

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

**May 10, 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, and Rebecca Schroeder present. Carol Speed was excused. City Recorder Nancy Parker and five guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schafer led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Business from the Public:**

**Athena Chamber of Commerce** will be sponsoring Community Night Out on Friday June 29 from 5-10 pm. They requested and were granted permission by a vote of 4-0 to close Third Street. They have started Yard of the Month again, and are implementing a springtime photo challenge. April McKenna also noted the slide on the small playground has a large crack in it. Nancy will have Public Works look at it to see if it can be repaired, replaced, or needs to be removed.

**Main Street Association** thanked the city for sponsoring the lunch for the Clean Sweep. It went well, with over 35 volunteers participating. They have implemented fund raising at Tuesday Markets, and plan to do quarterly clean-up for their Adopt A Highway project. Members expressed safety concerns about the openings on the planter boxes on Main Street. Nancy will contact Christina McBean at Advanced Tarps to see about coverings for the planter boxes until the trees are planted this fall. Questions were also raised about liability since the sidewalks are the owners' responsibility. Nancy will get clarification from our insurance company and report back.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 4/12/18 regular meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion passed 4-0.

**Actionable Items:** A motion was made, seconded and carried 4-0 to approve Resolution 2018-08 to Accept and Expense Grants and Donations for the Swimming Pool Project. Carol Speed requested permission to have alcohol in the park June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was moved and seconded to allow the request. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to allow the closure of City Hall June 18-20. Michelle will be at Professional Development training for the week and Nancy will be in Salem for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department grant selection committee meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

**Planning Commission:** The Third Street Bridge construction permit has been approved, and a written report was submitted from Richard Christian. The public comment period will end May 22<sup>nd</sup>, with no comments received to date. The Athena Growth Report was approved. Council agreed to review the report and will vote on it at the next meeting.

**Pool:** The interior is almost complete, with only the partitions in the restrooms to be installed. It looks great!! The mechanical room and the propane tanks have been painted the same colors as the pool building. They now blend into the surrounding area and look very nice.

**Old Business:** Water Project - Brad Baird submitted a list of paperwork to be complete this week, as well as items to be completed and presented at the June council meeting; which he will attend.

**New Business:** Mayor Shafer read a letter from Bob Johns concerning the speed limit change from 50 to 55 on Highway 11. Bob listed numerous safety concerns with the higher speeds, especially relating to traffic from the schools and the busses. Council agreed by consensus to take these concerns to the school board and see if they would be willing to partner with the city to have the speed limit changed back.

**Councilor Pat Gibson** inquired about a residence that has been converted to a duplex but is only being charged the single residence water rate. He also suggested the city hire a Code Enforcement Officer to assist in cleaning up the city. The purpose would be to educate citizens on City Ordinances rather than to be punitive or as a revenue source; although both could happen if action is not taken by the property owner. Councilor Schroeder would like community input before anything is decided. Nancy will contact Adams, Weston, and Pilot Rock for information on what they do.

**Business from the Departments & Councilors:**

**Parks & Recreation:** Becky expressed her appreciation for citizens bringing their concerns to the council's attention.

**Library:** They will be having a book sale during the city wide yard sale. Kristin presented a list of activities for the summer, which includes movie nights, crafternoon, music, and special reading programs. She outlined the Summer Reading prize plan, and requested the city donate a grand prize of a family swim pass for 2019. It was moved, seconded and approved to donate the Grand Prize Family Swim Pass for 2019. There will also be an Adult Summer Reading program with great prizes ...stay tuned!! The library board is reviewing their policies and will provide council an updated copy for their approval when complete.

**Administration:** Nancy will not be at the June 14<sup>th</sup> council meeting as she will be at Professional Development. Chet Sater will also be absent at that meeting.

Nancy read an invitation to the FFA Banquet on May 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm. She also reminded everyone of the budget committee meeting May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30.

Michelle and Nancy are assisting the City of Weston with training as Weston transitions to a new city recorder.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **June 14, 2018 @ 6:00 pm** in the Miller Family Community Room.

Approved: John Shafer, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Attested: Nancy Parker, CMC, City Recorder \_\_\_\_\_