

**Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held
March 1, 2021 at the Town Hall**

Board members present: Dave Henderson, Amy Peterson (remote), Todd Christensen, Dave Beckstrom, Chris Olson (remote) Clerk Diane Carpenter, Treasurer Marlys Balfany (remote), Deputy Treasurer Erin Olson, and Mike Jungbauer

Guests: Billy Larson, Jason Ross, Curt Carpenter, Mike Warring, Dean Thompson, Steve Hass

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

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Remaining was:
Newsletter articles to Amy.

Approve Agenda

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Todd Christensen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

-A discussion was held about rezoning the area where Jason Ross would like to have a recycling plant to a commercial zone. P&Z has discussed making the land along HWY 65 commercial. P&Z will discuss zoning and the recycling plant at the next meeting and make a recommendation to the board.

-Mike gave an update on the sign ordinance. He will review it and bring back ideas.

-Dave Beckstrom attended a meeting about getting better internet into our area.

-A violation letter was sent to Craig Bjorklund about the recycling going on. It was stated that it is not being used commercially.

-Mike is currently researching zoning errors made in the construction and issuance of the CUP for Dance Dynamics.

-Mike checked into the campaign sign issue. It is controlled by the state and the township has no jurisdiction.

-Peter has sent letters to SBA, but has received no response.

-Faye Olson project on hold.

-We have two open seats on P&Z.

Dave Beckstrom nominated Dean Thompson to fill a seat and Todd Christensen nominated Jason Ross. A vote was taken to fill one seat and Dean Thompson was chosen. We will vote to fill the other seat at the April meeting.

Roads

-Seal coating estimates have been received. Fahrner is 15-20% less than the other quote. In the future, when we pave, the roads should be seal coated right away.

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to approve the quote for Seal Coating from Fahrner. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire

-Al will drop off reports from the Fire District for the annual meeting.

Parks

-Amy is scheduling with park board members to start meeting.

- We sent out the checks to Connexus to get the Anderson Park project started.
- Amy is checking on lawn care for the town hall for summer.

Clerk's Report

- Diane posted and published for the Annual Meeting which will be held on March 9, 2021 at 7 PM.
- Diane contacted Waste Management about the extra charges on the bill.
- Diane has spoken with several charities that wish to attend the town meeting. We have asked that they not send reps this year due to COVID.
- Please have payroll claims to Marly early as the April meeting follows Easter weekend.

Treasurer's Report

- M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report (checks 7321-7334 totaling 25,637.19). Motion passed unanimously.
- Marlys gave a budget update.

Cleanup day was discussed.

M/S Dave Henderson/Todd Christensen that we not have cleanup day at this time. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____