

# CITY OF ATHENA

NEWSLETTER

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

January 12, 2023

**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, Gene Wright, Sally Thompson and Jesse Bonifer present. 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):** Katie Vorhauer reported for the Mainstreet Association. They received a Blue Mountain Community Foundation grant for their 2023 operating costs. Blatner Energy will be renting the Stahl building for a month for office space. The AMA will be scaling back on activities for the coming year. They are looking for help with Tuesday Market. In December they will host the Christmas Wreath Making and the Bizarre.

Kylie McClintock from Cockburn & McClintock, CPA., was present to review the final 2022 audit. Kylie was very pleased with how smooth the audit went. No deficiencies were found in Audit.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 12/8/22 meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 5-0.

### FEBRUARY MEETINGS

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#### LIBRARY BOARD

Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at  
6:00pm @ Library

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at  
6:00pm @ City Hall

#### CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at  
6:00pm @ City Hall

#### CEMETERY

Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at  
5:00pm @ City Hall

#### CITY HALL HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm  
City Hall: 541-566-3862  
City Shop: 541-566-0228  
Library: 541-566-2470  
Emergency: 911  
Non- Emergency: 541-966-3651

## 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

**Actionable Items:** A new RV Park Rate was added to the Water Rates starting January 1, 2023. The new rate will be \$20.00 per space. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #23-01, establishing Water Rates for the City of Athena with the addition of the new RV Park Rate. Motion carried 4-0. Councilor Kostur opposed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #2023-02, Establishing Sewer Rates for the City of Athena. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Schroeder asked for nominations or a volunteer for the Council President position. Councilor Gene Wright volunteered to continue as Council President. Wayne Kostur seconded the nomination. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Schroeder announced the Council Assignments for 2023. All councilors will preside over the same departments again this year. Mayor Schroeder reminded the councilors to touch base with their departments before each meeting.

### Committee Reports

**Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission is going to start reviewing and updating the Comprehensive Plan next month.

**New Business:** A motion was made and seconded to approve a business license from Daniel Caswell for Zimmerman's Auto Body and Glass, D.B.A. Adapt Auto Repairs, LLC. Motion carried 5-0.

**Old Business:** Charter/Spectrum has asked for the opportunity to give their presentation in person at the February meeting. The council agreed to listen to their proposal for cable services. The councilors will submit questions they have for Charter prior to the meeting.

### Business from the Departments & Councilors:

**Library:** The library was very busy during the holiday season with Santa visit and the giving tree. New carpet has also been installed. Stephanie will be asking ALFA for a new drinking fountain for the library.

**Parks & Rec:** No Report

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

**Total Calls for  
Service/Incidents  
(December 2022):**

# 103



All departments of the City of Athena, including the library, will be closed February 20, 2023. In observance of Presidents' Day.



**Public Works:** They will be trying to finish up the snack shed at the softball field this month. The council would like a written list of responsibilities for each of the organizations involved in maintaining the softball facilities.

**Fire:** No Report

**Sheriff:** Two reports included in the packet for council review.

**Administration** They have been busy with year-end reports. Karrah will be present at the next council meeting as Michelle will be on vacation.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **February 9, 2023 @ 6:00 pm.**

### License Reminder

All City Licenses, Business, Dog, and Livestock need to be paid before February 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid a price increase.

<u>Before 15<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>After 15<sup>th</sup></u>
Business - \$50.00	\$55.00
Livestock- \$30.00	\$35.00
Dog - \$12.00/\$25.00	\$15.00



Happy  
Valentine's  
Day



Athena Caledonian Games is collecting clan stories to publish. Your stories may be what you have learned from the stories your parents and grandparents heard. That is what is known as oral history and that is good. That is what we want.....you do not have to dig too deeply to "verify" and authenticate your story: it is what you have heard and that's what should be preserved and passed on to your next generation. It is good to keep your tradition and your heritage. Please submit your Scottish story to [athenacaledoniangames@gmail.com](mailto:athenacaledoniangames@gmail.com) or [kjdurfee@bmi.net](mailto:kjdurfee@bmi.net) You may relate it to us on the phone and we will help you write it: call 541-566-3880 or 541-969-7217. How did your ancestors come to Umatilla County? What did they do? How did they celebrate their Scottish heritage? Have you been to Scotland? Have you seen where your clan castle has been? Or is? We want to know!!!

# Athena Public Library

The Athena Library is participating in "Expedition Happy" a virtual race and fundraiser by the Public Library Division of the Oregon Library Association.

From January 18 through April 19, participants in "Expedition Happy" will complete a virtual statewide challenge, with virtual "stops" at public libraries in nine different counties along the way.

Participation is easy; after signing up, participants simply log different wellness or health activities (including walking, running, swimming, biking, reading and more). Every activity logged adds miles to participants' total, helping them progress through the 969-mile virtual challenge course. Throughout the challenge, participants will make virtual stops at 11 public libraries in Oregon, learning more about each library's history, collections, unique services, and more. The libraries on this year's inaugural route, in the order they will be "visited" by participants, are: the State Library of Oregon, Salem Public Library, Molalla Public Library, Garden Home Community Library, Washington County Law Library, Athena Public Library, Baker County Library District, Crook County Library, Sweet Home Public Library, Coos Bay Public Library, and Curry Public Library.

While learning more about libraries throughout the state and staying active, participants will also be supporting PLD's ongoing efforts to support public library employees throughout Oregon. Funds collected from the \$20 entry fee will be used to support PLD's ongoing training and continuing education efforts throughout 2023.

Join us by visiting <https://runsignup.com/Race/OR/NorthBend/ExpeditionHappy> to learn more and sign up.

Other events this month:

Storytime: Tuesdays at 10:30am

Crafternoon: Thursdays at 3:30pm

Book Club: Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Currently reading *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Reading Challenge: 12 Classics in 2023, pick up a book mark at the Library and complete by the end of the year to enter to win some literary prizes.

The library will be closed on Presidents' Day, Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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