

# CITY OF ATHENA NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/2023



## CITY COUNCIL

Rebecca Schroeder, Mayor

Wayne Kostur, Commissioner  
of Police

Gene Wright, Commissioner of  
Public Works

Katie Zmuda, Commissioner  
of Library

Sally Thompson,  
Commissioner of  
Administration

Jesse Bonifer, Commissioner  
of Fire Services

### CITY HALL HOURS

Monday-Friday  
8:00am-5:00pm

### 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

## JANUARY MEETINGS

### Library Board

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

### Planning Commission

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

### City Council

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

### Cemetery

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

**All City of Athena Offices will be closed January 2, 2023 for the New Year. And all City of Athena Offices will be closed January 16, 2023 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.**

UMATILLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
REPORT FOR THE CITY OF ATHENA  
Total Calls for Service/Incidents  
(NOVEMBER):

**84**



## PET LICENSE RENEWAL

### 2023

Your dog/cat license will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please renew now! \$12.00 for altered & \$25.00 for unaltered. We will need a copy of your shot records, and a picture would be helpful in case your animal gets lost.

- Remember, owners over 62 do **NOT** pay a license fee but still must provide proof of shots.



## BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL NOTICE

**Business licenses expired December 31, 2022.**

Please come by City Hall or mail the \$50.00 renewal fee. If any of your business or contact information has changed, please let us know.



Congratulations to Athena's Christmas Lighting Contest and thank you to all of those who have decorated to make this season so bright. It is always a hard decision.

**1<sup>st</sup> place**

213 E. Currant St.

**2<sup>nd</sup> place**

408 E. Washington

**3<sup>rd</sup> place**

233 E. High St.

**Happy New Year**

**From**

**Athena Mainstreet Association**

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

December 8, 2022

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 and Gene Wright present. Councilors Thompson and Bonifer were excused. City Recorder, Michelle Fox, and 1 guest were also present. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public:

Athena Mainstreet Association (AMA): Brenda Vorhauer reported for the Mainstreet Association. The Holiday Bazaar was a success again this year. The light parade was cancelled due to lack of entries. The house lighting contest will be judged on December 19, 2022. The Watts Fund will be funding all the prizes for the contest. The AMA received a grant from the Wildhorse Foundation. This will be used to buy chairs for the Stahl Building.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 11/10/22 meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 3-0.

Actionable Items: A motion was made and seconded to approve the General Election Results. Motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a business license from Jet's What Could Bee Salon. Motion carried 3-0.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission meeting was cancelled.

New Business:

Michelle gave an update on The Aspen Heights Development Plans. The engineers have met and a few changes need to be made to the plans. Tim Sprenger and his engineer will make these changes and submit the final plans to the City Engineer and City Council. They are hoping to break ground very soon.

Old Business: The Council has tabled the Charter/Spectrum conversation for now.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: Library is staying very active. Santa Claus came to the library. Crafternoons is very popular. Traffic is heavy.

Parks & Rec:

Public Works: They will be trying to finish up the snack shed at the softball field this month.

Fire: They are hoping to be in their new facility by July or August.

Sheriff: No report this month.

Administration: Michelle reminded council that City Hall and Public Works will be closed Monday December 26 and January 2 for the holidays.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm. The next regular council meeting will be January 12, 2023 @ 6:25 pm.

## **Athena Public Library**

Happy New Year from the Athena Public Library!

We had such an amazing year in 2022, I can't wait to see what's to come in 2023.

A few highlights from 2022:

This year we were awarded a \$10,000 ALA Grant to bring arts and humanities to our community. With this grant we were able to contribute.

We got new carpet throughout the library and rearranged for a new look.

Said goodbye to a great Library Director and wished her well with her new job, and said hello to a new Director.

We hired a teen intern throughout the summer. This was a great experience we hope to do again in the future. Our intern Luna Dennett contributed so much in the 6 weeks she worked with the library.

In the winter, we saw Santa and got to host a Giving Tree for our community. Our tree had 65 tags this year, and I am so thankful to be a part of such a great community.

These are just a few highlights, among many other things our library did this year.

Look for more great things to come in 2023.

In January we have the following events to start the new year:

- Weekly story time on Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Book Club on Monday, January 23, 2022, reading *If the Creek Don't Rise* by Leah Weiss
- Adult craft night on Sunday, January 8, 2023 from 3:00-4:00pm. Sign up required.
- Weekly Crafternoon Thursdays from 3:30-4:30pm

We will be closed Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> and Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **ATHENA STUDY CLUB**

Athena Study Club Open House

The Athena Study Club meeting of Friday, January 20 will be open to the public in the Miller Room of City Hall at 12:30 PM. Prospective new members are invited to attend to learn about the Study Club program. An annual focus is chosen and for 2022-23, the topic is Threatened and Endangered Creatures Great and Small. There will be a presentation on that topic. Learning and sharing is what Study Club is about. After the presentation, there is a short business meeting followed by Roll Call. For the January meeting, members are requested to bring hobbies, collections or crafts to share for Roll Call as a way to better get acquainted. Prospective new members are invited to bring their collection and may come and see how interesting and vital these meetings are.





**Humbert  
Refuse**

## **‘Tis the season to recycle boxes!**

With the busy holiday season please remember to **BREAK DOWN YOUR BOXES.**

Recycling Reminders:

Absolutely no garbage

Absolutely no milk jugs

Absolutely no garbage left around the bin

Absolutely no packing materials including plastic, shredded paper, and Styrofoam.

Thank you!

### **ATHENA CITY HALL**

302 E. Current St.

PO Box 686

Athena, OR 97813

Phone: 541 566-3862

Fax: 541 566-2781

E-mail: [cityhall@cityofathena.com](mailto:cityhall@cityofathena.com)

The City of Athena wishes  
everyone a very  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**



**2023**

## **January 2023 Newsletter**

“Ceud Mile Failt”  
(100,000 Welcomes)



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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. Original articles from this publication may be reprinted with proper acknowledgment