

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held December 7, 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, Kathy Beckstrom, Ron Schleif, Dave & Darlene Henderson, Mike Warring, Kayti & Steve Strandlund, Craig & Diane Bjorklund, Steve Hass, Kurt Daubt, Tim Swanson, K Olson, Bill Anderson

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 November 2, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Chris Olson/Barb Kilpatrick to approve the minutes of the Fall Road Review of October 19, 2015 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Review Action Items

Action items were reviewed and discussed. Those remaining were:

- Russ will check to see what portion of the parking lot repair should belong to Connexus.
- Jim and Chris will get bids for a new door for the town hall.
- Barb will contact Wayne Anderson in Stanford township regarding their township employee.

Marlys gave us figures of amounts paid out to people working for the township as follows for building maintenance and mowing:

2012 – 2516.00

2013 – 2062.00

2014 – 1770.00

Approve Agenda

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

Planning and Zoning

-A permit was issued to the Fire District to finish the upper floor of the Fire Station on 9 and 45. The township donated its portion of the permit fee.

-Two siding permits this month.

- Most cleanups are in compliance.

-Inspections are up to date.

-M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris Olson to approve resolution 2015-03 regarding Steve Benolkin's Revised CUP for deep water mining. Motion passed unanimously.

-A discussion was held concerning restoring building rights to properties that have already been used. It doesn't work.

M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris Olson to change to 4/40, noncontiguous transfer rights with 8/40 total density. This motion was tabled until next month.

-Jim will estimate for next month the amount of time needed for Carolyn to work on the Rural Tourism Ordinance.

-Lyle gave a county update.

Roads

-Signs on Xeon will be done on Wednesday.

-Maintenance needs to be done on the grader.

-New culverts are in and some are cleaned out.

-Gravel done for the year.

- Concerns were voiced for first plowing, mailbox issues. Jim will get a copy of the township mailbox policy.
- Chris will get an estimate for the cost of cleaning up the mess left by the beavers. What is the policy? In the past we have only fixed it if it affects the roads.
- 253rd needs to be a project for next year to permanently resolve the problem.
- M/S Dave Beckstrom/Lyle Reynolds to accept Resolution 2015-04 to amend the Hwy 65 Coalition Joint Powers Agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire

- Randy Polizin retires at midnight, 12/31/15. Al Jankovich will take over his position.

Parks

- The balance in the park fund is 38,261.38.
- No meeting was held this month.

Clerk's Report

- Diane completed verification with Marlys on all claims and receipts for 2015.
- Diane will post and publish the Board of Reorganization meeting for January 11, 2016 at 6:30 PM.
- The snow plow policy was posted and published.
- Documents have been sent to Dan for the Website.
- A schedule of 2016 meetings is included in your packets.

Jan summarized the cell contract with Crown Castle.
M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Lyle Reynolds to approve the contract with discussed ammendments. Jan will sign the contract once it is checked by Peter. Motion passed unanimously.

Courri Ruppe will have increased rates for 2016.

Jan will check with St. Francis about a letter we received from them regarding the annexed property.

Jan summarized Jim's new contract for residents. All original records shall be stored at the town hall.

M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Dave Beckstrom to accept Jim's 2016 employment contract. Motion passed unanimously.

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 5487-5523 plus IRS totaling \$45,972.04). Motion passed unanimously.

-Mike Warring gave a county update.

M/S Lyle Reynolds/Chris Olson to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

Date _____