

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held November 4, 2024 at the Town Hall

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

Guests: Janell Harwell, Pam Johnson, Jason Ross, Lyle Reynolds, Mike Warring, Billy Larson, Curt Carpenter, Tom Lundeen

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 7, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Those remaining:

- Mike will contact MAT regarding township liability for the horse arena.
- Tom & Jason will locate survey stakes at Fred Cross Park.
- Tom will see about getting bids to take care of the oak wilt at Fred Cross Park.

The domain name is free for the website and should go to zoning email. Dave will finish it up.

Approve Agenda

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

Lyle gave a county update.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

- There was no P&Z meeting held in October.
- There will be a PH in November regarding the cannabis ordinance. Question for MAT, are we allowed to run a background check before granting IUP?
- Violations Layton Beckwell has a 40' container. The fine will be waived if he takes care of it. He has also been riding his four-wheeler on park land.
- Patrick Sanbothe- shed on neighbor's property. Has been there for 29 years. Phone and electric lines also on neighbor's property. This is not a township issue. May need to be decided in court. An easement is needed.
- Codification-Mike is working on correcting errors.
- Mike will begin taking his social security in February of 2025 and is looking to work less hours. He is looking for help/replacement.
- The septic design for the park septic system is finished. Our community service person is set up to work on it.
- Mike has complete records of septage being spread in the township.

Roads

- Most grading and gravelling done since we received the rain and snow. We are still planning on doing the culverts this fall.
- Tree trimming is done and went over budget by several thousand dollars.
- Emergency Relief for the storm cleanup is on hold due to the hurricanes in other parts of the country.

Fire

-Oxford township town hall has mold and cannot be used. They will be using the fire station on 9 for meetings and the upcoming election. The question was raised about Oxford being a hold out on the joint powers agreement several years ago, and a question of leasing was also presented.

-Athens share of the yearly fire cost is 14 percent.

Parks

- Gravel will be put down at Anderson Park. A motion is not needed as this is park maintenance.

Clerk's Report

-All election meetings were attended by Diane and we are set to go for the General Election tomorrow. All election judges have been notified and scheduled.

-Reminder that the December meeting will be held on December 9th, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

-We have tried reaching out to Civic Plus regarding their bill to no avail.

-We will need to schedule a board of Canvass meeting for the election results. The meeting was scheduled for Tuesday November 12 at 6 PM as Monday the 11th is a legal holiday.

Treasurer's Report

M/S Tom Heinen/Dave Beckstrom to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report (checks 8422,8423, & 8445-8458 plus IRS totaling 60,747.8452).

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys went over the budget.

-Payroll claims for the 4th quarter are due by December 2nd. We are not planning on a December P&Z meeting in December.

M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

Date
