

**Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held  
March 2, 2015 at the Town Hall**

Board members present: Jan Palmer, Lyle Reynolds, Barb Kilpatrick, David Beckstrom, Chris Olson, Deputy Treasurer Amy Peterson, Clerk Diane Carpenter, Staff Jim Braun

Guests: Cindy Reynolds, Russ & Ann Mann, Mike Warring, Don & Karen Mickelson, Roy Palmer, Jacqui Baker

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M/S Lyle Reynolds/Dave Beckstrom to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Review Action Items**

Action items were reviewed and discussed. Those remaining were:

- Jim will contact the residents of Rum River Drive that have not installed the new mailboxes.
- Jim will research a new recording system for recording meetings.
- Barb will contact someone about fixing the sign.

**Approve Agenda**

M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Chris Olson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

**Planning and Zoning**

- Permits were more active this month.
- Inspections are up to date.

- Carolyn wrote an ordinance amending the town code. M/S Chris Olson/Lyle Reynolds to approve Ordinance 2015-01 amending the town code, regarding accessory buildings and structures. Motion passed unanimously.
- Jim submitted the noxious weed report to the county.
- A fire in the township destroyed a home. They have been given two months to clean up the site.
- Applications for culverts on Hastings and 253<sup>rd</sup> have been submitted to the DNR. Jim will contact Bjorklund's to see if we can do anything with them before the spring thaw.
- Someone purchased the Tom Bartz property on Polk and wants to open a Historic Site Theme Park. There is only one old building there and the roads are not conducive to such a venture.
- Peter Tiede is no longer with Murnain.
- No county update.

### **Roads**

- Snowmobiles are hitting the culvert on 65 and 264<sup>th</sup>.
- We have received a few complaints about rough roads, 264<sup>th</sup> and Baltimore, and 265<sup>th</sup>.
- The devastation machine is not a pruning device.

### **Fire**

- The Isanti City Council voted to stay in the fire district and rescinded the Station One eviction notice.
- Jan will recommend building a new fire station at the next fire meeting, since the city wants to charge such high rent for Station One.
- Jan explained the formula for charges for the Fire District.

### **Parks**

- The balance in the park fund is 37,494.34.
- No meeting was held this month.

-Russ presented spread sheets with expenses for the new ball field. M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris Olson to pay off the remaining electrical bill to Isanti Electric in the amount of 1662.50. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Clerk's Report**

- Diane posted the Annual Meeting.
- The perpetual calendar was updated.
- Spring short courses will be March 24 in St. Cloud. M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Lyle Reynolds authorizing attendance at the Short Courses. Motion passed unanimously.
- Legal Short Courses are April 23. Diane will need to know at the next meeting if anyone is planning to attend.
- The board of Review is April 22 at 7 PM.

### **Treasurer's Report**

M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report (checks 5207-5225 plus IRS totaling \$27,743.66). Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held about town hall rental. The current rate being charged is 50.00.

M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Lyle Reynolds to raise the rent for the town hall to 100.00 with a 200.00 damage deposit. Motion passed unanimously.

There is water damage in the men's restroom. Barb will contact Phil about fixing it.

Lyle is contacting vendors for cleanup day. Evergreen will be helping us like they did last year. Jan will contact East Central Sanitation about getting 4 dumpsters. Chris will contact workers.

We are still researching options for the township to be able to process credit cards.

We had an electrical problem at the town hall. Connexus fixed the problem, but they had to dig up part of the asphalt. It will be fixed in the spring.

Russ will contact Tom Panken about doing some garage door maintenance on the shed. Russ will also purchase a ladder for the town hall.

There is ditch debris on 245<sup>th</sup> and Larch.

We are still having issues with the group home on Lincoln. Parking is a mess and they are parking on the street. This makes it difficult for plowing and for traffic. Dave will contact Peter Tiede about our options.

Discussion was held about a township employee. M/S Dave Beckstrom/Lyle Reynolds for Marlys to research costs. We will pay her for up to 6 hours. Motion passed unanimously. Dave will contact her about doing this as she is not at this meeting.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_