

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held February 6, 2023 at the Town Hall

Board members present: Dave Henderson, Amy Peterson, Todd Christensen, Chris Olson, Dave Beckstrom, Clerk Diane Carpenter, Treasurer Marlys Balfany (Remote), Deputy Treasurer Erin Olson, and Mike Jungbauer

Guests: Jason Ross, Lyle Reynolds, Steve Hass, Billy Larson, Tom Heinen, Mike Warring

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

M/S Todd Christensen/Amy Peterson to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. None remained.

Approve Agenda

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Lyle Reynolds gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

Violations

- ICO outside storage, no permits. Mike will be issuing fines.
- 25122 Leve St NE – Building permit violations. Letters are being sent.
- There will be a public hearing at the February P&Z meeting about the CUP for Dennis Sharp for the Mini Storage.

-Mike is starting conversations about new road access for the properties north of George's Greenhouse as right now there is just a cartway.

-Mike suggested a series of 4 work training meetings for P&Z. M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to start with two meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

-Mike mentioned the need for volunteers to box up data for scanning.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Todd Christensen to approve Resolution 2023-01 adopting the MN Township General Records Retention Schedule. Motion passed unanimously.

-Mike presented an estimate for a sound system for the town hall. M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson to approve up to 5100.00 for a sound system. Motion passed unanimously.

-Dave Henderson asked Mike to come up with a newsletter explaining zoning changes.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to approve an 8 page newsletter this time. Motion passed unanimously.

-Mike, Marlys, Todd and Dave H. will work on developing a budget for Building and P&Z.

-Amy or Chris will work with Mike to develop a job description for Township Administrator.

-The township has been advised of a pending lawsuit. Peter Tiede should be receiving paperwork shortly.

-Mike will be having surgery on Feb 20th on his back.

-Mike is working on the dog ordinance for P&Z meeting for February.

-The park dedication fee is extremely low. The Park Board will follow up and check on what it is in other areas.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Roads

- Roads are in good winter condition.
- Street signs are being ordered.
- Chris suggested that on the road review, we look at chip sealed roads in Stacy and North Branch.

Fire

- Amy gave a recap of 2022 in the fire district. The average response time for the district is 9 minutes. Athens response average is 6 minutes.

Parks

- Amy is looking for park board members. The balance in the park fund is 85,304.05.

Clerk's Report

- Reminder that the Annual Meeting will be held at 7PM on March 14th at the town hall.
 - The Board of Review and Equalization will be held at 7PM on April 17th at the town hall.
- All year end reports were completed for the Board of Audit.
Diane contacted MAT regarding scanning a document retention.

Treasurer's Report-

M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 7888-7906 plus IRS totaling 52,104.36).

Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

- Marlys gave a budget report.
- Payroll claims need to be sent to Marlys by March 27th.

General-

Todd Christensen is a new director for Isanti County Township Officers.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____