

# ATHENA CITY NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER / 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



## NOVEMBER MEETINGS

### Library Board

Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm @  
Library

### Planning Commission

Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm @  
City Hall

### City Council

Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm @  
City Hall

### Cemetery

Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm @  
City Hall

## HOLIDAY CLOSURE

City Hall, Public Works and the Library will all be closed Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Veteran's Day. And Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>- Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



## A message from our Mayor:

*November 2020*

*"The only thing you can count on is change." There are many variations of this old adage. The predictability of change – it's ironic, isn't it? Some change is welcome – like the beauty of fall colors and new members joining our families through births and marriages. Other changes are difficult, like losing those we love, or losing hope. Athena somehow seems to maintain a healthy balance of stability and change. We have families with roots going back for generations, and new families bringing energy and ideas to strengthen us all. We have the Gem Theater and Stahl building with rich histories in days gone by, now being refurbished through the hard work of remarkably dedicated and creative individuals. We have a Main Street that has been traveled since the days when we were called Centerville, and is now made beautiful and vibrant by those who volunteer to maintain the flower boxes and banners and put out flags on our country's holidays. Change can be destructive, as in the floods we saw last February. But more often than not, change opens the way to new avenues that broaden our horizons and bring new possibilities, when we embrace them. If you've lived in Athena for a long time, look around and see the changes. Don't let the next generation forget the foundation they have been built on. If you are new to Athena, take some time to learn about this special place you now call home, and ask where you can build on what has been started here. It takes all of us. Cheers to a beautiful Fall!*

Mayor Becky Schroeder

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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.

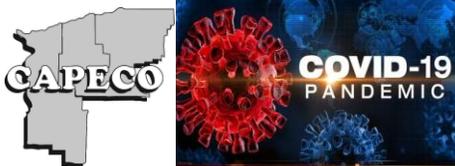
**This community program is brought to you by Athena Mainstreet Association, Athena Library Board, and the City of Athena.**



### Up Coming Events! Mark Your Calendars!

- **Adopt A Highway- Sunday Nov 25<sup>th</sup> 8am, meet at Sugar Shack to clean up Main Street**
- **Holiday Parade- Sunday Dec 6<sup>th</sup> evening, stay tuned for more information**

### WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!



**Have you lost income due to COVID-19? Help is available at Community Action Program East Central Oregon**

**CONTACT US:** [www.capeco-works.org](http://www.capeco-works.org)

Pendleton Office: (541)276-1926

#### WAYS WE CAN HELP

**UTILITY SUPPORT:** Assistance paying electric, fuel, utility bills and emergency heating/cooling repairs

**HOUSING:** Helping people retain or obtain housing (rent)



“CAPECO is an equal opportunity employer and provider”

## TIME TO PACK YOUR WATER METERS

Winter is just around the corner and the weather is changing quickly, so now is the time to pack your water meter with a plastic bag full of insulation in the form of leaves, plastic peanuts, or newspaper until Spring!



## DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!



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

**October 8, 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, Katie Zmuda, Wayne Kostur, and Gene Wright present. Sally Thompson was excused. 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

## ATHENA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Are you starting to get in a holiday mood? We're getting the Christmas books and movies out of storage! Stop by starting Monday, November 2 to check something out!

November events at the library:

November 1: ALFA Annual Meeting, 4pm

November 5: Crafternoon, 3pm, limited attendance is allowed, please reserve your space in advance

November 6: All county libraries closed for district wide staff training

November 12: Crafternoon, 3pm, limited attendance is allowed, please reserve your space in advance

November 19: Crafternoon, 3pm, limited attendance is allowed, please reserve your space in advance

November 17: Adult Book Club, 6:30pm

The Library will be closed November 25, 26, 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Trunk-or-Treat to Main Street on October 31 from 5:00-7:00. AMA will be hosting the Adopt-a Highway clean up on Sunday, November 15. Volunteers will meet at the Sugar Shack at 8:30am.

**Consent Agenda:** A few typographical errors were found in the 9/10/20 minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 9/10/20 meeting with said corrections, the financial statements and bills. Motion carried 4-0.

**Actionable Items:** A motion was made and seconded to approve a park reservation, which included alcohol being served, for a wedding on May 21-22 with the stipulation that all state requirements for Covid-19 are met by attendees. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a business license for James Reeder (Outlying Perspective). Motion carried 4-0.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Planning Commission:** No business from the Planning Commission.

**Old Business:** Michelle explained that Kim King had replaced two lights on Main Street with different bulbs to see if people thought the lights were brighter. A few councilors had noticed the new lights and thought they were much brighter and think they will make Main Street safer. The council agreed they would like Kim to continue changing out the bulbs on the remainder of

the lights on Main Street.

Councilor Zmuda reported that Brian Freels is still working on signs for the park.

**New Business:** Mayor Schroeder read a "Proclamation Recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Helen Callaway".

The council would like Michelle to add a clause on the park reservation form which would eliminate the City from any liability.

Councilor Kostur asked if there could be a condensed version of the financials. He stated the current reports are too lengthy and detailed. He would like to see a shorter, easier to read, condensed version. Michelle will put together a sample financial spreadsheet for the council to review next month.

### **Business from the Departments & Councilors:**

**Library:** Librarian Kristin distributed her monthly library report. She also informed the council that she had started her crafternoon program once again. Kristin invited everyone to get their tickets to a virtual program, "Misinformation, Fake News and Political Propaganda" which will be held on October 29 at 6:30 pm.

**Parks & Rec:** The public works department installed the new slides on the playground equipment.

**Public Works:** CTUIR and Rod Anderson Construction repaired the damage of the creek bed that occurred during the flooding by the new bridge on Third Street.

**Fire:** None.

**Police:** Mayor Schroeder asked Councilor Kostur if he would ask the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office if there is a phone number or contact person that local residents can call for information. Councilor Kostur will report back with an answer next month.

**Administration:** All Covid-19 Relief Grants have been distributed to local businesses and the City has been reimbursed the \$12,000 from the state.

Michelle will be out of the office on vacation the last week of October.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm. The next regular council meeting will be **November 12, 2020 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

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**ATHENA CITY HALL**

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Fax: 541 566-2781

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## November 2020 Newsletter

"Ceud Mile Failt"  
(100,000 Welcomes)



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Editors: Michelle Fox: [michelle@cityofathena.com](mailto:michelle@cityofathena.com) and Karrah King: [karrah@cityofathena.com](mailto:karrah@cityofathena.com) reserve the right to edit for content and space.  
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