

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held April 3, 2023 at the Town Hall

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

Guests: Jason Ross, Lyle Reynolds, Eric Pfeifer, Steve Hass, AJ & Sandy Ondrey, Herb Thielbar, Tom Lang, Austin Olson

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 March 6, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. None remained.
Steve Hass will donate hotdogs for cleanup day.

Approve Agenda

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

Russ and Ann Mann attended the meeting along with the Cambridge Isanti ball players that use our fields. They presented the township with checks for upkeep for the fields, 2500 from CICB and 1000 from the Grandslammers.

The sandpro is here. Also, Russ updated the board on updates and improvements that will be done to the fields this year, including adding a new batting cage that was donated and facelifts on the scoreboards. Livewire Electric will be donating

electrical for the new scoreboard and also donated three flag pole lights.

Lyle Reynolds gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

- Mike gave an update on the Hwy 65 frontage road proposal near George's Greenhouse.
- Some fines were collected and Mike gave an update on violations and letters sent.
- There will be three PH for the month of April at P&Z.
- Mike is working on finalizing the ADU ordinance.
- M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to pay residents that are able to help with the scanning project. Motion passed unanimously.
- P&Z will look at proposed park dedication fees and then forward to the park board.

Roads

- The issue of overweight trucks was brought up, as they damage the roads. It is an issue on Isanti Street. The issue of enforcement was discussed, including taking photos. Damage to the road would also be physical evidence. Chris will arrange with the people who complained to take photos.
- Street signs should be here in about two weeks. A discussion was held about state and county signs that are not being replaced. The consensus was to just leave them alone.
- Striping will be done soon.
- We are planning to pave Hastings on the East side this year. It is approximately one mile and connects two county roads. M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to pave Hastings this season. Motion passed unanimously.
- The road review is scheduled for May 8th at 5:30.

Fire

-In February the fire district had 56 runs, 6 for Athens. Our response time is 4 minutes.

Parks

- The balance in the park fund is 67,698.43.

-M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to approve Tom Heinen as a new park board member. Motion passed unanimously.

-The park board met in March for the first time this spring. Things they would like to do include purchasing an ADA swing, plants, no smoking signs, and solar lights.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to spend up to 5600.00 on these projects. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held about possible upcoming changes to the cell towers as TMobile purchased Sprint.

Clerk's Report

- The Annual Meeting was held on March 14th.

-Tax levy statements were delivered to the courthouse.

-The Board of Review and Equalization will be held at 7PM on April 17th at the town hall.

-Diane contacted CenturyLink to find out why our bill was so high and dispute internet disconnection fee.

Treasurer's Report-

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 7922-7962 plus IRS totaling 74,477.50). Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys gave a budget report.

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve donations recommended by residents at the annual meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

General-

Cleanup day plans are coming together. Amy is working on the food. Amy and Todd will put together a price list for posting. Cleanup day is May 6, 2023

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter	Athens Township Clerk
_____	Date _____