

**Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held
December 7, 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, Mike Warring, Steve Hass

M/S Dave Henderson/Todd Christensen to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

M/S Dave Henderson/Chris Olson to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020 Board of Canvass meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously

Action items were reviewed. None remained.

Dave Henderson will meet with Mike and Steve (rep from Connexus) to see about locations for cameras and possibly moving the gate at Anderson park.

Regarding the cell tower issue, we will refer the matter to Peter Tiede. There is nothing in the contracts that says they can take back money from what they perceive to be overpayments.

Approve Agenda

M/S Amy Peterson/Dave Henderson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Planning & Zoning

-Regarding the Holmes issue, Mike was not allowed on the property. They have stated that they got rid of the animals and will be moving out of the township.

-A discussion was held about the Alfveby resolution regarding disposal of the old cars.

M/S Todd Christensen/Chris Olson to approve Resolution 2020-15 approving the IUP for Jeff Alfveby. Motion passed unanimously. Conditions for the approval were read by Mike.

-Peter Tiede is looking into the issue of Fay Olson, the three separate lots with one PID.

- Mike discussed some zoning violations - 900 267th Ave NW - running a business out of a home. A citation was issued but we have received no response.

-Also, the sign on highway 65 for the dance studio/rental business has to be taken down.

-There will be no P&Z meeting for December.

-Mike is working with Lisa McCormack as our septic program is out of compliance.

-A discussion was held about using the sign for community notices. Mike will put together parameters for using it. Mainly it should be kept to nonprofits, and programs serving the community.

-Mike Warring gave a county update.

-Lyle Reynolds gave a county update.

-A discussion was held about filling the seat that will be vacant on P&Z after the Board of Reorganization is held. Jason Ross was proposed as a possible candidate by Todd Christensen.

-The septic system at the town hall needs repair.

M/S Dave Henderson/Todd Christensen to spend up to 1000.00 on the repair. Motion passed unanimously.

-Jerome contacted Dave Henderson regarding the solar farm not following up with the tree planting which is a condition of the CUP. Dave will follow up and look into the situation.

Roads

- Slow month for roads.
- There was discussion regarding the railroad crossings at 265th and 273rd. This spring MNDOT will do traffic counts.
- If roads are improved, the township is responsible for striping. This includes all but four feet by railroad crossings.

Fire

- If the fire district purchases Station One from the city of Isanti, payments would be spread over five years.
- Amy will let AI know about using the sign for announcements.

Parks

- No report.

Clerk's Report

- The general election went well.
- The Board of canvass was held on November 12, 2020.
- Receipts have been submitted to the Auditor's Office for care act reimbursement for extra election expenses.
- In your packets, there is a schedule of 2021 meetings.
- All ledger entries between the clerk and treasurer have been verified.
- The Board of Reorganization will be held at 6:30 PM on January 11, 2021 before the regular board meeting. The oaths for those elected in the November election will be administered at 6:15 by the clerk.

M/S Dave Henderson/Todd Christensen to approve Resolution 2020-14 setting the town hall as the official polling place for 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

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 7250-7293 plus IRS totaling 25,550.34). Motion passed unanimously.

-Marlys gave a budget update.

-The levy was discussed for the annual meeting. It was recommended that we keep it the same. It was brought up that fire might need to be increased if the fire district was buying Station One.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Henderson to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____