

Approved Minutes

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

Tuesday, June 7, 2022
6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Hill; Councilwoman Devine; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Kramer; Councilman Cutaiar; Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; Public Works-Kevin Foster. Not Present: Jason Wing, Attorney; and Rand Wichman, City Planner.

REPORTS:

Public Works - May Report submitted by Kevin. Council asked Kevin a few questions and he shared how its all been a learning curve and he will get it. Just so many different things happening

ACTION ITEMS:

1) APPROVAL OF THE May 17th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by McDaniel, that we approve the last regular meeting minutes for the 17th, without amendments.

***DISCUSSION *** All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

2) APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Devine, that we approve paying the

May/June bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION-All in favor-none opposed. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

3) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of adding Juneteenth to the list of paid employee holidays.

Juneteenth was made a national holiday last June 2021; Juneteenth is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. It is also often observed for celebrating African-American culture, and called Freedom Day. **Motion by Devine, to approve Juneteenth as a paid holiday for the City of Athol Employees, and to incorporate this in the personnel policy, only if the lawyer says it's mandatory.** *DISCUSSION-Council members felt there are too many holidays already and didn't understand why this one even exists. **Roll Call:** Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Use Keller Associates for the Design of the New Sidewalk on

the North side of Menser Avenue from the Elementary School to 3rd Street. – Lori shared the Bid estimate of \$35k-\$40k with the council, and after a brief discussion regarding weather to use an engineer or not, as well as the budgetary concerns with paying for it, the council made the following motion:

Motion by McDaniel, to approve using Keller Associates for the Design of the Sidewalk on Menser Avenue; and authorize the Mayor's signature on the contract for the work, not to exceed

\$30,000.00. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Kramer-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

5) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Order of Decision for the Gary Fast Subdivision.

Motion by Devine, to approve ORDER of Decision for the Gary Fast Subdivision. *DISCUSSION

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 48 hours in advance of the meeting date and time.

Roll Call: Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

6) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of Catering Permit #22-03 for Bent Tree Brewing for the July 1, 2022 Athol Farmers Market.** Motion by Devine to approve Catering Permit #22-03 for Bent Tree Brewing for the July 1, 2022 Athol Farmers Market. Roll Call: Devine-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

7) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of Wild Seed for the Cemetery Hillside.** – Councilwoman Kramer shared that the City did receive 75 ponderosa pines, but because it was too late in the season, the best shot at keeping these 2-year-old trees alive, was to temporarily plant them in one of her flower beds for now, then transplant them in the fall to the cemetery hillside when we seed it. **No motion was made nor needed. The city will wait until the Fall to seed and plant the trees.** The fear was seeding or planting now would result in the grass burning and the trees not taking root, as there is no way to water the hillside during the summer if it is a really hot summer.

8) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Fence Repairs at the Cemetery Water Tank** – Kevin got an Estimate from Idaho Fence, and Lori shared she is still waiting to hear from ICRMP regarding the claim. After a brief discussion the council made the following motion: Motion by Devine to use Idaho Fence for the repairs on the cemetery fence around the water tank, not to exceed the bid of \$3,300.00. Roll Call: Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1) **Update on Bennett Avenue Reconstruction** – Lori shared that we will be getting another update soon and Keller will be scheduling a 65-70% review meeting of the Design Plan. Generally, this has been the Mayor, Shane, now Kevin, and Lori. Still moving forward, hoping to go out to bid for the work in the next month or so.
- 2) **Trailing Lawn Mowers and Cemetery Clean-Up** – The Mayor brought up the issue we are having with getting the old lawn mower up to the cemetery lot, since the city does not have a trailer. There was a brief discussion on whether the city should buy a trailer to haul the mower to and from the cemetery or rent one. A couple council members offered that they have one we can use for now and not buy anything.
- 3) **Payment Plan Policy Options-** Lori wanted to discuss how the council would like staff to handle the rare occasions when there is a bill incurred and we are being asked if a payment plan is an option. Lori shared general information regarding the current circumstances for damage to a water meter, with a bill over \$1,600.00. She shared that in most cases we have gotten bills paid within a month or two, but this time we have someone asking to do a longer payment plan of 6 or 8 months. After a brief discussion, council said staff in this case should contact the property owner and that we should not carryout any bills longer than the general 60 days, as we do with water payments.

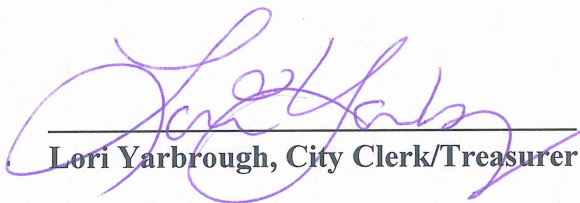
ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council- Cutaiar had a question regarding the swale at the end of Forest Ave. at Alice Court, the steep one. There are some local motorcyclists who are starting to enjoy that hill in a way that he is concerned they will get hurt. Wants to know who is liable for it if or when they do. Does the city need to do something about it? Other than knowing it was previously designed by the engineers that way, Lori said she would have to check with the city attorney on the answer. City Council – McDaniel wanted to know the status of the property at the end of Pastime with the RV's in the city right of way. Has the attorney written a letter yet? Lori shared that she believes the attorney was still waiting for confirmation of the property lines before he sent anything out. After a brief discussion Kevin

will send an email to the attorney. **City Council Kramer** wanted to remind the council about the upcoming meeting tomorrow (8th) at the Lakes Highway District building on Ramsey Rd. in Hayden for the UPRR 95 Bridge on Old Hwy 95 and 1st Street. A short discussion: both Kramer and McDaniel planned to stop in for it. / **Mayor-** Wanted to discuss the cemetery road condition, but as it was getting late felt it was more about being sure to budget for some road improvements for the cemetery road, as the logging and lots of rain recently have really torn that road up. Staff was asked if the road easement had been drafted yet. Lori shared the attorney was still working on it. / **Staff, Lori-** 1) Next Athol Daze meeting set for Tuesday, July 12th at 1:00pm 2) The Circus is happening tomorrow and today was the last day for us to sell tickets. 3) The next budget workshop she would like to be at 5:15pm on June 21st, as we are running out of time. The tentative budget must be posted by July 19th. 4) The Colton Acres Development Round Table discussion meeting has been scheduled for Thursday June 16th and Jeanette and Shane were planning on attending, but Shane cannot make it. There was a brief discussion, and it was decided that Cindi would attend in his place. **Kevin-** Shared the Timberlake High School Service Day went pretty well, there was about 40 kids they did a lot of ranking and things in the big city park. Had hoped to get up to the cemetery but they ran out of time and went for ice cream. It's a cool thing to have them come do this.

Public Comments: Sheryl with the Good News Club – Wanted to follow up with the council and say “thank you” for letting them have these classes here at the community center for the past year and half. The first, a half year, they began with zero kids and by the end of that season they had 9 kids in attendance. At the beginning of this year, they started with about 12 kids and ended with 31 kids. This is a good mix of boys and girls, some Athol Elementary kids, but most home-schooled kids even some who transitioned this year from home school to the public school, and it was nice for them as they had friends they knew already from this group. She reminded them that they are a non-denominational group who attend 3 different local churches, and all the teachers in the program have background checks conducted on them. They look forward to another year, and plan to come back this summer to ask for another year’s usage to continue having these classes at the community center.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:20pm

ATTEST:



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer



Bill Hill, Mayor

Approved at Council on 6/21/22

