

Approved Minutes

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

Tuesday, May 5, 2020
4:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M. He asked visitors to please sign in.

This meeting was held via Zoom with the online link, with meeting ID and Password being posted on the agendas as well as a phone-in option. (2 Public Participants via zoom)

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Hill; Councilman McDaniel-via zoom; Councilwoman Baldwin-via zoom; Councilman Spencer-via zoom; Councilwoman Denis-via zoom; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough, and Public Works-Anthony Brandt & Tanya Ziegler-Deputy Clerk; Not Present: City Planner & Attorney

REPORTS:

Public Works Report- Anthony submitted written report, no additional discussion.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) APPROVAL OF THE April 21st REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Spencer, that we approve the last special meeting on the 21st, minutes without amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor-all opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

2) APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Denis, that we approve paying April/May bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION-All in favor-all opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Athol Farmer's Market Annual Agreement for use of the outdoor city basketball court area, as per the agreement presented and authorize the Mayor's signature on the contract. A discussion occurred about if it were to start what it would look like. The Farmer's Market already had planned to delay the start a week, put a 6 plus foot distance between the vendors, they are bringing in a hand washing station for the season, reducing the touch and buy, but rather prepackage as much as possible and have designated cash handlers. They did still hope to have live music but were planning on changing the layout of the market and removing the picnic tables from the area. The council questioned the city's liability regarding the market and debated the concept of essential vs non-essential, regarding the volume of people allowed to attend or come through. After this conversation the following motion was made: Motion by Denis, that we allow the Athol Farmer's Market use of the city property at the agreed upon rates as per the agreement and authorize the Mayor's signature on the contract, changing only the start date from May 8th to May 15th. *DISCUSSION- The City wanted to make sure that we are following the governor's guidelines, and this is conditional upon the governor progressing into the next stages; it all could be subject to change if the state were to regress. It was acknowledged that the Farmer's Market are treated a little differently than any regular business and overall, the council was excited for the season knowing that there were a lot of local businesses needing to get back to business. **Roll Call Vote:**

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.

Spencer-abstained as he is a vendor in the market; McDaniel-yes; Baldwin-yes; Denis-yes. Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

DISCUSSION:

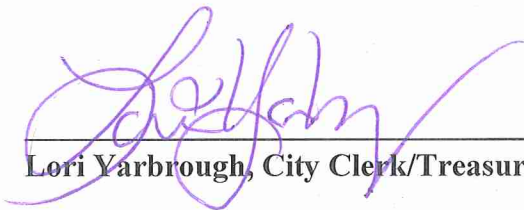
4) USDA Loan Update and Construction BID Process for Water Improvements Update – Lori and the Mayor just wanted to share that after a meeting to discuss, if the city puts in more money then, USDA can offer more in grants, up to 25%. The city is moving forward with a \$399,000 match instead of the \$200,000 to get us more grant money. This still will leave approximately \$230,000 in the Water Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Sharon Fisher- Commented she was glad the Farmer’s Market is opening.

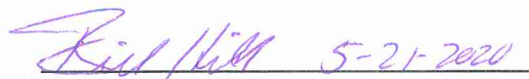
ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council- Councilman Spencer asked about the elections and if everyone knew that there will be no voting in person this May election. He felt we need to help get the word out about this and help be sure people know that they will need to request a ballot to be mailed to them. / Mayor-none / Staff-none.

ADJOURNMENT at 4:55pm

ATTEST:



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer



Bill Hill, Mayor

Approved at Council on 5/21/2020