

**Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held
January 7, 2019 at the Town Hall**

Board members present: Barb Kilpatrick, Chris Olson, Dave Beckstrom, Todd Christensen, Amy Peterson, Clerk Diane Carpenter, Treasurer Marlys Balfany, and Ryan Grittman

Guests: Steve Hass, Tom Lundeen, Dave Henderson, Mike Warring, Billy Larson, Steve Strandlund, Lyle Reynolds, Cindy Reynolds, Eryn Pearson, Dave Wills & wife, and several residents that did not sign in.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was waived, due to the Board of Reorganization meeting preceding this one.

M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Todd Christensen to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on 12/17/18 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Those remaining were:

-Ryan will contact the resident living in the camper on Lever.

Approve Agenda

M/S Barb Kilpatrick/Todd Christensen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning and Zoning

-The variance on Naples was discussed. It was defeated in P&Z by a 3 to 2 vote. The township engineer said that the property is not a flood risk. A discussion was held about the issue.

-M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2019-01 approving the setback variance for Naples. Motion passed on a 3-2 vote, with Barb and Amy voting nay.

-The prairie pines plat housing project in East Bethel was discussed. Chris spoke about discussions with East Bethel. Improvements would be made to 245th. We will need to check the easement requirements, that they are correct. Some follow up will be done on the matter.

-The issue of the dog kennel/camper/property on Lever street was again discussed. The new owner, Eryn Pearson, told the board about issues that they were having with the previous owners, Linda and Jim Franzin. They are the ones now living in the camper. Ryan will work with Peter Tiede to send a certified letter, detailing things that need to be done, including but not limited to, a CUP for a kennel, obtaining a building permit, reducing the number of dogs to 4, and an onsite inspection for a septic system. It was recommended that Andy take a deputy with him if he visits.

-Lyle gave a county update.

Roads

-Lots of plowing activity this month.

-The grader needs repairs. The differential is not unlocking. Jonas will be checking it out.

-Chris went over the agreement with Isanti township for the road in Bradford, 277th and Cottonwood. They would like us to plow and add to our dustcoating.

-Chris gave more details about the 245th project with East Bethel. East Bethel will manage the project. Dirtworks will widen the road and shoulder it. They will move the utilities if necessary.

Athens will add 3-5 inches of class 5 gravel from University to the cul-de-sac, which is approximately 2000 feet. A letter will need to be sent to residents.

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to go ahead with the project, allocating up to 15,000 for gravel and spreading of gravel.

Fire

-No report this month.

Parks

-The balance in the park fund was 29,426.54.

-There will be no park meetings until spring.

Clerk's Report

-The board of Reorganization was posted and published.

-A special meeting was held to designate a 2019 polling place, and all documents were sent to the auditor's office.

-The Board of Audit meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2019 @ 6:30 PM.

-All year end reports are completed and verified with the treasurer.

-The Board of Review meeting is scheduled for 4/15/19 with the assessor's office.

Treasurer's Report

-For the 2020 levy, Marlys will start documents with 535,000.00. We would like to keep the levy the same.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report (checks 6659-6680 totaling 21,293.26). Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held about a comp plan review. Lyle Reynolds may head it up. Marlys will check to see who was on the review board the last time.

Marlys gave a budget update.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____