

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held May 1, 2023 at the Town Hall

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

Guests: Jason Ross, AJ & Sandy Ondrey, Jordan Alfveby, Allie Bean Rebecca Mauriala-Kuehn, Tom Heinen, Dan Woodfill, Billy Larson, Mike Warring, Curt Carpenter, Tyler Fohrenkamm

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

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. None remained.

A price list is ready for cleanup day.

Chris inquired about photos of trucks on Isanti Street. Nothing was received but we will continue to monitor.

Approve Agenda

M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Rebecca Mauriala-Kuehn and Sandy Ondrey brought a proposal to the board about a having a farmer's market and also senior social gatherings at the town hall. Questions were raised regarding township liability and logistics. MAT will be contacted. Todd, Amy, Rebecca and Sandy will look into the possibilities and report back.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to adopt county wording that we are a 1st and 2nd amendment dedicated township. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning & Zoning

-Last year Nick Anderson applied for an IUP for equipment on his property on Monroe. Time expired and it was denied.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to waive a second fee and just charge for the cost of the public hearing as it progresses this time. Motion passed unanimously.

- Tyler Fohrenkamm has applied for and IUP for a business of cash for junk cars. Discussion was held and Tyler and Mike explained what he would be doing.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2023-04 approving the IUP with an amendment adding inspections by the township. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held about ADU's. Mike went over the Resolution 2023-05. Sizes were again talked about. Todd, Amy and Chris wanted to go with P&Z recommendation and Dave H and Dave B. wanted larger sizes.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to approve Resolution 2023-05 for ADU's. Motion passed 4-1 with Dave Henderson voting nay.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve ordinance 2023-02 for ADU publication. Motion passed unanimously.

-A discussion was held about park dedication fees. It was decided that in the future, it will be 1500.00 with 750.00 going to parks and 750.00 to roads.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson for the above fees. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson approving Resolution 2023-06 changing single family dwelling lot sizes to a minimum of five acres. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen approving Ordinance 2023-03 Amending section 20-32 of the town code. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Todd Christensen approving Ordinance 2023-04 establishing a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for or issuance of IUP's, land splits, or changes to platted subdivisions and small acreage and residential type neighborhoods. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to deed small pieces of land on the north side of 245th back to the home owners. Motion passed unanimously.

-A discussion was held about the possibility of commercial zoning on Cty Rd 9. This would help iron out the issue of the IUP on 9 involving the cabinet shop that is not occupied by the owner. It was decided that this should move to P&Z for discussion.

-24510 Ulysses has cancelled their request for outside storage.

-M/S Chris Olson/Dave Beckstrom to approve up to 500.00 for P&Z needs including gravel sieves, and a telescoping ladder. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to approve up to 1400.00 to purchase a drone for inspections only. This will be listed on roofing permits. Motion passed unanimously.

-There will be an economic development meeting on May 30th from 9-noon. Dave Henderson, Todd Christensen, and Mike Jungbauer will attend.

Roads

-The grader maintenance has been completed.

-Dustcoating has begun and the price is up to 1.15 from 1.10 last year.

-Gravel is needed in certain areas.

M/S Chris Olson/Dave Beckstrom to approve up to 40,000.00 for gravel. Motion passed unanimously.

-4 to 5 culverts need replacing.

M/S Todd Christensen/Amy Peterson to accept the new prices for road work from Hass. Motion passed unanimously.

-We received four paving bids for Hastings. The lowest bid was from Knife River who has done work for us in the past.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson to accept the bid from Knife River. Motion passed unanimously.

-The new street signs are here.

-We have been offered a radio from the sheriff's office, which we will accept.

Fire

-Everything is good.

Parks

- The balance in the park fund is 73,390.02.

-We will be purchasing the grill this week to use for cleanup day.

-We are purchasing flowers and solar lights and an ADA swing.

We are also getting quotes for a sport court.

Clerk's Report

- Amy will be training for the Board of Appeals.

-Finalized changes with Century Link and believe the bill is finally correct.

-The board of appeals was completed on April 17th.

-Reminders that cleanup day is May 6th and Road Review is May 8th.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Henderson to close the Board of Reorganization meeting at 9:38 PM on May 1st. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report-

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 7963-7978 plus IRS totaling 45,787.77). Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys gave a budget report.

-It was noted by Marlys that Sandy, Curt, and Jason should become employees of the township and be paid thru payroll, not claims.

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 Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to adjourn the meeting at 9:46.

PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

Date _____