

Approved

**Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting**  
Held in the Council Room in City Hall

MINUTES

January 19, 2015

**The Council President called meeting to order at: 7:00 P.M. as the current Mayor Darla Kuhman, was unable to attend.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL** Visitors please sign in, on the back counter.

Present: Councilman Spencer; Councilwoman Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Miller & City Clerk/Treasurer Lori Yarbrough, Public Works- Stephen Williams.  
Not Present: Mayor Kuhman & No Current ATTORNEY

**APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH (December 15th) MEETING MINUTES:**

Motion by Spencer, seconded by McDaniel that we approve last month's meeting minutes, no amendments.  
\*DISCUSSION All in favor- **Motion passed.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED:** Motion by Spencer, seconded by McDaniel that we approve paying Dec/Jan's bills as submitted. \*DISCUSSION-All in favor- **Motion passed.**

**SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**City Clerk, Lori Yarbrough, swore in new Mayor, Robert "Bob" Wachter  
New Mayor Wachter then swore in Council #1 William "Bill" Hill and then the  
New Mayor Wachter swore in Council #2 Joshua Spencer**

Our new Mayor, Robert Wachter, wanted to take a minute to thank everyone for their support in this last election, and says we are all friends here and continue to be friends in the future and welcomed the citizens to their new Athol City Council.

*The newly elected officials then took their seats at the table, and Councilman Spencer made a special acknowledgement and "Thank you" to Councilman Miller for the 39/40 years' of service as a councilman.*

Mayor Wachter then entertained a motion for the council to now select a new council president, (2yr term)

Motion by Hill, seconded by McDaniel that Mary Zichko serve as the new council president.

\*DISCUSSION Roll Call: Councilman McDaniel yes, Councilman Spencer yes, Councilman Hill yes, and Councilwoman Zichko yes - **Motion passed.**

**TREASURY REPORT-** Lori submitted report; WF checking balance: \$14,695.36, STCU checking \$36,623.34; STCU saving/mm \$75,052.47; and the LGIP balance: \$389,905.90. Lori also submitted the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Statement for FY 2016.

***NOTE:** The City will make reasonable accommodations for anyone attending this meeting who require special assistance for hearing, physical or other impairments. Please contact the City Clerk at (208) 683-2101 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date and time.*

**WATER REPORT-** Lori submitted; December usage was: 2,324,400 gallons, November usage was: 1,801,200 gallons Approx. 15 accounts are over 60 days past due this month- Clerk to begin shut-off notices. Council asked about the higher usage, Public Works Stephen Williams said he thought a lot of it might be related to the 2 different pipe bursts (one on miller during the power outages and the other on 4<sup>th</sup> street).

**CITY NEWSLETTER** – Lori submitted, has one minor area of change, just adding a few sentences regarding the tax services offered this year (per their flyer).

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. **Anderson Brothers-** Annie, reviewed final FY 2015 Audit, pointing out the biggest changes from last year were the new GASB68 (PERSI) requirements. Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Zichko to accept the FY 2015 audit as presented by Anderson Bros. \*DISCUSSION All in favor- Motion passed.
2. **City Attorney Discuss-Applicants and Interviews** Council had reviewed 8 applicants, and decide on Mayor Wachter, Clerk Lori, and Councilman Spencer to do the interviewing, Councilman Hill or Zichko available if something comes up; they narrowed it down to the top 4 or 5 for interviewing. Lori will get interviews scheduled for next week and the plan will be to possibly have an appointment at the February council meeting. A salary range was set for \$900- \$1200; last attorney making \$550 a month, averaging 8-10 hours a month.
3. **Planner Report, Rand Wichman** -proposed date of tomorrow afternoon, 3:30pm, for a workshop (special meeting) to review some of the areas and concerns regarding the city planning and zoning ordinances. As well as, to discuss where the city is at and what types of things or direction in which the city wishes him to work on. In addition, he said that there is nothing new to report on for the Cole Annexation still waiting for their response to his letter he sent last month. And he also mentioned there has been a few other people/groups showing some interest in future annexations and poking around in land and use just outside of the current city limits. So we may see a few more in the future. All the more reason for us to get out better prepared with our ducks in a row.
4. **Grandmother Club- Sue Fevold** – addressed the council asking for a renewal of annual rental agreement, no changes. Motion by Spencer, seconded by Hill to approve the new 2016 rental contract with the Grandmothers Club, as presented. \*DISCUSSION It was mentioned by citizen, Sue Fevold that possibly any councilman who might have relations or themselves involved with this group abstain from voting. After a brief discussion Councilwoman Zichko abstained as she is an active member, and Councilman McDaniel disclosed his mother was a part of the group but it really doesn't affect him or his decision. **All in favor-** Motion passed.
5. **CD/Investment rates for councils review.** – Some discussion on where the rates are at and how much should be put into a CD and for how long, and the budget review period is coming soon. Lori did get a copy of the City of CDA but has not yet reviewed. A financial policy would be something our new city attorney would help with. Council decided to table the idea for another month or so.
6. **Athol Beautification** -An initial date for Athol Beautification was decided to be the last week of April, beginning April 23<sup>rd</sup> and ending on Saturday 4/30/16. A planning meeting was set for 2/2/16 ay 2:00pm. This is open to all citizens and the local groups that are interested in helping.
7. **Athol Daze-** Will be August 13, 2016 this year. A planning meeting was set for 2/2/16 @ 2:00pm (same as beautification meeting) to begin planning. Council had a brief discussion regarding the parade route; Lori will double check again with the local businesses who were affected and get back to council, before a decision as to which route to use this year will be. Lori also mentioned that there will need to be a discussion regarding the vendors and power in the park this year and what type of improvements will be needed to prevent breaker popping again. Mayor Wachter and Stephen to begin this review. Councilwoman Zichko also mentioned a theme is needed this year, so start thinking about that.

8. **Liquor License Renewals-** Lori gives update of possible businesses to renewal, motion for approval to renew all currently licensed businesses; as well as the one possible addition with State and County approval. Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Zichko to approve the currently licensed city business for another year, on the condition they have received prior approval from both the State and the County for the same licenses. \*DISCUSSION All in favor- Motion passed. Lori also shared with the council what the new liquor license certificates look like. They are no longer 3 part carbons, being hand-printed.
9. **Site Disturbances- Disturbances** (0 Issued/1 Pending) for January 2016
  - a. 6030 E Lorraine Ave. New shop & House (Kuhman) **Pending from Oct 2015**
10. **ICRMP – City Property Appraisal Review was done at ICRMP’s request last year, it’s done once every 5 years and for the city’s main 3 items (the city community center/city hall and the 3 water tanks).** Lori just wanted to make Council aware of this review and thought it may also help with them better understanding the current replacement values when considering future budget costs in repairs and maintenance for things such as the building and the water tanks.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

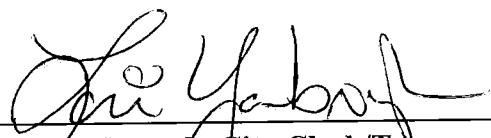
**Rudy Rudabaugh-** (Victory Auto Parts/Timberlake Fire District) A few things 1) He wanted to welcome the new council; and hopes to continue to serve his constituents, and helping address the needs of the community. 2) Strategic Planning with the Fire District for Budget Management- choices such as stay on their own- tighten up expenses w/ union or do they contract with future consolidation or agencies. The next meeting is 2/8/16 at the station @8pm.

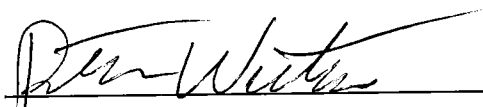
**Deputy Solar Larson-** Wanted to 1<sup>st</sup> thank everyone for their patience during the last storm- they were very busy. 2<sup>nd</sup> he wanted to announce that a Multi-Agency Citizen Academy classes are beginning 12/12/16- thru 2/23/16 in PF this is a multi-agency free training. He has brochures, if you’re interested. He stressed the best thing to do to keep our town great, is to be more observant but not paranoid.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** **City Council- Josh** wanted to share several comments he heard about the ABC Food Bank’s, Charlotte Hooper. He’s heard great things for at least 3 different people just this last week. He felt it worth mentioning and that wanted to share his appreciation for her dedication in helping run the food bank. / **Mayor Wachter** wanted to say “he appreciates everyone and wanted to thank everyone for coming to the meeting, you have all made this first meeting great. Cake and cookies are in the back and he hopes you all enjoy them, will be a pleasure to serve the citizens of Athol as Mayor and he looks forward to it. / **Staff- Lori/Stephen** – Lori wanted to share with the council a few updated manuals she printed out for any of the council and reminded them their AIC access allows them to see those manuals and more online at any time; it’s a great resource to better understanding your roles, open meeting laws and a number of other topics. **Stephen** update he did get the letter of intent out in time to DEQ for grant to help with a Capital Facility Plan. Ellery helped him to identify and answer some questions on the form. This is not an obligation to the city, it will just allow us to be considered- should the city want to move in this direction. He will keep council and mayor updated.

**ADJOURNMENT at 8:30pm**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer**

  
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**Bob Wachter, Mayor**

Approved at Council on 2/16/16

