



Approved Minutes

## Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

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

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Ruch; Councilwoman Devine; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Kramer; Councilwoman Porter; City Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; and Public Works-Pete Weigman. Not Present: Zach Jones, Attorney and Rand Wichman, City Planner.

### **REPORTS:**

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Pete submitted his written report; Councilwoman Porter had a question regarding 5.b.regarding the placement of the ecology blocks and her question to Pete is that now you want to also add a fence? Pete clarified that what it says is that he placed the ecology blocks to help prospective buyers understand in advance that the area in general is not part of the property for sale. The fence is generally something that property owners do; he was not asking for the city to do a fence. This blended into a short discussion regarding the enforcement of people parking in the right of way and city setbacks; staff shared that the attorney said the city has the right to protect the right of way, but there are always things for the city to consider in the code but that is not on the agenda today.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### 1) APPROVAL OF THE May20<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

**Motion by Kramer, that we approve the last regular meeting minutes for the 20<sup>th</sup>, with amendments to the announcement section by Porter on page 3. \*DISCUSSION** All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed.**

#### **ACTION ITEM**

2) APPROVAL of the Bills **Motion by Kramer, to approve paying the May/June bills as submitted without amendments. \*DISCUSSION-** Lori shared what some of the irregular bills were, but there were not too many this time. All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Purchase one Meter Setter boxset for parts on hand. *Pete shared with the council what he is encountering as he is replacing meters and installing new services. It makes sense to have some basic supply items on hand for a quicker solution, rather than needing to run into CDA while in the middle of the project.* The council had a few minor questions, and the councilman McDaniel shared that this is what used to happen and feels it makes complete sense to have things on hand. **Motion by Devine, to approve the purchase of meter parts for parts on hand; not exceed \$1,400.00. \*DISCUSSION – Roll Call:** Porter-yes; Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes. **Motion Passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to approve a Memorandum of Understanding for a partnership to fund a new Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA) for north Idaho to help combat drug trafficking? *Lori began to share with the council the purpose and what she had learned it was about. She shared she spoke with both Deputy Goodman and Ben Allen the Shoshone County Prosecutor.* There was a very brief discussion and then the following motion was made: **Motion by Porter, to deny signing the MOU to be a partner in funding a new Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA)**

*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.*

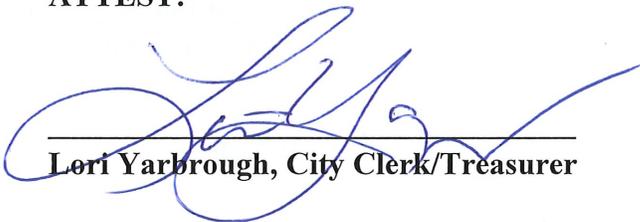
**for north Idaho. \*DISCUSSION – Roll Call:** Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes; Porter-yes. **Motion Passed. ACTION ITEM**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council – McDaniel** – He met a cemetery guy that might be able to work on the cemetery roads, and got a rough cost estimate, the cost for the road improvements is approximately \$61,065.00. Shane thought this was more doable and within the budget the city has been saving towards starting some cemetery improvements. He then asked staff what the bidding requirements are and if the other council members are interested in going down this path to get started with the cemetery. He said more work and decisions will need to be made but if the other council members were interested in taking some next steps in this fiscal year to possibly get some work done. There was a consensus amongst the council and staff will work with Shane and begin gathering steps and bidding parameters needed to meet procurement laws. **Porter** – Wanted to share her concern that we are meeting the agenda requirements in light of transparency. Cautioning the discussions stay with what is on the posted agenda and to try not to get off track. Everyone agreed and no-one felt they were in violation as Shane was bringing the topic of the cemetery road improvements up to see if there was a consensus amongst the council to put this item on a future agenda, now that we have a rough estimate of cost for the project. **Mayor** – He and Pete have been clearing out the old city hall building, should be completely empty soon. Lori added that DEQ has determined that since there is no action being taken regarding a wastewater facility plan, that we are not required to have a public meeting on it; so, the tentative June 23<sup>rd</sup> date is not needed. **Staff – Lori** – nothing. **Pete** – nothing.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Lisa Bennett** ( 5929 E Grove Avenue) – Shared her appreciation that the council is discussing next steps for

**ADJOURNMENT at 7:13pm**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer**

  
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**Steven Ruch, Mayor**

Approved at Council on 6/17/2025