

Approved Minutes

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

Tuesday, October 5, 2021
6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Hill; Councilwoman Denis; Councilman Cutaiar; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Kramer; Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; Public Works-Anthony Brandt. Not Present: Caitlin Kling, Attorney; Rand Wichman, City Planner.

REPORTS:

Water Report – Lori submitted August written report and read the totals aloud.

Treasurer Report – Lori submitted August written report and read aloud the bank account balances.

Public Works – Anthony submitted August written report; nothing other than a note for Anthony to go look at a property that may need code enforcement.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) **APPROVAL OF THE September 7th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Motion by Kramer, that we approve the last regular meeting on the 7th, minutes without amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor-none opposed. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

2) **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by Cutaiar, that we approve paying September/October bills and authorize the mayor's signature for payment #6 to NNAC for water improvements and then send to DEQ (reimbursement #4) for all as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION-- Lori explained the bills briefly regarding which bills are related to the DEQ loan. Councilman McDaniel asked if the water project is on schedule, and Anthony then gave a brief update on the water project. All in favor-none opposed. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL for the Good News Club to use the Community Center once a week during the school year. *Lori shared this is a renewal, and they were here all last year with no problems.* Motion by Denis, to approve the renewal request for the Good News Club to again come once a week during the school year free of charge. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes; Denis-yes; Cutaiar-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of a Waterline & Fire Hydrant Easement with Foust Holdings Athol, LLC. (Sweet Lou's) in the Crossings Subdivision – Anthony described why this easement was necessary for Sweet Lou's to have a hydrant and this document grants the city the access to the hydrant that is not on city property. Then the following motion was made. Motion by McDaniel, to approve the easement with Foust Holdings Athol, LLC and authorize the mayor's signature. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Kramer-yes; Denis-yes; Cutaiar-yes; McDaniel-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

5) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to use Fatbeam to extend the City's Dark Fiber lines to the 6th**

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.

Street City Shop. – Lori gave the updated values from Fatbeam for extending the existing dark fiber from City Hall to the big shop on 6th street. She explained the monthly costs as being not much more than what we would pay for spectrum or Ziplly and how we can build on this in the future. We will be able to add security cameras and phone lines, which will eliminate the analog answering machine in City Hall.

Motion by Cutaiar to use Fatbeam and extend Dark fiber from City Hall to the 6th Street City Shop and direct the staff to get a contract drafted up with Fatbeam agreeing to the terms just discussed.

DISCUSSION Roll Call: Denis-yes; Cutaiar-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

6) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Purchase New Street Banners for Highway 54.

Clerk, Lori, shared how we lost two banners last winter during a windstorm. The question before the council was do, we just replace the two banners with the exact kind we have? Or do we add a few more banners along Hwy 54? Councilman Cutaiar was interested in adding two more and replacing the two missing banners, but after a discussion the following motion was made: **Motion by Kramer, to approve the purchase of two street banners for Hwy 54, replacing the two that were lost in the windstorm.**

***DISCUSSION Roll Call:** Cutaiar-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes; Denis-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

7) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of COVID Related Leave for Employees - Mayor & Lori wanted to ask the council how we should treat COVID related leave for employees. Lori shared some options for other city's policies; Rathdrum, Plummer and III-A were some. After a short discussion there was no solid conclusion on what, if any policy or additional leave should be offered. The council said they will consider a policy in the future but the employees in the meantime should treat it like any other sick time. Then the following motion was made: **Cutaiar requested this item be tabled until the council can review and draft a full policy related to COVID for the employees.** The council agreed.

***DISCUSSION**

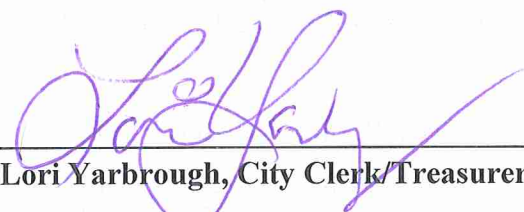
No Motion was made. NO ACTION TAKEN.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1) Marty Dippolito (city resident)- Never been to a council meeting so thought he'd stop in and see what it's all about. Councilwoman Kramer asked him what he thought? He responded that there was a lot more to them that what he had thought.


ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council- none. **Mayor Hill** – Shared he is interested in sitting down with staff to further discuss code enforcement matters. Since the city is beginning to take this area back over from the Planner, he wanted to know that the council was on board with staff continuing to move forward in addressing code enforcement matters like what Rand was doing. After a brief discussion the council does want to see staff continuing to work on addressing code enforcement matters, even if they are not complaint driven. / **Staff-** Lori -1) Trunk or Treat is Sunday, Oct. 31st 5pm to 6:30pm at Super 1 Foods.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:35pm

ATTEST:



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer



Bill Hill, Mayor

Approved at Council on 10/19/2021