

City of Athol Council Meeting

March 4, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kuhman at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: _____, Miller x , McDaniel x Zichko x .

Appoint City Council person.

Mayor Kuhman appointed Josh Spencer as City Councilman. Miller-yes, McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes. All in favor.

**City Clerk sworn in Councilman Spencer*

Visitors:

Minutes: Motion made by *Councilman Miller*, Seconded by *Councilman McDaniel*.

Bills: Motion made by *Councilman Miller*, Seconded by *Councilman McDaniel*.

Treasury Report:

Water Usage: February 2014 1,755,400

Unfinished Business:

Athol Beautification Day- Price list for trees-Cost for trees approximately \$150.00, motion to approve up to \$150.00 made by Councilman McDaniel, Seconded by Councilman Miller.

*Mr. Gillingham would like to talk to city about possibly purchasing the 3 acres owned by City of Athol parcel # A0000-016-2710 near railroad tracks*Councilman Miller not interested in selling property, if City did decide to sell property, then the property would need to be sold at a public auction. The property would need to be appraised to determine a value. Also, there is no legal access to the property. Councilwoman Zichko made motion to deny selling 3 acres to Mr. Gillingham motion to approve have City Clerk write letter to Mr. Gillingham to inform him the City is not interested in selling the 3 acre parcel made by Councilman McDaniel, Seconded by Councilman Miller.*

**Jude Doty is interested in purchasing above property from Mr. Gillingham and asked if the city would consider annexing the property into City limits. One issue is per SMA agreement with Panhandle Health, the city indicated they would not annex any property into City limits until all is good with Panhandle health for ER permits and/or sewer system. There is also a well on the above mentioned property and if the city did decide to annex, the city would have to take the well over if it met city regulations of metal thickness standards for the well. Or the well would possibly have to be capped. City not interested in annexing this property.*

New Busines:

Linda Guyette 9769 E Remington Rd possibly would like to split her property. No show.

Frank & Marilyn Kokot 30550 Railroad Ave. Pay a \$5.00 off rate for several years Was told that if they had meter removed so they didn't have to pay \$5.00 monthly off rate would have to pay \$2500.00 to re hook up meter. Would like the City to possibly waive the monthly \$5.00 off rate and maybe just have a shut off fee and a turn on fee. Example: City of Newport charges residents \$10.00 to turn off and \$0.00 to turn water back on.

Mrs. Kokot would like the city to consider not having water customers pay an off rate when water is not being used. Per ordinance if a meter is removed there is a meter installation fee. Attorney explained that the meter being installed still on property and her continuing paying the 5\$ fee does make her property more valuable. Mrs. Kokot decided she would continue to pay 5\$ off rate and not have meter removed from property.

Panhandle Health, ER Information.

- *Redraft Permit for ER's have it clearly stated on permit if not used within one year, the ER permit will be void and no refund will be issued. The ER must physically be installed within one year of approval from city council. Also councilman McDaniel brought up doing usage reports from some of the businesses that have quite a few ER's but do not use as much water if we do a usage report for 2 years Panhandle Health may consider taking back some of those ER's and getting them back into our pool. Councilman Miller indicated it has been a conflict in the past years trying to work with Panhandle Health in asking for more ERs. It would be great for the City to have enough ER's to legally cover each vacant lot in city limits. Councilman McDaniel would like to do flow reports for some of the businesses in town that seem to have more ER's than what appears to be needed. Mayor Kuhman has been working at organizing the correspondence letters from PanHandle Health regarding ER information. City Attorney will send response letter to Panhandle Health regarding ER balance.*

City Clerk training for water license for back up for Public Works.

Per DEQ, city must have a backup water operator for the city water system. Neal Peck would like to step down as being backup operator for city of athol. What does the council think if City Clerk was to obtain license to be backup operator for when City Maintenance worker goes on vacation or needs to be gone. Would save the city money as would not have to hire an outside back up operator. Motion made by councilman McDaniel to approve, Seconded by Councilman Miller.

Site Disturbance

Deon Cook Site Disturbance 30080 N 4th Street

Is not a permanent structure, does not need site disturbance

Public Comment

Moved by Councilman Miller Seconded by Councilman McDaniel to adjourn meeting. Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.