

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.

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 Curreant.

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.

Approved: Becky Schroeder, Mayor _____

Attested: Michelle Fox, CMC, City Recorder _____