



Approved Minutes

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

Tuesday, November 5, 2019
7:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Zichko called the meeting to order: 7:00 P.M She asked visitors to please sign in.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Zichko; Councilman McDaniel; Councilman Hill; Councilman Spencer; Councilwoman Denis; Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Yarbrough and Public Works-Anthony Brandt. Not Present: Planner & Attorney

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1) **Public Works Report-** Anthony had submitted a written report and recapped a few items such as: 1) Routine things like getting loader and grader prepared for winter; 2) There was a fire on Lorraine drive and the city received a few complaints or concern regarding the fire hydrant accessibility. Anthony said he spoke directly with the fire department and they said, the vehicles did not hinder this particular fire. But the fire department, as well as the city, has since spoken with this resident and he will be more conscious of parking his vehicles near the hydrant. Fire code says 3 feet and city code 8 feet, Anthony will watch this more closely. 3) School zone still working with Mike Hogan to maybe update the signs in the area and still looking at maybe removing trees, with a brief discussion on rough costs to remove the trees. It was discussed that a future meeting with the city and the school to figure out what a best course of action will be to handle this concern. Council wants to formulate a plan. 4) Anthony brought up his interest in doing a fence around the 6th street shop; it was put into the budget, but the bids now are a little higher than the previously budgeted \$10,000.00. Council said if it isn't that much more then bring it back to them at the next meeting for their approval.

ACTION ITEMS:

2) APPROVAL OF THE October 15th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by McDaniel, second by Hill, that we approve the last regular meeting on the 15th minutes without amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor- **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Spencer, second by Denis, that we approve paying October/November bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION-All in favor- **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of a regularly scheduled new group the use of the council room on Fridays at a suggested discounted rate. (Al-Anon) - Jen from Al-Anon spoke to the council and she brought her Friend, Sheryl with her. She just gave a brief description of what Al-Anon is about and that having a location for such meetings here in Athol would be very helpful to the community at large. Because it will be a new location and they can only take donations, paying a full price rate would be difficult. She asked the council for a discounted rate she thought they could handle. It was noted that there are 2 AA groups that meet weekly and a Compulsive Eaters

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.

group that also meets, with about the same rate conditions on them. With no further discussion the following motion was made:

Motion by Spencer, second by McDaniel to allow the weekly Al-Anon meetings at the community center at a rate of a flat \$10 per month for the first 3 months, then a flat \$20 per month thereafter; with an annual review before council. *DISCUSSION- Roll Call: Denis-yes; Hill-yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

5) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL regarding the Notice of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Designation of ADA Coordinator** – Lori reminded the council that this is what Dorian with Panhandle Area Council (PAC) had previously told us was a part of the requirements for the block grant. There was a short discussion regarding this, then the following motion was made: Motion by Spencer, second by Hill to acknowledge and approve for publication provided by PAC, the notice the City is required to publish and to designate the Athol Deputy Clerk as the ADA Coordinator for the City. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Hill-yes; Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Denis-yes. Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

6) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of City Resolution 2020-02 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Grievance Procedure**- Mayor and Lori (This is part of the Block Grant requirements) Motion by Spencer, second by Hill to approve Resolution 2020-02 the American Disabilities Act Grievance Procedure. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Denis-yes; Hill-yes. Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

7) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Order of Decision for CUP19-01 An application of Dante T Properties LLC for a Special Use Permit for Residential Use in the Commercial Zone** Motion by Spencer, second by McDaniel to approve and authorize the mayor's signature on the Order of Decision for CUP19-01. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Spencer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Denis-yes; Hill-yes. Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

8) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Athol Radio Group to use the community center at a discounted rate.** *DISCUSSION Councilman Spencer explained how this group has come to be, on the heels of the Radio classes that were previously held here. Just a growing group of them who have continued to meet each month, normally in the park, but it is getting cold out, so they are interested in using the community center. Councilman Spencer is aware that as employees, per the employee policy, council could use the community center for free; but without clearer definitions on that policy it's unclear if this is or could be applied to re-occurring meetings such as this. He notes that is something to look at further later. For now, he asked what the city would do for a discount as no-one is currently paying to come and attend these meetings. Council offered the same 50% discounted rate they have offered other like groups; to which they agreed. Also noted was that having these types of meetings is good for the greater community and that the city does have a Radio, given to them by the fire department, and with council and city staff being a part of these groups, they could be available for the city in the event of an emergency. Motion by McDaniel, second by Denis to approve the Athol Radio Group use of the community center building for 6 months, once a month, at a 50% reduced rate. Note: Full rate 2 hr. per night, once a month times 6 months is normally = \$180.00; their reduced rate will be \$90.00 total for the 6 months. **Roll Call: Spencer-declared he is a part of this group and votes yes; McDaniel-yes; Denis-yes; Hill-declared he is a part of this group and votes yes.** Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE- Chamber President Janet Ellis 1) reminded everyone of the Veteran's Coffee on Us at Careywood Coffee coming up on Saturday, November 9th; they will have door prizes. 2) shared the Annual Tree Lighting event again to be held on Saturday, December 14th -everyone is welcome.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

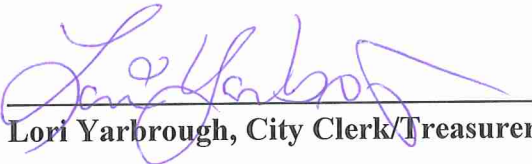
ANNOUNCEMENTS - City Council- Councilman Spencer- gave a reminder that the Farmer's Christmas Market is coming up; a two-day event Saturday, December 7th from 9am – 3pm and Sunday, December 8th from 11am- 4pm. The Ladies Auxiliary with the Legion will be downstairs this year but on the same Saturday the 7th for Cocoa and Cookies with Santa from 1pm- 3pm. This year's market is planning on 60 vendors for the two-day event; it's going to be big! **Councilwoman Denis-** Brought up the question on what is being done with the cheesesteak stand from the Farmer's Market- the tarps are looking awful and wants to know who should take care of this. – There was a brief discussion and Councilman Spencer said he's left a message for Ron. In the meantime, Anthony was going to remove them. / **Mayor** – Shared that she finished her Mayor's Walking Challenge and she achieved the goal of at least 50,000 steps each week during the month of October. She will be receiving a check for the Athol City Park for \$1,000.00 – Everyone congratulated her for achieving such an accomplishment. / **Staff Lori-** 1) The Anderson Bro's auditors office will be here this Thursday for their FY2019 audit review. Once a draft of the audit is complete, it will come before the City Council for their review and approval. 2) Reminder tomorrow is the 60% Water Design review meeting with the engineers, Keller at 4:30pm. 3) The Mayor asked Lori to give a brief review of what she learned at the Transportation Planning conference last week. It was a great opportunity to see a number of groups come together in one room to discuss various arenas of transportation and then link them with the funding and carry-out pieces. Autonomous vehicles were one area, as was rural transit- she shared that its possible at some point for the North SPOT program to come to Athol/Silverwood area and potentially to the CDA area if they can work out their differences. A number of Senators were present at the conference at which an open discussion was made possible, and a hot topic was the ending of the surplus eliminator funding that essentially allowed for a number of Child Pedestrian Safety projects to get done. Without the surplus eliminator really the only grant funding for these types of projects are through TAP.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:46pm

ATTEST:



Mary J. Zichko, Mayor



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on 11/19/19

