



Approved Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

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

REPORTS:

WATER REPORT- Lori submitted a written report for June and read it aloud. June usage was at 6,998,104 gallons and coin haulers were 397,200 gallons. Coin Haulers money deposited in June was \$2,172.75. Metered water billed was \$20,754 and overage billed was \$3,454.00. Late fees were \$600.00. Councilman McDaniel – the high usage compared to that of this time last year, Kevin said he would look at the numbers again to double check and be sure there's not a leak somewhere.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) **APPROVAL OF THE July 18th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**
Minutes weren't finished, so this item was tabled. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
- 2) **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED:** Lori briefly explained a couple of the bills and then the following motion was made. Motion by Kramer, that we approve paying the July/August bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION - All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed.**
ACTION ITEM
- 3) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to sign the Access Idaho Amendment Agreement.**
Lori shared the reason for this amendment, it is for the ability to take credit cards while in the city park during Athol Daze, the equipment cost \$120.00. Motion by Kramer, to approve the Mayor signing the update JPA with the III-A as presented. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes. **Motion passed.** **ACTION ITEM**
- 4) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of 2 Catering Permits one for Iron Pizza and one for Bent Tree Brewing for Athol Daze on August 12th.** Lori did request one minor change to the permits this year, same times but changing the beer garden perimeter to the 2-block radius of the event. After a brief discussion the following motion was made Motion by Devine, to approve both Catering Permit #23-04 for Bent Tree Brewing and Iron Pizza #23-05 at Athol Daze on August 12th. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Kramer-yes. **Motion passed.** **ACTION ITEM**
- 5) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to send both Clerk's to the Fall ICCTFOA Conference in Boise.** The Lori provided the council with a breakdown of costs for this year's conference, after a brief discussion the following motion was made Motion by Cutaiar, to approve sending both Clerks to the ICCTFOA Conference in Boise on September 18th- 24th, not to exceed \$1,700.00. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes. **Motion passed.** **ACTION ITEM**

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.

6) **DISCUSSION/ CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL to use Clearwater Financial and do a Wage Study.** The Mayor explained his thought that it could be useful information given the nature of wages and the uncertainty and recent experiences surrounding the ability to hire positions in today's environment. This would be independent information collected on all 3 positions and the Mayor and Council positions. After a brief conversation the following motion was made **Motion by Cutaiar, to approve a Master Engagement Agreement with Clearwater Financial to conduct a Wage study and have a one-year term with them, not to exceed \$6,000.00 and authorize the Mayors signature.**

*DISCUSSION Biggest concerns shared were this is expensive, and what do you do with the info once received. It doesn't put more funds in the budget to pay, might create a situation between staff and council. Some discussion about Councilwoman Kramer continuing the work Lori started creating her own tally of information for the council to reference when looking at wages for city employees. **Roll Call:** Devine-No; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-No; Cutaiar-Yes. Tie vote, to the Mayor breaks the tie with a NO vote, the **Motion failed.** **ACTION ITEM**

7) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Transfer the Liquor, Beer & Wine License from Giorgi's or Chan Karupiah to Farragut Bar & Grill.** It's the same location, just a new business. **Motion by McDaniel, to approve the request to transfer the 3 city alcohol licenses as presented.** *DISCUSSION **Roll Call:** Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Motion **passed.** **ACTION ITEM**

8) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to send Kevin, Our Public Works Director to the Fall IRWA Conference in Moscow.** Kevin provided the council with a breakdown of this year's costs. After a brief discussion the following motion was made **Motion by Cutaiar, to approve sending Kevin to the IRWA Conference in Moscow on September 13th- 14th, not to exceed \$550.00.** *DISCUSSION **Roll Call:** Cutaiar-yes; Devine-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes. **Motion passed.** **ACTION ITEM**

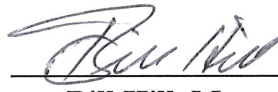
ANNOUNCEMENTS **City Councilwoman Devine** -asked about when the next budget workshop will be, Lori shared she will discuss that in just a minute. **Councilman Cutaiar** asked about the status of several business properties within the city: Patterson Plumbing, The Diesel shop on Pastime, and the Allen place across the street. Lori shared that staff has been in communication with them, and staff is doing their best to get things improved. Each location is a little different, but they are/or have been working towards a resolution with each of them. The staff has been busier and busier, that leaves less time we have for code enforcement. There was a small conversation then regarding the frustrations of code enforcement and how the council passes changes in code but have been frustrated with the attorney's lack of attention and timeliness to our city matters. Staff shared they are always talking with other cities and there just are not a lot of great choices for municipal attorneys these days but will keep them updated if they hear of any. / **Mayor** – nothing. / **Staff** – Lori 1) Movie in the Park- approximately 25 plus kids in attendance and just under that of adults so about the same as last year 50-60 people. 2) III-A updates: a) Rate increases for medical is 6.1% and no increase for dental and vision. b) Open enrollment- is this month in August, with a representative coming next week on the 9th, if anyone has questions. c) Wellness screening date has been set for 10/11/23 1:00pm, here at city hall. 3) Athol Daze now two weeks away, it's as big if not bigger than last year. Already at the same number of vendors about 90, new this year we will have an ATM on site, and the city booth as just passed in this meeting, will have the ability to take credit cards in the park for the event t-shirts and sweatshirts. The Citizen of the Year as you know was Sharon Fisher who passed away a few days after being told about her selection. She was very moved by this information. Lori asked that we still honor her and that her son and his family have agreed to be in the parade in her honor and accept the award just after the parade. Both the Mayor and Lori attended her funeral just yesterday afternoon, she will be missed in this community. 4) Lori asked councils thoughts regarding the purchase of 2 additional picnic tables for the park, as this year for Athol Daze we were asking for anyone to volunteer the use of their picnic table during the event to provide more seating

throughout the 2 blocks. 5) Budget – the information for new construction and annexation values have come in, but we will have to push out the original public hearing date as we haven't yet approved a draft budget. She asked the council if they can plan to approve a draft budget at the next meeting on the 15th, then we can have a workshop to discuss any final changes the week after if needed and then we will plan for the public hearing to be on the last possible date of September 5th, at the regular council meeting. After a brief discussion the council agreed. **Kevin) Nothing.**

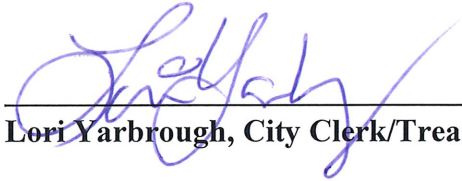
PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT at 7:19pm

ATTEST:



Bill Hill, Mayor



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on 8/15/2023