



ATHENA CITY NEWSLETTER APRIL



CITY COUNCIL

John Shafer, Mayor
Rebecca Schroeder,

Comm. of Parks & Rec.

Chet Sater,

Comm. of Fire Services

Carol Speed,

Comm. of Public Works

LaVerne Mitchell,

Comm. of Administration

Pat Gibson

Comm. of Library

John Shafer,

Comm. of Police Services:

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday

8am - 5pm

(open during lunch)

APRIL MEETINGS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise indicated.

Livestock Commission

Tuesday, 4th @ 5:30 pm

Library Board

Monday, 10th @ 7 pm

Planning Commission

Wednesday, 12th @ 6:00 pm

City Council Meeting

Thursday, 13th @ 6:00pm

Cemetery Meeting

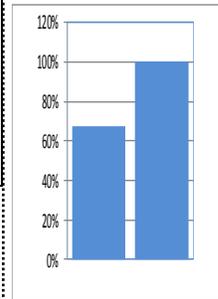
Tuesday, 18th @ 5:30 pm

Swimming Pool News

Due to weather & construction delays, and for the safety of our patrons, the swimming pool will not be open this summer. A major issue in this decision was to minimize the risk to our children with construction equipment in the area during the building process. The good news is construction will begin soon on the new bathhouse. Drawings are available at City Hall if you would like to have a peek at what it will look like.

There is still time to make a donation to help us reach our goal of \$92,500. A grant from AWERE for \$50,000 was a huge gift, and thanks to generous community support an additional \$12,000 has also been raised. Every gift, no matter how large or small helps, and up to \$250 is tax deductible. Also, if you would like to donate what you would have paid for a pool pass for the season (\$50), it would help us reach our goal.

Reached	62500	68%
Goal	92500	100%



CITY PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall 566-3862

City Shop 566-0228

Library 566-2470

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency

Sheriff Dispatch

541-966-365

Caledonian Games

Heritage Station/Umatilla County Museum (108 SW Frazer) in Pendleton has created a display of Athena Caledonian Games that is awesome! The display runs until the end of the year.

Museum hours are 10 AM-4 PM Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$4 for seniors (age 62+) and \$2 for students. There is a family rate also.

Please visit the museum and enjoy the display that ultimately says, "Come to Athena and enjoy the Caledonian Games!"

Library News..... In celebration of **National Library Week (April 9-15)** Athena Public Library, in cooperation with Umatilla County Special Library District (UCSLD) and the other libraries in the county, is participating in a one-week **Fines Forgiveness** program. Overdue fines **up to \$5.00** can be forgiven if you **come to the library** and ask about your fines!

Upon checking out a book during National Library Week (April 9-15), you will be entered into the UCSLD drawing for a chance to win a \$25 Barnes & Noble gift card!

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The first week in May is Screen Free week, a time to turn off all our electronics and get back to "screen free" activities. The Athena Chamber of Commerce is hosting two family friendly events in honor of this.

The first event will be Tuesday May 2nd there will be a scavenger hunt around town with prizes. Meet at Dugger Park on Main Street at 5 pm to get started!

Thursday May 4th come to the Athena City Park 5-7pm for a game night. There will be yard and board games for all age groups and snacks!

Hope to see you there! For more info contact Katie Zmuda at 541-969-4810

ATHENA TUESDAY MARKET

It's that time of year again!!

Athena Tuesday Markets

Every Tuesday

May through August

4-7pm in Dugger Park on Main Street.

As always vending is free.

First Market is May 2nd

For more info contact Katie Zmuda 541-969-4810

Mainstreet Clean Sweep

Athena Mainstreet Clean Sweep and City Wide Clean Up Day

Meet at the American Legion Hall at 8 am, May 6th to participate. For information on volunteering contact April Vorhauer-Flatt at 541-969-4811. For information on having your garbage picked up please contact Allison Faircloth at 541-566-3533

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL*

March 9, 2017

Attendance: Council President Becky Schroeder called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:02 pm in the City's community room. Roll was taken with Councilors Pat Gibson, LaVerne Mitchell, Chet Sater and Carol Speed present. City Recorder Nancy Parker and five guests were also in attendance. Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public: Greg Floren and Bob Whitman from Hodaka Days presented a summary of 2016 events and donations. They will be raffling a customized motorcycle trailer this year, and also discussed new events for 2017. They are working with the school to try to coordinate a location for showers. Councilor *Mitchell* made a motion to approve Hodaka Days June 22-25th. Motion was seconded by Gibson and approved 5-0.

April Vorhauer-Flatt and Susan Purcell, representing Main Street Association, announced the PGG building sale will close the end of the March. There will be community meetings to gather input as to what locals would like to see in the building. They are again coordinating with Crop Production Services to host the "Athena Clean Sweep" day on May 6th, which is also free dump day. Councilor *Speed* motioned for the City to provide \$200 toward the community lunch. Motion was seconded by Mitchell and approved 5-0.

Mayor Shafer arrived at 6:21pm.

Sue Friese submitted a letter requesting permission to use the City Park for Caledonian Days July 8-9. Councilor Gibson moved to approve the request, which was seconded by Schroeder and approved 5-0.

Consent Agenda: Councilor *Gibson* moved, and the motion was seconded by Mitchell, to approve the minutes of the 2/9/17 regular meeting, the financial statements and bills. Motion passed 5-0.

Actionable/Discussion Items: Mayor Shafer appointed Recorder Nancy Parker as the Budget Officer and Jerry Baker & Chuck Vickery to three year terms on the budget committee. Councilor *Mitchell* moved to approve the budget calendar, which was seconded by Speed and approved 5-0.

Parker presented a proposal to update the travel expense statement using federal rates as a guideline for meal expense reimbursement. After a lengthy discussion, Councilor *Gibson* moved to have employees charge the actual meal expense on their city credit cards, being prudent and using the approved guidelines. Mitchell seconded the motion, with Gibson, Mitchell, Schroeder and Sater voting to approve. Speed voted against. Motion carried 4-1.

Councilor *Gibson* moved to approve a business license for Winding River BBQ, LLC. Motion was seconded by Mitchell. Schroeder recused herself as this is a business owned by her and her husband. Motion carried 4-0.

Planning Commission: Permit #2017-03 for Carol Judkins to combine her tax lots was approved. They are also reviewing the Comprehensive Plan and have completed pages 27-39.

Old Business:

Water System: Brad Baird reported the reservoir is scheduled to be filled next week. Testing will occur, and once it passes it will be flushed again and put online. The old reservoir can then be drained and prepared to be painted. Goodman & Melenbacher are waiting for the weather to clear up so they can finish. The budget is on track, with the contingency fund holding up well.

Pool: The ads have been placed for the CM/GC and are due by 3/15/2017. After numerous emails and phone conversations with Mark Seder, the City received a letter from Seder Architecture's attorney. Seder is insistent on finishing the project. Parker has contacted Sam Tucker, the City's attorney, and he will handle any correspondence going forward; as well as negotiating a termination agreement.

New Business: Bill Duke, Umatilla District Fish Biologist, is requesting a meeting with city, county, state federal and tribal employees to explore a more cost effective alternative for the fish passage project at the Athena 3rd Street Bridge. More information will be available as dates for the meeting are finalized.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Administration: Total pool donations received to date are over \$10,000. Anyone who has not donated is encouraged to do so. Councilor Speed requested an update on Bank of Eastern Oregon and the expected opening date. She also requested information on the proposed mushroom farm on Sandhollow Road, west of town.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **April 13, 2017 @ 6:00 pm** in the Athena City Hall meeting room.

*Minutes are subject to council approval, any corrections or additions will appear in the next newsletter.

**East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District
(New District)**

The new District held its second meeting on March 21, 2017 at the District Office. Chairman Jeremy Lasater called the meeting to order at 6:31. Also present was Elizabeth McIntyre, Secretary, Carol Kirk, Treasurer, Vickie Jackson and Chrys Wernlund. Acting Administrator Jeff Rost, EMS Coordinator Tiffani Andrews/Rost and office manager Donna Grimes were also present. John Rietz was our guest at the meeting.

The meeting agenda was approved by consensus and the minutes from the last meeting were approved.

The Board set about finishing up business tabled from the last meeting. They chose The Valley Herald as the District's paper of record.

RBH LLC of Pendleton was voted as the Accountant/Auditor of Record. Sam Tucker was named the Attorney of Record. Clerk Duties were assigned.

Jeremy Lasater was named as the District's Registered Agent and the paperwork has been filed with the State Auditor's Office.

Vickie Jackson reported on short term financing which will keep the District running from July 1, 2017 until November 2017 when the tax money starts coming in. She is also working with legal counsel to write the Resolution of Dissolution for the old District and transfer all assets to the new District.

The Board voted to give Jeff Rost, acting Administrator and Jeremy Lasater, Chairman, the Power of Attorney to sign legal documents on behalf of the District.

It was suggested that the wording in the contract for the Medical Director be changed to state that the contract will remain in force until cancelled by either party. This will eliminate the need for annual renewal.

The next meeting will be held on April 18, 2017 at the District Office starting at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

**East Umatilla County Health District
(Old District)**

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by Chairman Vickie Jackson at 7:30 p.m. Present was Secretary Elizabeth McIntyre, Directors Holly Mays, Jeremy Lasater and Jim Marquardt. Chrys Wernlund, Carol Kirk and John Reitz stayed for the second meeting. Acting Administrator Jeff Rost, EMS Coordinator Tiffani Andrews/Rost and office manager Donna Grimes were also in attendance.

Jim Marquardt took his oath of office and was sworn in as Director, Position #4. All Board positions are full and there will be a lot to do between before the District dissolves on June 30, 2017.

The District is working hard to recruit a new Paramedic/Administrator. The budget for the new District will also allow the hiring of two more paramedics. We have a great group of volunteers that have stepped up to maintain coverage. The District is operating 100% and will continue to do so until June 30, 2017. The process of phasing out the old District and ramping up the New is proceeding smoothly and we are on schedule to be ready on July 1, 2017.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the District Office.

ANNUAL YARD SALE DAY

Just a reminder that the Annual Yard Sale Day for Athena is Saturday May 20th 2017. Again we will be putting together maps with sale addresses on it. If you are having a sale and want to be included in this map you NEED to contact Paula Babb at Bees Knees Thrift Store (541)969-7904 or City Hall (541) 566-3862 to tell us the address of the sale. Advertising for this day will be provided. Sale times will be advertised from 8:00-3:00. Looking forward to another great sale day!

MAINSTREET ASSOCIATION

Flower boxes will again add a colorful display to downtown Athena! And you can help purchase and maintain these beautiful boxes. The garden club is hosting a chicken alfredo bake dinner on Earth Day Saturday April 22nd from 5:00pm-7:00pm at the Legion Hall in Athena. All proceeds will be used to fill our main street flower boxes with great color! If you are unable to attend but would still like to help you can make a tax deductible donation through Athena Mainstreet Association PO Box 333 Athena Oregon. We are a 501 (c) (3) non profit organization whose focus is to beautify this great little town. Hope to see you April 22nd for a GREAT DINNER! Athena Mainstreet Association would like to send a Big Thank You to the high school FFA for their contribution to the flower boxes last year. Excited to see their plans for this year! Again a HUGE THANKS

As the weather gets warmer and the daylight hours get longer, some types of crime can tend to increase. Criminals don't like being out in the bad weather any more than the rest of us. We have had some recent reports of UEMV (Unauthorized Entry of a Motor Vehicle) around the county, or commonly known as car prowling.

Car Prowling is just exactly what it sounds like. Often a thief will walk down a street or area, glance into vehicles and go for what is easily accessible. While it is impossible to guarantee this will never happen to your vehicle, there are some things you can do to significantly reduce the odds.

1. Lock the vehicle, do NOT leave the keys in it.
2. Remove ALL your valuable items from your car.
3. Do not leave items in plain view - such as loose change. A thief will often break the window of a car if they think it will be worth finding more valuable items.
4. Park in a well lite area, or an area that has motion sensor lights.
5. If you absolutely cannot remove some items, hide them. Put them in the trunk. Make your vehicle look empty and uninteresting. Anything visible will encourage the thief to access your vehicle.
6. Never leave GUNS, Wallets, Purses, ID, electronic devies, etc in your vehicle. This may seem obvious, but NEVER store the vehicle title in your vehicle.
7. Do not assume it only happens at night. Criminals like to prowl parking areas in shopping areas, churches, parks, schools.

Report all suspicious activity, be aware of your surroundings. Watch your neighborhood! Hopefully spring is on the way and we will get to enjoy some beautiful days. As you enjoy the weather, please take the extra steps to secure your vehicles and belongings. Criminals are still going to be out there breaking the law, but we don't have to make it easy for them. Stay Safe!

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