

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

7:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Wachter called meeting to order: 7:00 P.M

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Wachter; Councilwoman Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Spencer; Councilman Hill; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough; Public Works, Stephen Williams; City Planner, Rand Wichman; City Attorney, J. Cafferty

APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH (February 21st) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Hill, seconded by Spencer that we approve last month's meeting minutes without amendments.

*DISCUSSION-All in favor- **Motion passed**

APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Spencer, seconded by Hill that we approve paying Feb/March's bills with the additions. *DISCUSSION-All in favor- Motion passed

TREASURY REPORT – Lori submitted and read aloud the ending balances: STCU checking: \$75,637.02; STCU saving/mm: \$55,495.19; and the LGIP balance: \$496,739.74.

WATER REPORT: Lori submitted and reported January usage was 2,318,900 gallons; February usage was 2,303,600 gallons. We billed for \$5,268.50 and collected \$5,142.00. At this point, approx. 21 accounts that are 30-60 days past due totaling \$250.85; possibly 15 letters may need to be sent out for shut-off. Haulers was previously 105,900 gallons, now 8,590 gallons. **REMINDER to all that Water Late Fees are now in effect--\$10 for any account whose balance is not paid in full by the 15th.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1. Approval of ABC Farmer's Market Lease Agreement – Motion by Zichko, seconded by McDaniel to authorize the Mayor to sign the lease presented with the ABC Farmer's Market group for the 2017 season. *DISCUSSION- Clerk to get a signed copy from the group first, as well as a copy of the certificate of liability. It was noted that port-a-pottys will have to be out by the first of May. Roll Call: Zichko-yes, Hill-yes, Spencer- recused himself from this matter, McDaniel-yes - Motion passed**
- 2. Approval to Update City Codification with Sterling Codifiers – Motion by Zichko, seconded by Spencer to authorize the update of the City Codifications with Sterling Codifiers. *DISCUSSION- Clerk shared the estimated costs with the council and said it should be done and available for city use by June 2017. Roll Call: Zichko-yes, Hill-yes, Spencer-yes, McDaniel-yes - Motion passed**
- 3. City Liquor License Annual Renewals – Clerk Lori gave final update. All the local businesses are current and renewed, except Loves as they are no longer in business.**

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.

4. **Planner Report** – 1) Rand said he had no permits this month (Site Dist., Building Loc. Permits, etc.). He did have an inquiry re building a new RV Park, which prompted him to make a new Special Use Permit form. Another inquiry re potential zone change/subdivision 2) Participated in Water Study meeting- where Keller provided us with what they have learned and have begun making suggestions, next is exploring their options. 3) Annexation- can't move forward with scheduling a hearing, until there is a more complete annexation agreement, so is on hold until they provide more information – it's ongoing and he emails/calls nearly every day with the developer. 4) Gearing up to restart code enforcement – looking at decent procedures and will bring old issues back to life over the next month. New process will be clear, easy, and swifter. 5) Discussed a Comp Plan list with Council (attachment passed out to council) re what items have potential bearing. This was from the Community Review meeting, there are optional items he also recommended. “What city efforts do we want into the Comp Plan? A robust public participation process, create a city growth vision, define a walkable downtown, public facilities (i.e. library, community center, etc.), corridor plans for Hwy 54 and Old Hwy 95 (some overlap), wastewater facility plan (evaluate/is it necessary?). These are big ticket items that are discretionary and was strongly recommended in the Community Review report but has bearing on how we approach the Comp Plan; understanding that the city may be more likely to dive into a more robust public participation process, to create a future for the city. We just need to identify what's to be included and what's not in the Plan, get consultants on board, seek estimates and determine who's going to do what. He also wondered what will be his level of involvement? – city council will iron out that structure. Overall Comp Plan updating process involve consultants drafting elements to inventory the visioning, what can be formed, what exists with ID codes, and envisioning goals and policies, update background info, and finalizing maps, etc. Then there is a hearing process, to include the community. It's a simple, but routine process to adopt into the Plan. Rand did not need meaningful discussion tonight, but wants everyone to think and discuss what interests us.
5. **Discussion of Budget Process for FY18; set a Public Hearing Date** – After a discussion and review of the calendar and dates, it was set for 8/15/17 at 7pm.
6. **Arbor Day Proclamation / Grant Application- Mayor Wachter – Motion by Hill, seconded by Spencer to allow the Mayor to declare May 20th, 2017 as Arbor Day in the City of Athol.**
*DISCUSSION- **Motion passed.** Mayor Wachter then read the 2017 Arbor Day Proclamation in full. Lori will follow-up with submitting the grant application for up to \$300 and a 25% match required by the city. Making a shrub fence line for additional parking was discussed or even helping Chamber with a city x-mas tree were both discussed as possible ideas.
7. **Update on Athol Daze (August 12, 2017)** -Lori shared that Susie Wachter has stepped up to help bring back the Little Miss Athol for the 6th grade girls. She shared the flyer that will be given out at the elementary school early next month. We will try to get a locally current crowned member of the community to attend the meeting at the school to help inspire the girls to get involved in this event and their community. The Lawn Mower Races are still being considered, if we do, we may not have a band play in the park and we will be needing about 7 or 8 more volunteers just to help run that part of the event. Councilman Spencer asked about using some of the local JR High and HS music or band groups. Superintendent, Dr. Becky Meyer was also present at the meeting and shared her thoughts on the topic, and said she would get us in contact with the appropriate people. Deputy Larson asked about the location of spectators during the races and we shared our thoughts, to cover the safety aspects of it all.
8. **Update on Beautification & the City-Wide Yard Sale (May 20, 2017)** – Moving forward with the volunteer groups and planning on sending out flyers in this month's newsletter. Also, still planning on a city-wide yard sale. Lori mentioned while there is no budget line for this event, the planning committee is interested in getting t-shirts for the volunteers this year. She asked if the city might be

willing to pitch in a bit of money in the event they can't get the t-shirts completed and covered by donations? They agreed to consider, she will bring back to council if necessary.

9. **Update on City Water Facilities Plan** – Mayor Wachter shared that there was another meeting with Keller last week. They provided us with what they have learned and what they suggest the city's water system needs. They were given some general directions/suggestions, and the next step is exploring options and funding sources for each, and then sharing with the full council. We'll keep you posted on when that might be, and before the city moves forward with any major decision, there will be a public meeting to get citizen input as well. More to come on that in the next month or two.
10. **Approval to attend the June AIC Conference in Boise-Clerk Lori** – Motion by Hill, seconded by McDaniel to allow Lori to attend the AIC Conference this June in Boise. *DISCUSSION- Clerk Lori estimates the total costs. **Roll Call: Zichko-yes, Hill-yes, Spencer-yes, McDaniel-yes - Motion passed.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1) Becky Meyer/Superintendent, Lakeland School Distr., thanked everyone for the levy vote, as Athol had one of the greatest turnouts. She appreciates all the support from Athol citizens and hopes to be as transparent as possible in all the decision making for the school district. School district currently has an open CFO position; 2) Margaret Whallen spoke on yard waste in city (i.e. needles and leaves), is there a place to dispose of these items?

ANNOUNCEMENTS: **City Council-** Mary appreciates everything that Stephen has done. / **Mayor-** Nothing / **Staff- Lori/Stephen-** Nothing / **Rand, City Planner-** Hopes to have the Comp Plan Map updated for next council mtg.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:37pm

ATTEST:

Bob Wachter, Mayor

Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on