

**Minutes:
City of Athol General Meeting**

Held At The Conference Room, City Hall

September 2, 2014
30335 Third Street
Athol, Idaho
683-2101

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Kuhman.

ROLL CALL: x McDaniel x Zichko x Spencer x Miller

VISITORS: All visitors please sign in.

TREASURY REPORT: Bank statements printed out for council.

WATER USEAGE: 5 million gallons

BILLS: Motion to pay bills made by McDaniel, Seconded by Zichko.

McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes, Spencer- yes, Miller-yes- all in favor to pay the bills.

MINUTES FROM CITY MEETING – AUGUST 5, 2014: Motion to approve minutes made by Miller, Seconded by McDaniel.

McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes, Spencer- yes, Miller-yes- all in favor to accept the minutes.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget: Budget was discussed and after a clerical error in the addition was corrected there was a Motion to approve the budget by Zichko, and seconded by Spencer.

McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes, Spencer- yes, Miller-yes- all in favor to accept the budget.

Appoint City Clerk:

Mayor Kuhman would like to keep Tamie Cunningham on in the city office as an assistant clerk. Zichko did not oppose her working in the office. Discussion on title of position of assistant clerk, deputy clerk. Zichko said she didn't think that they could give her a title, but could put her in as Fill-in clerk. Zichko recommended her wage to \$15.00 per hour. Mayor Kuhman agreed regarding the increase in Cunningham's wage. Council McDaniel restated that she should be called "fill-in," Mayor

Kuhman objected to the title of “fill-in,” stating that the City needed to upgrade and be more professional, a better check and balance system, and have more than one office staff.

Zichko requested workshops for the city council, and the Mayor agreed but wanted to make sure that the workshops would include the public to keep them aware of what is going on.

Concern from public regarding bonding on clerk – [Information after meeting – upon information from City’s Insurance Carrier, city insurance bond covers anyone who is working for the City]

Mayor Kuhman would like to appoint Lori Yarbrough for the position of City Clerk.

Motion to hire Lori Yarbrough as City Clerk made by Spencer, **Seconded** by Miller.

Discussion – Spencer wanted to state that a third party agency was used to select applicants.

McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes, Spencer- yes, Miller-yes- all in favor to hire Lori Yarbrough, new City Clerk.

Forensic Audit: Mayor gave update on forensic audit. McDaniel said that he spoke with Deputy March regarding the Sheriff Department paying half of the audit fee, and restated that the Sheriff has said they would pay half. City Attorney wanted the council to know that the retention letter stated that if there were any disputes on the audit that it could only be by arbitration. At this time, possible audit completion would be approximately 2 months. City Council reviewed correspondence from auditing firm, Anastasi Moore & Martin.

Zichko made a motion to approve the letter subject to written confirmation from the Sheriff’s Department. **Motion** made to approve by Zichko, **Seconded** by McDaniel.

McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes, Spencer- yes, Miller-yes- all in favor to approve retention letter.

Athol Daze Trophies: Mayor states that winners of the Athol Daze Parade have still not picked up their trophies. Contact information was not received upon sign up. Requesting information on winners from public. Mayor read off winners: #8 – Honorable Service – Disabled American Veterans Fort Sherman Chapter 9 Robert Hunt; #16 – Jim Nelson – Fuddie Duddies 1971 Mustang Fastback; #13 – Commercial Business – Todd McLean, Flip Factory Gymnastics; #5 Young Community Reps – Mrs Kootenai County, Michelle Sheets – call Silverwood; #20 Political Services – Rick Redman & Vito Barberi; #24 Vintage Old Military Vehicles – George Shaffer – 1941 Jeep & Dodge. Mayor suggested everyone review the city web site and provide input. Information is being added to the web site regularly.

NEW BUSINESS:

Site Disturbance: Marilyn Kokot / Randy Kreig – Mobile home - not at meeting.

Attorney City Files: Mayor Kuhman had requested Attorney Appleton to produce any contracts that he had in his files for the City. Mayor states that Attorney provided letter with two incomplete contracts. Mayor asked Attorney if this was all that he had for the City of Athol was in his files. Attorney answered that he has no other contracts and did not even know of the existence of T-Mobile or what T-Mobile is. He stated that what he provided were the only things he had in his files. Mayor

asked Attorney if there were any other correspondences in his files for the City. Attorney answered that there were not. The Mayor will continue looking for any contracts for cell phone towers in the old office files. Mayor asked general public if they had any knowledge of the cell tower contracts. Richard Davis, citizen, provided additional information regarding towers – AT&T & T-Mobile, Verizon. Bob Wachter, citizen & previous Public Works Director for Athol, provided additional information. (Water tower 10 years ago, new one 3-5 years ago.) Discussion followed. Mayor asked Attorney if he letters on issues of property, and Attorney stated that no he did not. Attorney stated that he doesn't think that he has missed a meeting and he has been attorney for 7-8 years and he doesn't ever remember a topic of cell phone towers ever coming up at a meeting. Miller states that he remembers a contract. Old files will need to gone over.

Public Comment:

Citizens asked about insurance benefits and mileage on the budget form. Mayor stated that the city council and anyone who steps up should actually have better compensation than they have at this time. The Mayor states that when she is no longer Mayor, she will still advocate for better pay and benefits for council and mayor, because of the actual work they have to do warrants some form of compensation. Giving them dental, and insurance is small compensation. It was recommended to research and find better insurance.

Questions regarding budget – Mayor stated that the budget was based on the information that is on hand at this time, and with better record keeping this year, next year's audit will be exact.

Mayor stated that her water bill had not been adjusted and is not correct but that is the least issue to deal with at this time. Spencer stated that since he was on the council he has not been paid since March, and he too agrees that issues of the city are more important.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor states that there is nothing else on the Agenda, does anyone have anything further. Mayor asks the Council for a motion to adjourn. **Motion** to adjourn made by McDaniel, **Seconded** by Zichko.

McDaniel-yes, Zichko-yes, Spencer- yes, Miller-yes- all in favor to adjourn.

Mayor Kuhman called meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Darla Kuhman, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tamie Cunningham, Clerk Pro Tem