



Approved Minutes Draft

## Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

**Tuesday, December 5, 2017**  
**7:00pm Regular Council Meeting**

**Mayor Wachter called meeting to order: 7:00 P.M** Visitors please sign in.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Wachter; Councilwoman Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Hill;  
Councilman Spencer; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough Public Works-Mark Mitchell  
Not present: City Planner, Rand Wichman; & City Attorney, J. Cafferty

### **APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH (November 21st) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

**Motion by Zichko, seconded by McDaniel that we approve last month's regular meeting minutes without amendments. \*DISCUSSION All in favor- Motion passed.**

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Zichko, seconded by**

**Spencer that we approve paying part of Nov's bills as presented with one addition of the Password bill. \*DISCUSSION-All in favor- Motion passed.**

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- 1. Discussion/Direction on Lake Highway District Surplus Trucks-** Mayor Wachter said LHD contacted him regarding the surplus of 3 old snow plow trucks each probably, 10-yard trucks. After a short discussion there didn't appear to be too much of an interest but thought it couldn't hurt to learn a little more about them or have Mark go look at them. The Mayor will keep the council updated as they learn more.

- 2. Approval of Resolution 2017-07 Personnel Policy**

**Motion by Zichko, seconded by McDaniel to Approve Resolution #2017-07 the Athol Personnel Policy, which will replace the current Personnel Policy (Res2015-01 passed 3/3/2015 and two updated amendments). \*DISCUSSION- An. Roll Call: Councilman Spencer - yes Councilman Hill - yes, Councilman McDaniel – yes, and Councilwoman Zichko - yes. Motion Passed.**

- 3. Discussion/Direction RE18-01 Right of Way Easement request from Northern Meadows Neighborhood** – Mayor Wachter read an email from Rand sharing the applicant for permit #RE18-01 would like to revise his application and therefore Rand will not be deciding right away on this permit. The Mayor then advised that he still would like for the council to have a discussion on this matter as this permit raises the issue of the staff not fully being aware as to what direction or policy standards the council would have on matters such as this right of way access from city roads to a non-city unmaintained road. The discussion from there was each council member shared their thoughts as follows: Councilman Hill: shared he felt that there should be some difference of treatment when it's a single land owner wanting to build a single-family home, for example; verses a company or developer wanting to build out and put a combination or multiple homes. Because one use will result

*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.*

in far more traffic and such than the other. Councilman Spencer- Says he's tired of people doing and starting things and then asking for permission and such after the fact. It's this type of thing that will always sway his vote to not allow the access or use. He feels there's just too many cons and no pros for the city to allow this type of access. He also likes Councilman Hill's comment on how it also really depends on how much use or activity will potentially be occurring on the city streets. He sort of feels it's hard to set one policy on how to respond because each situation may be different, and the council are always wanting to be open and consider the circumstances as they come up. Councilwoman Zichko- Says she is considering where the road access is located and wonders what that area of people/citizens in that neighborhood would feel. She stated there are standards for city residents and those standards should be the same for everyone. If the Idaho code allows for the city to make that determination within the 1 mile of the city limits, then it just needs to be the same. She had other concerns such as dust, and other ill factors, as well as concerns about further subdivisions, and plowing issues. Councilman McDaniel- Says his question is do they have another way of accessing their development, and if so then they should use it and not the city. He stated he believes that only under an annexation would he feel it appropriate to allow the access and additional use to the road and neighborhood. Under an annexation they would have to comply with all the same requirements i.e. city water, septic, etc. The discussion was concluded with a consensus of: If there is a request to the city to allow access to parcels not already in the city, such as the one regarding the Northern Meadows neighborhood, then it should be done so under an annexation. This will allow for the consistency in requirements to be the same for everyone. Otherwise, the additional traffic, dust or mud make it unsafe for residents and really is not in the public's best interest. The time of people doing first and asking later, must end.

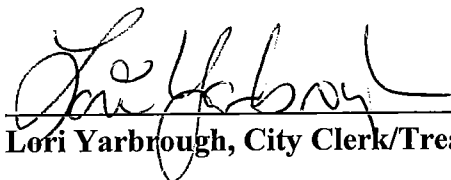
## PUBLIC COMMENTS

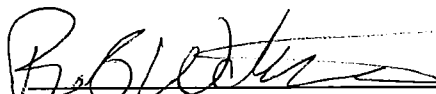
1) **Mel Bertsch, Athol, ID**- Stated he likes the mood of the council tonight and feels it's important to have set the standards. He feels with the look of the Super 1 and other standards set by the council, "you are really doing a wonderful service to your constituents".

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** **City Councilman Spencer**- Shared that the Timberlake Fire District has provided the city with an Emergency Ham Radio to help in its disaster preparedness. Further, he encourages the city to look at getting a basic plan together either through FEMA or some other way in the near future. He also said these types of consideration should also be included in the Water Facilities plan and the Comprehensive Plan as we move forward. **Mayor Wachter**- shared with council he spoke to Jim Coleman, as he also sits on the ITD Board, regarding the paving of the trail. The intersection here in the city is considered on a secondary bid, and therefore might be best if we look at getting it done rather than waiting for ITD. / **City Staff- Lori** wanted to remind everyone about the Tree Lighting Ceremony this Saturday at 5pm. Also, it was mentioned by the Mayor's wife to see about including the Little Miss Athol ladies to take part in running the city booth for this event. Lori has contacted them all and they are excited to be a part of it. /**Mark**- none

## ADJOURNMENT at 8:04pm

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Wachter, Mayor

Approved at Council on 12/19/17