation.

Administration: Nancy reported she had secured \$40,000 for the pool mechanical room from Sunset Housing, and \$1,000 for the library. She reminded everyone her last day in the office is May 28th, and her official retirement date is June 30, 2020.

Mayor Schroeder presented Nancy a beautiful retirement plaque and thanked her for her years of dedicated service, always going above and beyond, and performing her duties at the highest quality. She also announced due to Nancy's extraordinary efforts in making sure the swimming pool was refurbished and the bathhouse replaced, the city was naming the pool area the "Parker Pool Complex". Nancy expressed her thanks to the council and city; and was truly humbled by this announcement.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **June 11, 2020 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

SWIMMING POOL AND PARK NEWS

We are now in the Phase -1 portion of reopening our City and its facilities. The Athena City Park is now open to the public for small gatherings. The playground equipment is still closed and should not be used. The Public Works Department is working to get the pool ready for swimmers, in the event Umatilla County is given the go ahead for Phase-2. We are hoping to hear something from the State around mid-June. The lifeguards have been hired and they are in the process of training for their certifications. They will be ready to go when the go-ahead is given from the State. We will try to keep you posted the best we can in this ever-changing process! As Always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



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TUESDAY MARKET

The Athena Main Street Association will be trying a "Virtual" Tuesday Market for the month of June, and hopefully be back with the traditional market returning during July & August. Please support our Tuesday market and tune into the virtual Market!! For more information, please contact Katie Zmuda at 541-969-4810.

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING City of Athena

A public meeting of the City of Athena will be held on June 11, 2020 at 6:00 pm at 215 S Third St, Athena, OR. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 as approved by the Athena Budget Committee. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 302 E Curren St, Athena, OR, between the hours of 8:00a.m. and 5:00 p.m. This budget is for an annual budget period July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year.

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(100,000 Welcomes)

JUNE
2020

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