

**Athens Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2024**

Opening

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on September 19, 2024 and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Planning Commissioners Present

Todd Christensen, Marlys Balfany, Jack Cole, Jason Ross, AJ Ondrey, Dean Thompson, Mike Jungbauer, Township Clerk Diane Carpenter

Guests Present

Four residents attended.

Approval of Minutes

M/S Marlys Balfany/Jason Ross to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

None.

Public Hearing

None.

Old Business

New Business

-Another discussion was held about changes to the septic ordinance. Tom & Kay Freund attended the meeting. They are

still concerned about the smell when septage is spread in the fields near their home and there is a west wind. This has been addressed by them at two other township meetings. Mike presented a copy of possible changes to the septage ordinance. A discussion was held during which Jake and Kyle Carpenter explained some of the regulations and processes regarding spreading. They recommended that the first thing to check into is if these rules are being complied with. These issues included lime added before spreading, injection, and incorporation of the septage. The best way to reduce smell is to till it into the dirt. Wind direction and speed were also discussed again. Mike will ask for documentation regarding what is being spread. He will also ask that they be respectful of the neighbors. Regarding the proposed changes to the ordinance, Marlys wishes to return to the 10 MPH wind limit instead of the 12 MPH suggested by Mike. Nothing was decided regarding the ordinance changes.

We received a letter from Peter Tiede regarding the Cannabis Ordinance which needs to be in place before January 1, 2025. The township cannot prohibit these places of business, but restrictions can be placed on location, etc. Mike will look into whether Isanti County has their ordinance completed so we can just tweek theirs for our needs.

M/S Marlys Balfany/Jack Cole to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.
Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Diane Carpenter