

## THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

**Attendance:** Mayor Schroeder called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:00 pm. Roll was taken with Councilors Katie Zmuda, Wayne Kostur, Sally Thompson, Gene Wright and Jesse Bonifer present. City Recorder Michelle Fox and four guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Business from the Public:**

Judy Weidert addressed the council requesting a plaque be placed, in her late husband's honor, for donating a piece of land by the softball field to the City of Athena in 2010. The Council will make a decision before the next meeting.

Shari Orengo addressed the council asking for direction where to obtain help for the residents of Sunset Housing. Mrs. Orengo's mother is a resident at Sunset Housing and she and many other residents have complaints about the current management. She explained many instances that the residents' requests for repairs and maintenance have not been met and that the living conditions are not acceptable. A deputy from the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office gave her his card and told her he would help her make contact with some agencies that may be able to help.

**Athena Mainstreet Association (AMA):** April Vorhauer Flatt updated the council on all the upcoming holiday events for the AMA. The Holiday Bazaar will be held December 4 at the Stahl Building from 10:00-3:00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Light Parade will be held December 5, Wreathmaking Fundraiser on December 7, and once again they will be holding the Christmas Lighting Contest.

Councilor Sally Thompson volunteered to be a judge for the Light Parade. Councilor Gene Wright volunteered to be a judge for the community lighting contest.

April asked permission to have the Community Christmas Tree in Duggar Park again this year. The council agreed.

The AMA is looking for a volunteer to sit on their Board if anyone is interested.

April gave the Council a handout of the AMA Sidewalk Survey Results showing ideas, wish list, and current hazards on Main Street.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 10/14/21 meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 5-0.

**Actionable Items:** The library recommended a change in open hours. This moves the weekly open hours from 28 to 31. This change will better serve the high school students wishing to use the library during their lunch periods. A motion was made and seconded to approve the new library hours. Motion carried 5-0.

**Committee Reports:**

**Planning Commission:** The Public Hearings for Permit # 2021-03 - Beamer Rezone and #2021-08 - Albert/Johns Annexation have been set for December 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm at City Hall.

**New Business:** The City of Athena has received a \$10,000 grant from the Watts Fund to help with the new restrooms at the softball field.

**Old Business:** None

**Business from the Departments & Councilors:**

**Library:** Kristin updated the council on the library happenings. A giving tree is set up in library this year. Santa will be stopping by the library soon. The Library Board has an opening to finish out a term for member who has moved. The term will be for a year and half if anyone is interested on sitting on the Board.

**Parks & Rec:** None

**Public Works:** Construction on the new snack shack at the softball field will start on December 13.

**Fire:** Jesse has a meeting with Fire Chief, Dave Baty at 10:00 am on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Sheriff:** The Umatilla County Sheriff's office monthly report was included in packet. The council appreciated the speed signs on Main Street and third Street.

**Administration:** The electricity will be put in this week for the new reader board.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **December 9, 2021 @ 6:00 pm**. Immediately following the Public Hearings.

Approved: Becky Schroeder, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Attested: Michelle Fox, CMC, City Recorder \_\_\_\_\_