

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

October 5, 2017

Attendance: Mayor John Shafer called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:00 pm in the Miller Family Community Room. Roll was taken with Councilors Pat Gibson, LaVerne Mitchell, Chet Sater and Rebecca Schroeder present. Carol Speed was excused. City Recorder Nancy Parker and nine guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schafer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public: **Fire Chief John Reitz** presented information on the hazards of keeping and costs to remove the existing siren and tower at the fire hall. The siren is no longer used, and the tower is a potential liability to the city if it is not secured. A motion was made and seconded to dismantle the tower and preserve the siren for possible use in a display at the fire hall. Motion carried 4-0.

Sgt. Gregory from the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office gave the police report.

Michael Ward from Umatilla Basin Watershed Council gave an update on the 3rd Street Bridge Project. The design phase should be at 60% by November 6th. Michael will partner with the city to write a \$20,000 Restoration/Heritage/Reuse Grant from Wildhorse Foundation, which is due 1/1/2018. The Watershed Council will hold their October meeting in Athena at the Miller Family Community Room.

Athena Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for Athena Fall Festival on October 7th. There will be live music, a car show, Cancer Walk and numerous vendors.

Main Street Association is hosting a membership drive and social on 11/1/@ 6:00 pm in the Miller Family Community Room at City Hall. They are also making plans for holiday lighting on Main Street.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 9/7/17 regular meeting, the financial statements and bills. Motion passed 4-0.

Actionable/Discussion Items: A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #2017-16 to accept a pool grant from Blue Mountain Community Foundation. Motion approved 4-0.

The City Recorder contract effective 12/1/17 - 12/1/19 was present. The only proposed change was to increase vacation days per year from 22 to 25. Motion to approve was made, seconded, and approved 4-0. Librarian Carrie Bremer submitted her letter of resignation. The council reviewed the current job description and hiring procedures. Nancy will post the job opening and Mayor Shafer will appoint a selection committee.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: Commission members are working on a house mapping project, one of the final steps to complete the update for Planning Ordinances.

Pool: The committee is working on a street banner and flyers to pass out at various community functions, including basketball games. They will also check to see if they can be stuffed in grocery bags at the stores.

Old Business:

Water System: Brad Baird reported punch list work will begin next week. There is additional follow up paperwork that needs to be completed. Upon project completion there will be an 11 month inspection, possibly in October 2018, which will include the Contractor, USDA, Anderson Perry and Public Works.

New Business: None

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Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Administration: Michelle will be on vacation October 25-27th, and Nancy October 30-Nov 3rd. Nancy will not be at the November 9th council meeting.

Mayor Shafer announce the City received a Gold Safety Award from our insurance company CIS.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **November 9, 2017 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

Approved: John Shafer, Mayor _____

Attested: Nancy Parker, City Recorder _____