

ATHENA CITY NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER / 2020

CITY COUNCIL

Rebecca Schroeder,
Mayor

Wayne Kostur,
Commissioner of Police

Gene Wright,
Commissioner of Fire
Services

Katie Zmuda,
Commissioner of Library

Sally Thompson,
Commissioner of
Administration

Pat Gibson,
Commissioner of Public
Works

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00am-5:00pm
(closed all federal holidays)

CITY PHONE NUMBERS

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



OCTOBER MEETINGS

Library Board

Monday, October 19th at 6:00pm @
Library

Planning Commission

Wednesday, October 7th at 6:00pm @
City Hall

City Council

Thursday, October 8th at 6:00pm @ City
Hall

Cemetery

Tuesday, October 20th at 5:00pm @ City
Hall

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

City Hall, Public Works
and the Library will all
be closed Monday,
October 12th in
observance of Columbus
Day.

CITY HALL CLOSURE

Wednesday, October
28th, City Hall will be
closed for medical
appointments. Please
call the City Shop for
emergencies: 541 566-
0228

What's happening at the library in October:

Preschool Storytime will keep meeting at Athena City Park on Tuesdays at 10:30am, as long as the weather holds. If we need to cancel and/or move inside, it will be posted on our Facebook page by 8:00am the morning of Storytime. Hope to see you all there!

Adult Book Club is coming back! Stop by the library any time to pick up the October book, *The Stranger in the Woods* by Michael Finkel. We will meet to discuss the book on October 27 at 6:30pm. We will be observing social distancing and participants will be masked!

Weekly Crafternoon is back! We are going to attempt in person crafternoon. Participants **MUST** pre-register (email athenalibrary@cityofathena.com to reserve your child's spot). We will have two days per week, each day will do the same craft so please only pre-register for one day. There is a limit of 10 participants per day so don't wait to pre-register! Crafternoons will be Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 and Thursday from 3:00-4:00. Participants will be socially distanced, won't share craft supplies and will be asked to wear masks. I know a lot of kids are anxious to have in person activities again so this month will be an experiment to see if we can make this work!

- September 29 and October 1 – Paper Bag Fashion
- October 6 and October 8 – Sunflowers
- October 13 and October 15 - Scarecrows
- October 20 and October 22 – Pumpkin Painting
- October 27 and October 29 - Ghosts

**UMATILLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S
REPORT FOR THE CITY OF
ATHENA**

**Total Calls for
Service/Incidents (August):**

79



**THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ATHENA CITY
COUNCIL**

September 10, 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, Katie Zmuda, Wayne Kostur, and Gene Wright present. City Recorder Michelle Fox and three guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public: Athena Mainstreet Association (AMA): April Vorhauer-Flatt reported for the Athena Mainstreet Association. AMA and the Christian Church are once again partnering to bring Trunk-or-Treat to Main Street on October 31. Permission was granted from the City to close off 2nd – 5th street between the hours of 4:00-8:00 for these festivities. April thanked the City for their donation of \$300.00 for the scavenger hunt prizes. April also raised a concern about the lighting on main street and how it seems to be dimming over time. The public works department will look into this.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 8/13/20 meeting, the financial statements and bills. Motion carried 5-0.

ATHENA COMMUNITY WIDE SCAVENGER HUNT

Anyone can enter to win prizes from local businesses valued at over \$120!

Complete the scavenger hunt by getting to know Athena and its businesses. The answers to the clues can be found simply by paying attention to details when walking or driving in the great community of Athena.

Scavenger hunts can be found each month at local businesses, city hall, the library and on the Athena Mainstreet Connection Facebook page. A new scavenger hunt will be available monthly through 2020 and due the 1st of each month. Entries can be returned to the library drop box, mailed to AMA P.O. Box 333, submitted through Facebook or emailed to athenamainstreet@gmail.com.

Winners will be drawn at random from completed and correct entries live at 6pm during the Athena Mainstreet Association's monthly meetings.

This community program is brought to you by Athena Mainstreet Association, Athena Library Board, and the City of Athena.



Up Coming Events! Mark Your Calendars!

- **Trunk or Treat- Saturday Oct 31st 5-6:30pm on Main Street following social distancing guild lines**
- **Adopt A Highway- Sunday Nov 8th 8am, meet at Sugar Shack to clean up Main Street**
- **Holiday Parade- Sunday Dec 6th evening, stay tuned for more information**

Actionable Items: A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #2020-07, Authorizing the Transfer of Funds from the General Fund Contingency to Community Relations to distribute \$12,000 in Covid-19 relief grants to local businesses. This \$12,000 is reimbursable by the State. Motion carried 4-0. The County will also be distributing 7 1/2 grants worth \$38,000 to our local businesses.

The new revised version of the IGA with the East Umatilla County Fire and Rescue was reviewed and a few minor corrections were made. A motion was made and seconded to approve the IGA agreement with said corrections. Motion carried 5-0.

Committee Reports: Planning Commission: The Planning Commission approved Permit #2020-09 for Tim and Renee Melody to build a shop/garage at 326 E Curren.

Old Business: Council Thompson asked the status of the Public Works excavator. Michelle explained that the quote had just been signed and returned to Western States so the public works department should be ordering it soon. Council Thompson also asked when the street paving project would be starting and was told it would be Spring before it is started as the grants for the project are not awarded until October.

New Business: The City of Athena lost a pillar of our community last week in Dorothy Bjorklund. Councilor Wright requested a donation be made to the charity of the Bjorklund Family's choosing. A motion was made and seconded to donation \$100.00 to the charity of choice in memory of Dorothy Bjorklund. Motion carried 5-0.

Business from the Departments & Councilors: Library: Librarian Kristin Williams presented her 2019-2020 Annual Review slide show for the council. Kristin reported that in spite of Covid-19, she feels very positive about how the library has learned, grown, and persevered through it all. Kristin also requested permission from the council, on behalf of ALFA, if they could put a "Little Free Library" in Duggar Park. This will be a structure where people can donate or take books at their leisure. Alfa will be responsible for maintaining the structure. A motion was made and seconded giving permission for the "Little Free Library" in Duggar Park. Motion carried 5-0.

Parks & Rec: None

Public Works: The public works department will be ordering a new excavator.

Fire: None

Police: Council Kostur is pleased with the detailed reporting page provided by the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office. The councilor's discussed adding a portion of the report to the website and or newsletter each month. Councilor Kostur also brought up the recycling center and how the rules are not be followed by our community members. Suggestions for cameras and more signage were discussed.

Administration: Nothing new to report

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm. The next regular council meeting will be October 8, 2020 @ 6:00 pm in the Miller Family Community Room

ATHENA CITY HALL

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October 2020 Newsletter

“Ceud Mile Failt”
(100,000 Welcomes)



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