

## **Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held September 9, 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: Janell Harwell, Lyle Reynolds, Kay Freund, Mike Warring, Bernice Smith, Billy Larson, Joe Ubl, G Mohn

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

M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Action Items**

Those remaining:

- Mike will contact Kennedy & Graven regarding split
- Tom & Jason will locate survey stakes at Fred Cross Park.
- Mike & Dave B. will check on putting cameras up by the wedding barn venue to see who comes and goes.
- Jason will call the wild life science center regarding the disposal of dead animals from roads.

### **Approve Agenda**

M/S Chris Olson/Tom Heinen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Lyle gave a county update.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

## **Planning & Zoning**

-Resident Kay Freund attended the meeting to again bring up the issue of sewage dumping. Her husband attended last month's P&Z meeting and nothing has been resolved. She presented us with a list of dates and times that the sewage has been dumped. This issue will be addressed at the P&Z meeting as Mike missed last month's meeting. Wind direction, wind speed, tilling and frequency of dumping will be addressed.

-The IUP for Andrew Petran with Twin Cities Berries was presented. It was unanimously recommended by P&Z. M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2024-13 approving the IUP for Twin Cities Berries. Motion passed unanimously.

-Zoning violations

George's greenhouse has a 2<sup>nd</sup> sign in the ROW. George will be taking it down.

Cobra Properties LLC has a lot of junkers in front of the properties. Mike will be sending a letter and giving them a fine as this is the second warning.

-The sign is still not completely fixed but it is operating.

-Mike will design a proposal for the septic project that our community service person will be working on.

M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen approving Mike to work on the drain field design. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Roads**

-MNDOT is looking at changing the intersection at Hwy 65 and Cty rd 9. Oct 15 they will hold a meeting at the town hall. Todd will make sure the hall is open.

M/S Chris Olson/Tom Heinen that MNDOT will not be charged for renting the hall. Motion passed unanimously.

-Grader maintenance is complete.

- We will be spot grading so as not to destroy the dustcoating and will gravel more in the fall.
- Tom Lundeen is doing major tree cleanup from the storms.
- Chris is scheduling to meet with Fahrner.
- We are still looking for someone to install signs.

### **Fire**

The fire district is offering portable radio training and the township will receive a radio once someone is able to attend the training.

A new budget proposal is in the works and will be looked at soon.

### **Parks**

- Russ Mann gave an update on security for the park and town hall. He presented three estimates to the board for consideration. Russ recommended ADT and he will try to negotiate the monthly service fee. We will also see if they can add a camera at Anderson Park.

M/S Tom Heinen/Chris Olson to go with ADT for the security cameras. Motion passed unanimously.

-The picnic was a huge success. Tom presented the supervisors with a recap of costs.

-Tom will check Anderson park for flood damage.

### **Clerk's Report**

-We received the reimbursement for cleanup day from the county.

-The primary election and all paperwork is complete.

-Followed up with Isanti county for storm related cleanup costs.

-All filings for township offices for the November election have been submitted to the Secretary of State's office.

-Couri Ruppe has raised their rate for 2025 to 275.00 per hour.

## Treasurer's Report

M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 8371-8407 plus IRS totaling 58,190.18).

Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Marlys went over the budget.

-We received an increase in the SBA lease amount to the park fund.

Tom attended the MAT district 7 meeting. Reminder that personal facebook pages need disclaimer.

Township day at the capitol is January 27, 2025 if anyone can attend.

Our website needs to transition to a .gov web address by 6/1/2026.

Brush from the storm will remain like it is. We will not collect from residents.

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen authorizing up to 15,000.00 more for Tom Lundeen to clean up tree damage. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Tom Heinen/Todd Christensen to adjourn the meeting at 8:58PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_