

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held June 5, 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, Billy Larson, Mike Warring, Curt Carpe

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

M/S Amy Peterson/Dave Beckstrom to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Remaining was Todd and Amy will look into the proposal of a farmers' market and senior social gatherings at the town hall.

Approve Agenda

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

- P&Z is working on what to allow in residential zoning.

They recommend a name change from ag residential to rural residential.

-Mike presented a revised permit for safety inspections using the drone.

-The board was presented with a letter written by Peter Tiede to Steve Benolkin. The consensus of the board was to send the letter as he has been threatening the township.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to send the letter by certified mail. Motion passed unanimously.

ADU permit forms were discussed. We need to make sure landowners are aware of restrictions.

-No June PH.

-We are looking for more comp plan committee members.

-Mike needs to take a drone licensing class.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve up to 300.00 for the class. Motion passed unanimously.

-Todd, gave a recap on the EDA meeting at the county.

Roads

-Grading and gravel are soon to be done.

-Ditch mowing is starting.

-Tree trimming needs to be done on Hastings before paving. We are checking with homeowners.

-Paving should begin the 2nd or 3rd week of August.

-Still looking for people to help install street signs.

-We are looking to obtain a signed statement of what the resident on Evelyth and 264th wants regarding ditch and water issues on his property.

-The garage door on the shed has not been working. It was recommended to call Tom Pankin.

-We will be leaving the county street signs as they are when we replace ours.

Fire

-The trial period of sending major medical only to calls is being extended for three more months. We are no longer sending out the fire department with them.

Parks

- The daughter of Fred and Rose Cross donated 200.00 for a memorial for the Fred Cross park.

M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to accept the memorial.

Motion passed unanimously.

-Amy brought up the project being started to add a garden, bench, sign, book nook, and lights to the park. An additional 10,000 will be needed.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve the additional funds. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to approve two extra park board meetings to get the project going. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to appoint Mark Magnuson to the park board. Motion passed unanimously.

The website is moving forward with Dan and Dave.

Please send articles for the newsletter.

Clerk's Report

-Reminder that the July meeting will be held on the 10th, due to the fourth holiday.

-Cleanup day costs were finalized and sent to the county.

-It was recommended that we complete set up of the sound system.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson that we approve Resolution 2023-07 stating that our township is a second amendment township. Motion passed unanimously.

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 7979-8017 plus IRS totaling 110,835.95). Motion passed unanimously. Check 7996 was voided.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys gave a budget report.

-ARPA funds are completely used up.

General-

We keep being contacted to cash out our cell tower contracts. We are not interested in cashing them out.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 8:45.

PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____Date_____