

**Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held
October 5, 2020 at the Town Hall**

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

Guests: Billy Larson, Jason Ross, Curt Carpenter, Steve Hass, Russ Holmes, Thawn Shalesky

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

M/S Dave Henderson/Chris Olson to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action items were reviewed. Those remaining were:

-Newsletter

-Mike will send info about Isanti County Animal Control to Dan for Website.

A discussion was held about the removing the tree from the river at Anderson Park. Jim Kilpatrick will work on the tree.

M/S Dave Henderson/Chris Olson for Jim to remove the tree, at a cost of no more than 700.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Agenda

M/S Dave Henderson/Chris Olson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning and Zoning

-Lyle gave a county update.

-A discussion was held about the three parcels of land with one PID number belonging to Faye Olson. There are no building rights left. Dave Beckstrom advised that they cannot be separated because of the building rights issue. Mike will check with Peter Tiede about legal issues.

-Zoning Violation letters - 26325 Chisholm Russ Holmes

A discussion was held with these residents as they were in attendance at the meeting. Russ gave some background of his dealings with the township. Dave and Mike attempted to explain the ordinance controlling animals in Athens Township. Mike also explained the process for applying for an IUP or a variance.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Todd Christensen to suspend moving forward with attorney/legal action if an IUP permit application is submitted by October 12, 2020 so that a public hearing can be scheduled for November. Motion passed unanimously.

-24510 Ulysses - Mike has had a hard time locating the owners as they have a special protection ID. There is a problem with this location involving outside storage, lighting issues, and no permits. He is still working on this.

-911 267th Ave - Business being run out of the home. There has been no response to the warnings. Mike will cite them again.

-Todd Dooley has applied for an IUP for a family excavating business.

-Chris and Amy are interested in learning to operate the new sign for the township.

-Mike will be out of the office on vacation October 12th thru the 18th.

Roads

-Residents from EB have been inquiring if we will be replacing their mailboxes near the 245th project.

- There is a big sink hole on Polk. Chris is working on getting it fixed.
- Grading on the roads looks great.

Fire

- At the Vet's park celebration on October 13, Amy Peterson will be raising the Marine flag, donated by the township. Dave Henderson will also be participating. The ceremony will begin at 6 PM.
- There is discussion in the fire district about purchasing Station 1 from the city of Isanti, for 600,000.

Parks

- Park fund balance 34,883.19.
- Mike will check with Connexus regarding what would need to be done to install a camera and lighting at Anderson Park.
- Steve Balfany fixed the sign/scoreboard at the park that was damaged by the storm.

Clerk's Report

- M/S Dave Henderson/Todd Christensen to approve Resolution 2020-12 to approve receiving Care funds from Isanti County to reimburse the township for extra election expenses due to Covid. Motion passed unanimously.
- The delivery of the sign was delayed due to incorrect delivery addresses. Diane contacted shippers and sign company to resolve the problem.
- There are many voting questions coming in from residents and they are being addressed.
- All plexiglass and election equipment will be set up after the November meeting, due to sanitation concerns.

Treasurer's Report

M/S Dave Henderson/Todd Christensen to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report (checks 7202-7229 plus IRS totaling 33,375.76). Motion passed unanimously.

-Marlys gave a budget update.

-Dave requested articles for the newsletter to be submitted within the next few days as he would like to send it out before the election.

M/S Todd Christensen/Amy Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____