

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

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

Guests: Lyle Reynolds, Steve Hass, Steve Strandlund, Jolene Buberl, Richard Popp, Jason Ross, Billy Larson,

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

M/S Todd Christensen/Barb Kilpatrick to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Those remaining were:

- Quotes for library stations and birdhouses
- Dave will check on a sound system for the town hall.

### **Approve Agenda**

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

The quilt club presented two quilts to give to Veterans. We will announce it in the newsletter.

### **Planning and Zoning**

- Lyle gave a county update.
- Lyle gave a comp plan update. He would like to have members attend the next P&Z meeting. He will give them copies of the last survey and hand out the current comp plan.

-Steve Strandlund gave an update on 245<sup>th</sup>. Brian Miller did a proposal on costs. Steve's donation of labor etc, are not taken into account on the estimate. The next step will be sending a letter to East Bethel with options. We will involve Peter Tiede and Brian Miller in the process.

-A discussion was held about code enforcement. There needs to be a middle ground between administrative notice and abatement.

-Andy brought up the subject of an electronic filing system. We need to digitize paper files to the cloud.

-Chris and Dave are working on a job description and a contract for Andy.

-St Francis would like to spread waste water biosolids in Athens township. The town code prohibits this. We will send them a letter.

-Andy will check the status of the property on Chisholm with all the animals. He may take the sheriff with him. Peter will send a letter to them.

## **Roads**

-Grading and gravel are done. Mowing is not yet complete as it was too wet.

-Sealcoating will not be done until next spring.

-Beavers are still there and we are trapping.

-Tom will be trimming trees the end of October.

## **Fire**

-Amy presented the board with some recommendations by Bob Ruppe about the JPA changes. Some townships are on board and others are not. Amy will review the email from Bob with Al.

## **Parks**

- The balance in the park fund was 36,331.02.
- The picnic had an OK turnout, even though it rained.
- We are looking at some playground equipment for smaller children.
- We are still working on the garden.

## **Clerk's Report**

- M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2019-04 setting the town hall as the polling place for 2020. Motion passed unanimously.
- The road review was posted and published.
- Diane researched documents for the Beckstrom CUP and the complaints and DNR issue.
- Diane contacted Centurylink to straighten out the phone bill.
- There will be a clerk's meeting at the Auditor's office about the Presidential primary.

Peter sent resolutions for dealing with the letter from the DNR and the complaint.

M/S Amy Peterson/Barb Kilpatrick to approve Resolution 2019-05 authorizing Peter and Todd to deal with the DNR's concern about township ordinances, with board approval. Motion passed unanimously, with Dave Beckstrom abstaining.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2019-06 authorizing Peter and Todd to look into the complaint we received, with board approval. Motion passed unanimously, with Dave Beckstrom abstaining.

## **Treasurer's Report**

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report

(checks 6882-6915 plus IRS totaling 44,960.91). Motion passed unanimously.

-Marlys gave a budget update.

Dave is working on the newsletter.

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Carpenter

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Athens Township Clerk

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Date

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