



**Unapproved Minutes Draft**

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

**Tuesday, October 17, 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; City Planner, Rand Wichman; & City Attorney, J. Cafferty; and Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough Not present: Public Works-Mark Mitchell

**APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH (September 19th) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

**Motion by McDaniel, seconded by Spencer that we approve last month's regular 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 Sept/Oct's bills with the 4 additions as just discussed, bringing the new total to \$34,373.98.** \*DISCUSSION-All in favor- **Motion passed.**

**TREASURY REPORT-** Lori submitted written and read aloud the following ending balances: STCU checking = \$50,711.50; STCU savings = \$55,625.47; LGIP balance = \$545,546.58; some of the misc. income was Shane insurance premiums, and restitution from S Hansen, for a total in misc. of \$80.00. Lori also shared she contacted the District Court in regard to the reoccurring restitution payments we are receiving for Sally Hansen. \$25 a month is the normal minimum amount and it looks like Sally has requested it to be increased to \$30 a month. Still a long way to go the pay the \$400 plus thousand but it's a start. Once she's out of prison in a couple of years every job will she works for will garnish her wages and the amount we receive may increase as well as we may be extra payments for her taxes.

**WATER REPORT-** Lori submitted written report and read aloud the August usage= 12,435,900 gal. (haulers 509,200); September usage = 6,829,000 gal. (haulers 352,400); Late fees this month = 41 accounts not paid and getting the fee. Approx. 11 getting shutoff letter notices.

After the Water Report, Lori reminded everyone we are now on the new rates. The Mayor then took a moment to ask the council about considering doing the rate study and using Diane Sauer with the Idaho Rural Water Association. Benefits for doing this would be to identify how to best decide the commercial rates moving forward as well as many others as we move forward with updating the current water facilities. Council directed the Mayor/Lori to reach out to Diane and move forward with her completing this rate study. The tentative time she has available to start is mid to late December.

***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.*

## OTHER BUSINESS:

### 1. Adoption of Resolution 2017-03 Inter-fund Transfer for the FY2017 (General to Street)

Motion by Spencer, seconded by McDaniel to Approve Resolution #2017-03 an Inter-Fund Transfer of \$40,000 from the general fund to the street fund. \*DISCUSSION- An. **Roll Call: Councilman Spencer -yes, Councilman Hill -yes, Councilman McDaniel –yes, and Councilwoman Zichko -yes. Motion Passed.**

### 2. Adoption of Resolution 2017-04 Inter-fund Transfer for the FY2017 (Street to Water)

Motion by Zichko, seconded by Spencer to Approve Resolution #2017-04 an Inter-Fund Transfer and repayment of \$36,000 from the street fund to the water fund. \*DISCUSSION- An. **Roll Call: Councilman Spencer -yes, Councilman Hill -yes, Councilman McDaniel –yes, and Councilwoman Zichko -yes. Motion Passed.**

3. **Council Discussion/Decision on T-Mobile Lease, continued from September meeting.** Clerk came back to the council with really nothing new learned. She again spoke to Taylor with Blackdot who is representing T-Mobile and he said after looking at other scenarios the numbers are the best for the city the way it was proposed. \$1,000 a month with no escalator for guaranteed for 120 months. Lori also spoke with Jerry Mason while in Boise last month and he said he's heard/speculated they(T-Mobile) was trying to clean up their portfolio to be better positioned for Sprint to buy them out. After a short discussion the council said they just didn't see the reason they needed to begin accepting a lesser amount from T-Mobile and they made the decision to take no action, and not accept the newly proposed terms of the lease with T-Mobile. Lori will relay the decision to T-Mobile.

4. **Ratification of the Mayor's signature on the Taylor Family Trust Reimbursement Agreement** related to their annexation application.

MOTION 1<sup>st</sup> by McDaniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hill to approve the ratification of the Mayors signature on the Taylor Family Trust reimbursement agreement that was received with their recent annexation submittal.

\*DISCUSSION The planner and attorney felt it was ok for the Mayor to sign as it was more of an administrative item. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Spencer - yes; Councilman Hill- yes; Councilman McDaniel - yes; and Councilwoman Zichko - yes; **Motion Passed.**

5. **Council Discussion/Decision on Building Use for Proposed Seniors Club** – Councilwoman Zichko

MOTION1<sup>st</sup> by Spencer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hill to approve the use of the community center for a 6-month trial period, free of charge for the purposes of trying to build a Seniors Club. \*DISCUSSION Mary would like to begin some type of dinner or gather for local seniors and hopes to draw enough interest to bring back a senior citizen's group or center. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Spencer - yes; Councilman Hill- yes; Councilman McDaniel - yes; and Councilwoman Zichko - abstain; **Motion Passed.**

6. **Discussion regarding 2<sup>nd</sup> City Council Meetings in the month** – Mayor Wachter, in light of the council now having two meetings a month (the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month) wanted to have a discussion with the council as to who or how we should handle the canceling of the meeting in the event of nothing on the agenda to discuss, generally for the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month meeting.

7. **Discussion/Decision with the Athol Chamber of Commerce regarding a Holiday Tree Lighting type event.** Chamber president, Janet Ellis addressed the council with a letter to the City. This was a point of reference letter acknowledging the official start of an annual Tree lighting event being established by the Athol Chamber of Commerce. With the combined help of the local Chamber, the Timberlake Fire District and the City, the community will have a location as a newly planted and dedicated Christmas tree to help celebrate for this type of event. The Chamber is planning, what they hope will be an annual event held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of December, a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. After the lighting they will proceed into the gym where they will be a host of activities for the community to enjoy. The city council agrees to allow for this use to be free of charge and is excited for the event. **A motion was made by Councilman Spencer and second by Councilwoman Zichko to this effect. All was in favor and motion passed.**

- 8. Planner Report** - Rand gave his update: 1) Taylor Annexation Application has been received totaling approximately 19 acres south of Hwy 54 and east of old highway 95. The request has been forwarded to city engineer for a recommendation on how the water system should be extended to provide services to the property. 2) Building location permits, no new ones still working on the pending few of Gary Fast and Crossroads. 3) Special Use permit for Gary Fast, is still pending. 4) Code enforcement still working with D Holmes addressing the RV park at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> & Bertsch, next deadline for Ratcliff violations is 10/30/17 5) Sewer proposal- Mayor and staff met with Mr. Karupiah as he wanted to discuss his interest in creating a sewer district and how or what that might look like for the city and its residents. Rand felt this warranted a significant discussion and asked for a workshop to be scheduled to further discuss. Workshop with the council was set for Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. 6) Code amendments- as part of the on-going updates and clean-up Rand presented a short list, to add to those amendments previously identified by Sterling codifiers as well as those that Lori has been tracking. Councilwoman Zichko also wanted to bring up the discussion of how tiny house might fit into our code. He feels this might be best tackled by a future workshop to go through each area in further discussion. He suggested maybe this is something we can do over the winter. Finally, 7) a city map update. Lori asked about getting the city maps updated to reflect the recent annexation and even future ones. Rand is working on a bid and will likely consider including that into the costs to future annexation applicants, so that the city is not having to pay for that expense. He will keep the city posted on what he can get and how much it might cost.
- 9. Discussion/Decision on BLP17-8 Gary Fast (Campground Office Building Permit)** Rand opened by reminding council they have his written report in front of them and that today it's up to them if they feel they can answer the 4 required findings related to this application BLP17-8 to make a decision on it. Applicant Gary Fast then addressed the council. He began by reading a previous letter he'd written to the city, not identifying a date of when it was. He gave a brief run-down of what he believes has transpired and then asked council to please make a decision on his permit so that he can continue with building his building behind the white pine. Mr. Fast continued to state his belief was this was all previously approved back in 2012. Rand stated that because Mr. Fast's request has been ever-changing, and the applicant still has not presented a completed site map and plan with all the necessary information he cannot approve the application. He stands behind his decision and has worked extensively on this application; there is just not enough adequate information from the applicant and there is too much of a difference of understanding at this point to make an informed decision. Council asked Mr. Fast a number of times why he hasn't or can't provide the information necessary so that they can make a decision. He did not directly answer and kept going back to what he felt was approved back in 2012. The city attorney tried to explain to Mr. Fast that in 2016 when he came back to the council to begin working again on this unfinished project, (work on this project has been ongoing and initially started even before 2012), that the 2016 decision was made based on this information discussed and presented at that 2016 meeting, which included them trying to take under consideration the 2012 council remarks, which were very uncertain for lack of good record keeping and minutes. The reason for the stop work order was because the city feels he's working outside of what was approved. Unanimously, the council felt they would love to help get him on his way and make a decision on this matter, but they agreed with the planner that it is just not possible until all the necessary information has been submitted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** **City Councilman McDaniel-** requested a discussion of having a more restrictive language in the ordinance related to the city right-of-way usage. He would like to see it on an agenda to discuss and hopefully make changes to it; he feels there is just too many people taking advantage and storing their vehicles and other junk in the right of way. / **City Councilman Spencer-** Presented a check in the amount of \$563.00 to

the city on behalf of the Farmer's Market. This was the proceeds from the Market less the costs for next year's licensing and permits. He added that last week was the last Farmer's Market of this season, and they hoped everyone had gotten a chance to stop in sometime this 1<sup>st</sup> season and said they are looking forward to next year. **Mayor Wachter**- Thanked Councilman Spencer and the Farmer's Market for the donation and also wanted to share that the Playground Equipment recently purchased, much of it by donations, should be arriving this week and it is hoped to be installed by the end of the month. Also, he mentioned the two new 21' foot long aluminum bleachers have arrived, and Mark has been working to assemble them. Finally, he hoped we would be having a Tree dedication ceremony as soon as it arrives, either this month or the first of next. / **City Attorney John Cafferty**- Wanted to remind and again invite the Council and City staff to their, Hawley Troxell, event this Thursday night at the CDA Resort. There will be a session on various topics from 3-5pm and then a meet and greet after from 5 to 7:00pm, he hopes to see you there and feels it would be a good opportunity to meet other agencies who might be able to work with and help the city in various ways. **Staff- Lori** 1) Shared she appreciates getting to attend the ICCTFOA Conference in Boise last month, there is always so much she learns from this event. She also added that she was nominated and elected by this organization, Region 1 specifically to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Director position. It is a two-year position, next year she moves up to the 1<sup>st</sup> Director – representing the Region 1 Clerks and Treasurers. 2) She has prepared a draft Transportation Plan application for LRHIP this year. It has been sent to Keller Associated for an addition review or recommendations before submitting, she will keep the council posted 3) The Auditor's, Anderson Bro's will be here in the office on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> to conduct a portion of auditing for the City's FY2017 Audit 4) Reminder Elections Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, there are two city council seats up Shane McDaniel #4 and Mary Zichko #3 5) There will be a "Meet the Candidates" night on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm- with that the Mayor asked Mr. Andrew Bruse to come up and say a few word if he would like. Andrew Bruse introduced himself and said he was looking forward to getting to know you all and just wants to learn more about what goes in the city government and how he can be a part of it all.

**ADJOURNMENT at 9:44pm**

**ATTEST:**

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**Bob Wachter, Mayor**

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**Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer**

Approved at Council on