

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held October 4, 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, Billy Larson, Jason Ross, Mike Warring, Lyle Reynolds

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

M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting held September 20, 2021 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Remaining were:

- Dave Henderson will get the keys back and give out key pad combination to ambulance supervisor.
- We will check on Leon Ohman being a backup for Mike.

Approve Agenda

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

Planning & Zoning

-Lyle gave a county update.

First State Tire has a rezoning request before the board requesting industrial zoning. A discussion was held on how

possible waste water could affect Athens township. Mike and Lyle will check on the issue.

-Mike Warring gave a county update.

-Mike let the board know that an ordinance update must be done before proceeding with the IUP for Nick Anderson.

-Isanti Estates has requested a letter from the township in support of them obtaining a grant to improve their water system. M/S Amy Peterson/Todd Christensen to write a letter of support for Isanti Estates. Motion passed unanimously.

-A discussion was held about potential private use of the township attorney. We will work on writing a policy to clarify this issue.

-A mailbox will be installed at the townhall and we will have mail delivery instituted for permits.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Amy Peterson to approve up to 500.00 for a new modem for the townhall. Motion passed unanimously. Dave Beckstrom will purchase and install it.

Roads

-Chris presented a proposal for tires for the grader.

M/S Chris Olson/Amy Peterson to approve the proposal presented by Jonas to purchase 2 like new front steer tires, to cap the other 4 tires, and purchase an extra rim for 6570.00. Motion passed unanimously.

-We have started some fall grading and will complete it when it rains. Also, we will be gravelling 253rd and Pinto Court. A new culvert is needed on Chisolm.

-Chris also completed the Board of Appeals training.

-A discussion was held about the Fall Road Review.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson to close the Road Review meeting from September 27, 2021 at 7:55 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

-Peter Tiede sent a letter regarding an amendment to a road law that may affect the township. Supervisors will review the letter.

-It was discussed that we need to work on a budget for P&Z.

Fire

-Amy provided fire call info for the last month.

-A discussion was held about allowing the fire district to charge residents for extremely expensive fires. No decision was reached. Mike and Amy will look at the fire board's cost budget.

Parks

-The balance in the park fund is 53,100.54.

-Town hall rental was discussed. A motion was made and rescinded that town hall rental should be resumed. More guidelines need to be set so that a decision can be made. Dave Henderson will locate the existing contract and restrictions that are in place, and Amy Peterson will revise them to meet current needs.

-The road leading to Anderson Park is washed out.

Clerk's Report

-When a mailbox is installed at the town hall, permit info will be mailed there, but bills will still go to Diane at her home address.

-The special meeting, road review, and cleanup day have all been posted and published.

-The water at the town hall was tested and passed.

-Census numbers for Athens township:

2112 population and 819 households.

-Cleanup day is October 9 from 8-12. Workers need to be at the town hall by 7AM.

-A discussion was held regarding workers at cleanup day wanting to take things that are being discarded.

M/S Amy Peterson/Chris Olson that no one takes anything from cleanup day. It will all be discarded. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held about funds received for ARPA. Athens received 118,144.71. Marlys will send out a pamphlet on what ARPA funds may be used for. Supervisors should form ideas on how the money should be used.

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 7480-7508 totaling 20,964.27). Motion passed unanimously.

- The treasurer and the clerk are in balance.
- Marlys gave a budget update.
- Marlys has pointed out that she will have extra hours doing the new monthly payroll. She will let the board know the time that it entails.

Natural gas lines have been run from HWY 65 as far as the town hall. This may be a good thing for the town in the future.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____