

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held July 1, 2024 at the Town Hall

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

Guests: Jason Ross, Billy Larson, Lyle Reynolds, Jack Cole, Curt Carpenter, Brian Hogie

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 June 3, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

- Trailer for gopher machine Todd
- Mike will work on documentation for 245th roadway
- Mike will contact Kennedy & Graven regarding split
- Tom & Jason will locate survey stakes at Fred Cross Park.

Approve Agenda

M/S Tom Heinen/Todd Christensen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Lyle gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

-Red Barn Tools – Mike explained the necessity of being open on Sundays for people returning rental equipment. P&Z recommends approval of this IUP.

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to approve Resolution 24-09 for an IUP for Red Barn Tool. Motion passed unanimously.

-Mike explained sizes of accessory buildings which will now be in the ordinance. 5 acre parcels will have a limit of 2500 feet and 500 additional sq. feet will be allowed for each additional acre up to 10,000 sq. feet. This is for business accessory buildings.

M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen to approve Resolution 24-10 for publication of summary of amendment for accessory buildings. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Ordinance 24-03 approving accessory building size. Motion passed unanimously.

-M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 24-11 for publication of summary of amendment for accessory buildings and structures. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Tom Heinen/Todd Christensen to approve Ordinance 24-04 regarding houses being built before accessory buildings. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding bonds if resident wants to build the accessory building first if house is never constructed.

-A discussion was again held regarding the dog ordinance. Three dogs per residence are allowed unless an IUP is applied for and granted.

M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 24-12 for publication of summary of amendment for zoning ordinance regarding dogs and other animals. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Ordinance 24-05 with changes regarding the number of dogs allowed per residence in the township. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding enforcement of the ordinance.

-Mike is investigating who owns the old wedding venue as cars have been moving in and out.

-There will be a public hearing in August for Andrew Petran and Twin City Berry Co.

- Codification is in the organizational stages.
- Mike will not be at the July P&Z meeting.

Roads

- Steve did some ditch mowing and it was not great. Tom Lundeen will finish the ditch mowing.
- Chris is doing sign inventory.
- Chris is contacting Fahrner asphalt regarding seal coating.
- A discussion was held about trapping beavers.

Fire

The fire department is buying another truck.
They are working a Standard Operating Procedure manual.
The purchase of the fire station in Isanti is complete.

Parks

- There was vandalism in the park and repairs have been completed. Russ is checking out better security for the whole property.
- M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to approve up to 5000.00 for security upgrades. Motion passed unanimously.
- A request was made for a road upgrade for the upcoming baseball tournament.
M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to approve up to 20,000.00 for resurfacing the road. Motion passed unanimously.
Park fund balance is 100,269.29.

Clerk's Report

- M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 24-08 that write in votes will not be counted in township elections if the amount of write in votes does not exceed the lowest vote getter on the ballot, as no write in candidate would have enough votes

to win. Motion passed with Todd Christensen abstaining from voting.

-Diane presented the board with a list of election judges for appointment for the 2024 elections.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve appointment of the election judges.

-Election judge training is set up.

-The filing period for township office is posted and published.

-Diane contacted several businesses regarding incorrect bills.

-Diane contacted Isanti county for website updates.

-Postage increases next week and Diane will pick up stamps for Mike.

-We no longer need a resolution designating a polling place unless there is a change in the location.

Treasurer's Report

M/S Chris Olson/Tom Heinen to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 8320-8349 plus IRS totaling 33,077.13). Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys went over the budget.

M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____