

CITY OF ATHENA

NEWSLETTER



THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

April 11, 2024

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

Business from the Public: AMA – Katie Zmuda reported for AMA. The Citizen of the Year banquet was held Friday, April 5, 2024. Congratulations to Citizens of the Year John McBean and Katie Funderburk. Also, congratulations to Ken Bjorklund for receiving the Lifetime of Service Award. Clean Sweep/Free Dump Day will be held on May 4, 2024. If you have large items you would like to have picked up to go to dump, please call Nutrien to get on their pick-up list. The AMA's annual meeting is April 22, 2024. They are always looking for new members.

Kristin Williams informed the Council and congratulated Debra Johns for receiving the Library Supporter of the Year Award from the Oregon Library Association. Thank you, Debra, for all your years of support to the Athena Public Library!

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 3/14/24 meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 5-0.

Actionable Items: Union Employee Contract – Mayor Schroeder asked if there were any questions regarding the changes to the contract. It was asked if questions and a discussion could take place in executive session before voting on new contract. This item was moved to executive session. A business license for Athena Hardware and Mercantile was reviewed. A

MAY MEETINGS

LIBRARY BOARD

Monday, May 20th at 6:00pm @
Library

PLANNING COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 8th at 6:00pm
@ City Hall

CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, May 9th at 6:00pm @
City Hall

CEMETERY

Tuesday, May 21st 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

motion was made and seconded to approve the business license for Athena Hardware and Mercantile. Motions carried 5-0.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission: The Comprehensive Plan is being reviewed.

New Business: All councilors have completed their SEI Filing.

The closure of the city burn pile was discussed. Mayor Schroeder stated the burn pile has been temporarily closed due to the misuse by the community. The burn pile will remain temporarily closed for maintenance. It will be cleaned out, leveled, and fencing and cameras will be installed. Once this is complete, the burn pile will re-open. City Hall will keep the community informed of progress and re-opening date. A few members of the community also stated that they would like to see the burn pile reopened and agreed with the changes that need to be made.

Mayor Schroeder read and signed a Proclamation of May 2, 2024 as "The National Day of Prayer".

Old Business: Congressman Bentz, Senator Hansell, County Commissioner Cindy Timmons, city councilors, city staff, and a few residents toured the Umatilla County Housing Authority property. Congressman Bentz has agreed to help the City of Athena fight to keep the Umatilla County Housing open.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: Stephanie has started working on her summer reading program.

Parks & Rec:

Public Works: Beginning spring work. Seasonal worker, Kim King will start on May 1st.

Fire: Jeremy Lasater, representative for the EUCFD informed the council that the fire station will be complete in July.

Sheriff: The sheriff's report is in packet.

Administration: Administration is working on budget.

The public meeting was closed at 6:30 and executive session pursuant to ORS192.660(2)(d) was opened at 6:31. Executive session was closed at 6:52

The public meeting was reopened at 6:52.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Union Employee three-year contract, and the City Recorder's two-year contract. Motion carried 4-0 with Wayne Kostur abstaining. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **May 9, 2024 @ 6:00 pm.**



Caledonian Games - Saturday, July 13

We are pleased to announce that the Celtic band "Skweeze the Weezle" has agreed to return to our entertainment stage this summer. Plans are in full swing for the Main Street Parade, Athletic Games competition, sheepdog demonstrations, clan tents, family events and vendors - everything you'll need for an exciting day of family-oriented fun.

To view our brand new, nearly finalized website, type the following web address into your search engine: <https://kjdurfee.wixsite.com/athenascottishgames>.

If you've ever wondered what goes into making Athena's premiere cultural event a reality, now is your chance! The future of the Caledonian Games depends on fresh ideas and willing workers. If you like bringing ideas and plans together, you can serve on the planning team that meets on the third Tuesday of every month (except August). Also needed are people who understand and like technology (webmaster, Facebook, email communications, purchasing, etc.). If you want to help but cannot commit to a few hours a month, we also have great need of dependable workers who will donate time to help set up and/or clean up during the week of the Games. Find out how you can get involved by attending our next meeting on May 21 at 6:00 pm in the Athena Library, or send an email to athenacaledoniangames@gmail.com.

ATHENA PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAY
2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	The Library will be hosting a 4 week class for beginner basics on weaving. We will use cardboard looms to learn how to weave. Each participant will be able to make 1-2 mug rugs for our first project and can keep their cardboard loom.			1	2	3
4				Game Makers 4:00pm		May We'll be with YOU
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cinco de Mayo		Story time 10:30am	Weavers Club 5:00-6:00pm	Game Makers 4:00pm		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Story time 10:30am	Weavers Club 5:00-6:00pm	Game Makers 4:00pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Library Board 6:00pm	Story time 10:30am	Weavers Club 5:00-6:00pm	Game Makers 4:00pm		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Book Club 6:30pm	Story time 10:30am	Weavers Club 5:00-6:00pm	Game Makers 4:00pm		

GAME ON

Interested in joining the game makers club? Drop in Thursdays and check it out! Get started with beginner coding and learn to create your own game. Check out the Athena Game Maker club on Facebook

SECOND CHANCE! Stop by the Library and get a SPECIAL EDITION Baby Yoda library card, only available in MAY!



LIBRARY BOARD OPEN POSITIONS

Do you love the Library and want to find a way to show support? Join our Library Board! We have two positions available! Submit a letter of interest to the Athena Library or join us at our next meeting, Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:00pm in the Library.

Athena Public Library

UMATILLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT FOR THE CITY OF ATHENA

Total Calls for Service/Incidents (March 2024)

116



MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVATION

The City Office, Public Works, and Public Library will be closed Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day



Clean Sweep/Free Dump Day, Saturday, May 4th
For free debris pickup call Nutrien Ag 541-566-3533

WATER METERS Spring is trying really hard to show up! We are going to read the meters this month. Please unpack your meters by the 20th of May. Remember a fine of \$10.00 will be imposed if your meter has not been cleaned out. Thank you!

ANNUAL CITY-WIDE YARD SALE!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND GET ON THE MAP/LIST NOW!

May is here and we are getting ready for our annual yard sale day. It will be on Saturday May 18th from 9:00am-3:00pm. If you are interested in having a yard sale and want your address included on the map, please call either City Hall (541)566-3862 or Bees Knees Secondhand (541)566-0203 Thursday - Saturday 11:00-5:00, Sunday 11:00-4:00 with your address and contact information. (Your contact info will not be on the map.) We provide maps for easy shopping. This is the best time of the year to have a sale. We do all the advertising for you in multiple medias. Cut-off date to be included on the map is Wednesday the 15th. We look forward to another great year. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Babb (541) 969-7904.



Congratulations to the 2024 Athena Citizens of the Year- John McBean & Kati Bennett
Funderburk

A BIG Thank You and Congratulations to this year's recipient of the Sue Friese Lifetime of Service
Award:
Ken Bjorklund

We appreciate everyone that came out to celebrate at the banquet, it was a fun evening!

Athena Mainstreet Association would also like to thank the following supporters

- Event Sponsors : Old West Federal Credit Union and CHI St. Anthony Hospital - Pendleton

- Table Sponsors: Brenda Vorhauer, Bill & Margaret Hansell, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Wheatland
Insurance and Umatilla County Commissioners

Silent Auction & Monetary Donations: Old West Federal Credit Union, Hines Meat Co., Wallowa
RiverSand, Cindy Darlington, Jeanette Orcutt Brito, Cristie Lovins MooseBees Salon, Zimmerman's
True Value, Brenda Vorhauer, Athena Public Library, Mac's, April Vorhauer Flatt and
Zimmerman's Auto Body & Glass, Bees Knees and Sandi & Randy Johnston.

Announcer: Bob Fairchild

Catering: Pendleton Catering Company, LLC

Graphic Design: Rogers Design Co.



Community Calendar 2024

- Clean Sweep/Free Dump Day, Saturday, May 4th
- City-Wide Yard Sale, Saturday, May 18th
- Tuesday Market Begins June 4th
- Hodaka Days, June
- 27th-30th Caledonian Games, Saturday July 13th

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Editors: Michelle Fox: michelle@cityofathena.com and Karrah King: karrah@cityofathena.com reserve the right to edit for content and space.
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City of Athena
PO Box 686
Athena, OR 97813