

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

April 12, 2018

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, Carol Speed, and Rebecca Schroeder present. City Recorder Nancy Parker and seven guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schafer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public: Athena Caledonian Games: Presented a revised proposal to install a permanent 3-sided kiosk in the city park. One side will be reserved for Caledonian Games, with the other two sides being used for informative postings about Athena happenings, culture, and history. They have coordinated with Public Works on placement, and will make repairs as necessary. The city will have a key, as will Caledonian Games. A motion was made, seconded and carried 5-0 to approve the kiosk.

Athena Chamber of Commerce: Tuesday market will begin May 1st, from 4-7pm every Tuesday at Dugger Park. They are bringing back Yard of the Month, and looking for volunteers. They are also planning activities for a Screen Free Week April 30-May 4.

Main Street Association: Clean Sweep will be May 5th, with a Cinco de Mayo themed lunch at the Legion Hall, provided by the city. They will also be adopting the state highway for cleaning, from Main Street to Highway 12.

Lloyd Flatt expressed concerns the Planning Commission is not following the Comprehensive Plan in the zoning ordinance; specifically related to use and signage at the new storage units on Third and Jefferson, which are advertising RV and boat storage. He also expressed concern about the loss of parking spaces in the downtown area with the entrance to the storage facility on Third Street. The original permit was compared to permitted uses in the Comprehensive Plan and the Business License Application. After lengthy discussion Council felt the original permit fell within the guidelines of the Commercial-Residential Zone and it was compatible with prior use of the property. Council agreed the property was not zoned for seasonal or recreations vehicle storage and will address that in the business license application.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 3/8/18 regular meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion passed 5-0.

Actionable Items: Rates for swimming pool daily passes and family passes were compared to surrounding communities and discussed. A motion was made to increase the family pass rate to \$100 and the daily pass rate to \$2. Motion was seconded and passed 5-0. A recommendation was made to allow the library to give out 60 pool passes for reading during the summer. Kristin will develop criteria and bring it back to the council meeting in May.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2018-05 to Accept and Expense Funds from the sale of property at 124 High Street. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made to approve the AFSCME Union Contract for 2018-2021. Motion was seconded and carried 5-0.

After Mayor Shafer read ordinance 1-3.3 Qualifications for Elections, Nominating Procedures; and then reading the ordinance by title, a motion was made to approve the updated ordinance. Motion was seconded and carried 5-0.

A motion was made to renew the Law Enforcement Services Agreement with Umatilla County Sheriff's Office. Motion was seconded and approved 5-0.

Approve Business License: A business license application from Duane & Sara Lyn Smalley for Third Street Storage was discussed at length due to concerns about RV and boat storage. The original building permit and business license both state the use is for storage units and neither mention recreational or seasonal vehicle storage. Per the Comprehensive Plan, RV or seasonal use vehicle storage is allowed only in the Industrial Zone. A motion was made and seconded to approve the business license for storage units only, with no seasonal vehicle storage allowed. Motion carried 5-0. Nancy will notify Smalleys' of the conditional license approval and request they modify their sign.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: Approved permits for a new shop at 207 E High for Paul & Norene Tate and a tax lot split for Terry & JoAnn McKern. Nancy presented the updated Athena Growth Report, which will be reviewed at the next meeting. Once approved, it will be presented to Council for their approval.

Pool: Lifeguards have been hired and training is scheduled. A \$50,000 grant was received from AWERE, and \$25,000 from The Ford Family Foundation. The remainder of the fixtures should arrive next week. Painting is almost complete, both inside and out. The doors are being painted with automotive paint for strength and durability. While painting the doors, it was discovered someone has been throwing rocks at them and left dents. Council discussed installing cameras to help catch those causing vandalism and hold them accountable. Nancy will work with Kim, Kenneth and Fire Chief John Reitz about what to purchase. A grant was received for work on the mechanical room, and will be used to make repairs and paint the building and the propane tank to match the bathhouse.

Old Business: None

New Business: Nancy presented information on the replacement park playground equipment. She explained the price increase in one week due to tariffs, color options, price comparisons and ways to fund the project before prices increase again. A motion was made and seconded to purchase the proposed playground equipment in tropical yellow and green, plus the wood fiber base. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 2018-06 Transferring Appropriations from Water Fund to Capital Projects Fund and Resolution 2018-07 Increasing Appropriations in Capital Projects, Public Works. Motion carried 5-0. These resolutions authorize funding to complete the bathhouse and purchase the playground equipment in the current fiscal year. The funds will be paid back at the beginning of the next fiscal year in July 2018.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Librarian Kristin Williams handed out a list of events at the library for April, the Annual Library Service Plan and the open hour's survey. After discussion and recommendation from Kristin per the hours survey, a motion was made and seconded to approve new library hours of Mon 12-6; Tues 12-5; Wed. 12-7; Thurs 12-5 and Fri 12-5, beginning in September. Motion approved 5-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **May 10, 2018 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

Approved: John Shafer, Mayor _____

Attested: Nancy Parker, CMC, City Recorder _____