

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held October 2, 2023 at the Town Hall

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

Guests: Jason Ross, Curt Carpenter, Lyle Reynolds, Benny Jones, S Parson, Billy Larson, Mike Warring

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

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Tom Heinen to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Remaining action items

- Mike will get quotes for repairs for the sign and check out insurance coverage.
- Dave Beckstrom will set up a general email for the township
- Marlys will check on getting a credit card for the township.

Approve Agenda

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Tom Heinen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Lyle Reynolds gave a county update.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

- Sanchez got back to Mike today regarding the IUP and it will be sent back to P&Z to work out details of the proposal.

-A discussion was held regarding the moratorium on building in the new commercial district. It expires on November 7, 2023.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2023-09 extending the moratorium. Motion passed unanimously.

-We are exploring the option of taking Ian Ebeling to court. See included docs in packet.

M/S Tom Heinen/Dave Beckstrom to use attorneys to enforce compliance with township ordinances. Motion passed unanimously.

-Paul Villella is in violation of township ordinances with his pole barn on 245th. He is suing Andy and the sheriff.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to use attorneys to enforce compliance with township ordinances. Motion passed unanimously.

P&Z is continuing to work on the Sanchez IUP and the sizes for accessory buildings in the township.

-Mike will check costs for Landshark Access. It would give us access to all county recorder records since 1960.

-Mike will be taking continuing Ed this fall.

Roads

-Paving completed on Hastings. There will be a bill from MSA which will be paid out of the paving fund. Mailboxes still need to be done.

-Fahrner needs to repaint lines per warranty issue. They will also be patching with laser.

M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen to approve 4400.00 for 28 laser patches. Motion passed unanimously.

-The chloride trailers are gone from the township. We are first on the list for next year.

-273rd needs gravel.

M/S Chris Olson/Tom Heinen to approve approximately 12,000.00 for gravel. Motion passed unanimously.

-Black dirt and gravel have been added to the corner on 264th.

A suggestion was made that supervisors be paid for extra work they do for the township.

Fire

-There is a proposal from the state regarding fire fighters participating in PERA.

Equipment needs to be replaced in the fire district which will cause an increase in costs. We need to consider raising the fire budget in the upcoming levy.

Parks

- The shed is being cleaned out from the garage sale stuff. Tom will contact Russ regarding this. Lots of projects in the park for spring.

The trailer for the gopher machine is being fixed. Todd got a new tire for it.

Clerk's Report

-Diane explained some changes to the property tax law.

Townships can now be charged for proposed property tax statements sent out by the county. We also need to have a Website listed on the statements.

- It was decided we do not need to order a township map.

-Please send claims to the clerk.

Treasurer's Report-

M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 8087-8123 plus IRS totaling 287,771.55). Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys gave a budget report. We are way over budget.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to adjourn the meeting at 8:26. PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____