

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

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

Guests: Jason Ross, Curt Carpenter, Billy Larson, Mike Warring, Janell Harwell, Pam Johnson

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

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Remaining action items

-Marlys will check on getting a credit card for the township.

Dave will send out the new email address for the township, Mike has a company coming out from Ramsey to look at the sign and give us an estimate of cost to repair it.

Marlys submitted a credit card policy to the board for review and comment. It was recommended that we have a 2000.00 limit. M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve the policy with changes discussed.

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

- Mike explained final details of the Sanchez IUP. M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2023-10 for the Sanchez IUP. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Buck's (1st State Tire) is being rezoned by Isanti County and once again, we were not notified. Mike will respond with chair approval to the county.
 - The attorney is doing background work on the cases involving Ian and Paul. The state of MN has opened an investigation because you can't build a building that you will rent to others without a commercial contractor's license. Connexus is working with us on the lack of permits etc.
 - There has been no progress on the Karnis cleanup issue.
 - Andy Robinson has been given extra time due to a death in the family.
- No PH in November.
Scanning is done and codification is in process.
- Mike will be signing up for fall continued ed.

Roads

- 273rd and 264th are done and ready for spring dustcoating.
- A few mailboxes and signs still need installation on Hastings.
- A couple hundred feet on Larch south of the large culvert need gravel at the cost of about 3000.00.
- Mike will contact Beaudry regarding fuel tank for the grader. It is not working correctly.
- Another discussion was held regarding 911 signs. Once again it was decided that it is way to expensive and the fire department does not use them anyway.

Fire

-The fire budget is going up 3-4 percent this year. There was a 3% increase to firefighters and admin.

Parks

- No report as Tom was absent. The town hall was rented once and everything was good.

Clerk's Report

-Diane contacted MAT about residency requirements.

-Tom has been added as a signer to our Menards account.

-All addresses have been updated and posted. Please check your own info to make sure it is correct.

-Our first election meeting for clerks' is coming up at the county for the presidential primary. Diane will be contacting election judges.

-Please have payroll claims to Marlys by November 27 for the fourth quarter.

Treasurer's Report-

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 8124-8144 plus IRS totaling 75,334.06).

Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys gave a budget report. We are way over budget. Consider if the levy should be raised before the next meeting.

Hwy 65 coalition – projects starting in 2025 to build several overpasses over highway 65.

Mike is working on another newsletter. Please send him articles.

M/S Chris Olson/Dave Beckstrom to adjourn the meeting at 8:50.
PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____