

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held September 14, 2015 at the Town Hall

Board members present: Jan Palmer, Lyle Reynolds, Barb Kilpatrick, Chris Olson, Dave Beckstrom, Treasurer Marlys Balfany, Clerk Diane Carpenter, Staff Jim Braun

Guests: Cindy Reynolds, Richard Popp, Ron Schleif, Dave Henderson, Steve and Kayti Strandlund, Jake Carpenter, Kathy Beckstrom, Larry Hogie, Gary Omman, Don Mickelson, Blake & Kaylee Bjorklund, Steve Hass, Bill and Wendy Anderson, Sharon Kutzke, Kari & Steve Benolkie

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

M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris Olson to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Lyle Reynolds to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Action Items

Action items were reviewed and discussed. Those remaining were:

- Jim will post an updated copy of fees and surcharges in the posting box at the town hall.
- Marlys will check out our existing cell tower contracts.

Road signs have been ordered and should be here by the end of the week.

Desks are almost finished.

Approve Agenda

M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris to approve the agenda as amended.
Motion passed unanimously.

Planning and Zoning

- Good month for permits.
- Cleanups are moving forward. Jim gave a 30 day verbal notice to one cleanup on Xylite. He will check tomorrow to see how it is progressing.
- Inspections are up to date.
- A discussion was held regarding the Joshua Herbst property and the annexation letter we received from St. Francis. There is no access to the property for Athens and police and fire must be provided by St. Francis. No one is planning to attend the public meeting on 9/21/15. The township will receive a small portion of the property taxes for ten years.
- Lyle gave a county update.

Roads

- Most road issues are taken care of.
- Jim will be picking up the signs that have been ordered in Fergus Falls.
- Gravel is needed on Xeon, 249th, and Rum River Dr N of 23.
- Discussion was held about culverts still being plugged.
- Chris will get Pat Cahill to check out the beaver dams.
- Chris will coordinate with Craig to install a culvert and do the ditch work that was approved last year for Randy Nelson's property.

-The street sign on 265th and Xylite is missing. It needs to be replaced with an orange street sign.

M/S Jan Palmer/Chris Olson to pass Resolution 2015-01 for a speed limit on 249th and Xeon. Motion passed unanimously.

-Russ will check to see what portion of the parking lot repair should belong to Connexus.

-Each supervisor was given a chance to weigh in on the 4/40 controversy. The consensus was that we will send out another survey in the spring, once things calm down. The survey will be formulated and technical issues worked out in the meantime.

-We received one snow plowing bid for the 2015-2016 season. The bid was from Steve Hass.

M/S to accept the bid from Hass for snowplowing for 2015-2016. Motion passed unanimously.

-The fall road review will be held on Monday, October 19th at 5:30 at the town hall.

Fire

-No update.

Parks

-The balance in the park fund is 36,600.64.

-The misters are completed.

-The picnic was a great success. Lots of nice comments from residents.

-Barb obtained signs for the park banning four wheelers.

-There will be no September park meeting. Future issues will include permanent bathrooms and a permanent concession stand.

Clerk's Report

-Diane researched more snow plow costs.

-Diane again contacted CenturyLink about our incorrect bill.

- Menards had posted a check to our account incorrectly and Diane contacted them about the issue and it is fixed.
- The water inspection at the town hall was completed.

Another discussion was held about cell towers and contracts. Jim will inspect the towers. Dave Henderson pointed out that all contracts should have a demolition clause.

Treasurer's Report

M/S Chris Olson/Lyle Reynolds to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report (checks 5405-5429 plus IRS totaling \$24,070.87). Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Chris Olson/Lyle Reynolds to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

Date _____