

**Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held  
December 5, 2016 at the Town Hall**

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

Guests: Ron Schlieff, Mike Warring, Diane Bjorklund, Cindy Reynolds, Russ & Ann Mann, Steve Hass, Dave Henderson, Rebecca Cox, Ed Tiller

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

M/S Chris Olson/Barb Kilpatrick to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Chris Olson/Barb Kilpatrick to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2016 Board of Canvass meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Review Action Items**

There were no action items remaining this month.

Jim checked with Peter on the issue of the garden plots. It is perfectly legal and no permits are needed.

**Approve Agenda**

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

## **Planning and Zoning**

-A slow month for permits. SBA has applied for a permit to put a new antenna on the tower on Shennandoah.

-Most cleanups are good but a couple more have been identified since the leaves are gone. Jim would like one of the supervisors to take a ride through the township with him to take pictures.

-Mr. Cox has withdrawn his permit request for the CUP and has requested that his property be annexed to the City of Isanti. We are waiting on an invoice from MSA to send him an invoice for costs to the township. Dave Henderson researched how annexation would affect his property taxes.

M/S Jan Palmer/Lyle Reynolds to pass Ordinance 2016-08 to protect the planning process while considering amending the Rural Tourism Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

-Lyle gave a county update.

## **Roads**

-Most of the signs are done.

-Lots of activity on the gravel roads with all the snow.

-We are looking at doing maintenance on the grader.

-Railroad signs are the township's responsibility.

-No watershed report.

-No Hwy 65 report.

## **Fire**

-The fire district is interviewing for new firefighters. They are hoping to hire 8 with some located near station three. We have had three resignations recently.

## **Parks**

-The balance in the park fund is 24,322.55.

-Russ gave an update on the construction of the new bathrooms.

-No meetings were held in November or December.

-The rocks seem to be helping at Anderson Park. It is currently closed for black powder hunting season.

### **Clerk's Report**

- All election duties are completed.
- The board of canvass meeting was held.
- Certificates of election have been issued.
- All accounts for the year have been verified between the clerk and treasurer books.
- The Board of Reorganization Meeting will be held on January 9, 2017 at 6:30, prior to the regular meeting. Please come early if you need to take your oath of office.

We will be getting quotes on updating the wiring and electricity at the town hall. We need more circuits and need to look at the floor heating system.

Dave talked to Peter Tiede about possible teleconferencing to meetings when legal counsel is needed.

Grants for better internet access for the township were discussed.

### **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 5876-5928 plus IRS totaling \$27,929.89). Motion passed unanimously.

- Marlys gave a budget update.
- The township account at NAPA has been closed as there was another unauthorized charge.
- We have three unpaid permits for 2016.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

M/S Chris Olson/David Beckstrom to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Diane Carpenter

---

Athens Township Clerk

---

Date

---