

## **Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held August 2, 2021 at the Town Hall**

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

Guests: Curt Carpenter, Lyle Reynolds, Billy Larson, Ian Ebling, Mike Warring, Gerri Stenger, Kay Matras, Steve Hass, Tom Lundeen, Jason Ross

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

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Todd Christensen to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Remaining were:  
Newsletter articles to Amy.  
Dog Letter

### **Approve Agenda**

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Warring gave a county update.  
Lyle Reynolds gave a county update.

### **Planning & Zoning**

-Andy was present at the meeting to discuss the letter he received, ending his contract. He was given two reasons, complaints that have been received and the prospect of

combining duties to save the township money. Supervisors commented on the transition. There is no definite plan for the handoff. Mike, Todd, Dave B, and Andy will meet to discuss it.

-The issues regarding the IUP for Josh Borgeson are not resolved. Neighbors were there, complaining about the appearance and noise levels of the property. The issue was tabled until more information can be obtained.

-A discussion was held regarding the ordinance amendment amending section 20-34 of the town code relating to conditional uses in A/R zoning.

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to adopt Ordinance 2021-01 as described above. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Chris Olson/Dave Beckstrom to approve Resolution 2021-07 approving publication of summary of amendment to section 20-34. Motion passed unanimously.

-A discussion was held about Chris Vogt seeking approval for an IUP for a home welding and fabrication business.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson to approve Resolution 2021-08 approving the IUP for Chris Vogt. Motion passed unanimously.

-The sludge on the Lockwood property is nontoxic. It was discussed obtaining some for the township to kill sandburs in the park.

-The Green Barn need to obtain a tourism permit for the sunflower field.

-Ian Ebling voiced concerns about his shipping container home if Andy is no longer working with the township, as he has done a lot of work with him. He was assured that Andy would complete jobs in progress.

-Mike is in contact with Paul Villella about his property on 245th.

-John Straight on Durant has many violations, including renting out his pole building and RV sites.

-It was suggested that we invite Susan Morris to attend a meeting to discuss Accessory Dwellings.

## **Roads**

- Seal coating looks great.
- Mowing is completed.

## **Fire**

- Amy provided a list of fire calls so far this year to board members. 109 calls in June, 14 of which were Athens.
- The rodeo had record attendance this year.

## **Parks**

- The picnic is being planned for 9/11/21. It will be from 12-3. Anyone who can help with the picnic would be appreciated.
- The gate at Anderson Park has been fixed.

## **Clerk's Report**

- Diane contacted MAT regarding extra insurance if we do in house P&Z. None is required.
- Diane contacted MAT about the age of employees working for the township. Students as young as 14 can do office work, as long as it is not during school hours.
- Supervisors need to go online and do training for the Board of Appeals. The only supervisor currently trained is Dave Henderson.
- If anyone would like to attend the legal seminar, please let Diane know so that she can register you.

Marlys will work on the application for the township to receive ARPA funds, along with Dave Henderson.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to approve this. Maryls will be paid for time spent on this project. Motion passed unanimously.

-Cleanup day is October 9. Todd gave an update.

Amy is still waiting on articles for the newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report**

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 7444-7458 totaling 16,422.07). Motion passed unanimously.

-The treasurer and the clerk are in balance.

-Marlys gave a budget update.

-Diane will resume doing minutes for P&Z meetings.

-A discussion was held about Mike's salary, if he will now be an employee, instead of an independent contractor. Nothing was decided at the present time.

M/S Todd Christensen/Amy Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

Date\_\_\_\_\_