



Approved Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, November 19, 2024
6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Ruch called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and did the roll call.

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

REPORTS:

TREASURY REPORT - Lori submitted the November 2024 report. Lori read the ending STCU Checking account balance on the report was \$56,938.23; the ending Savings/Money Market account was \$101,395.22; and the ending LGIP account balance was \$1,341,675.47. The P1FCU Money Market is \$155,869.63 and the savings were \$35,181.85.

WATER REPORT- Lori submitted a written report and then read aloud the usages as listed on the report. She noted 38 accounts were getting the late fee and 6 accounts are past due over 60 days who will be getting a shut-off notices.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) APPROVAL OF THE November 5th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Kramer that we approve the last regular meeting minutes for the 5th, without amendments.

***NO DISCUSSION NEEDED.** All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

2) APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by McDaniel that we approve paying the October/November bills as submitted without amendments.

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

3) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Hire a Temporary/On-Call Employee. *This is primarily to aide with snowplow operations during this winter season.* Motion by McDaniel to approve the rehiring of Bob Rickel as a temporary/on-call employee as per the same terms outlined last year. ***DISCUSSION** Roll Call: Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes; Porter-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to use Alpine Summit for the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Audit. Motion by Kramer to authorize the Mayor's signature on the FY2024 Alpine Summit Audit Engagement letter, not to exceed \$18,500.00. ***DISCUSSION** Lori researched a few other firms, she recommends staying with Alpine Summit; and there are no requirements to do the single audit piece, as we didn't receive enough grant funding. **Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes; Porter-yes; Kramer-yes; Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

5) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the 2024 Local Rural Highway Investment Program (LRHIP) Grant Application for the Reconstruction of Davis Lane Street Project. *DISCUSSION Motion

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.

By Kramer to authorize the Mayor's signature on the application and submit the application as prepared by Clearwater Financial. Roll Call: Devine-yes; Porter-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

6) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Purchase a dollar bill acceptor for the residential coin hauler machine from Vernon Manufacturing. Kevin shared the cost list and the possible things he thinks we need to do to maintain and add a \$1.00 bill machine to the residential water hauler machine. There was a brief conversation on how we will need to ship the current dispenser and the time it will have to be down. Staff will put notices up as far in advance as possible and the current plan is to not exceed a week's time; during this time Kevin is also trying to schedule with the contractors for the Bennett Pump for some preliminary work to be done during that same time, this should result in less overall down time for the water haulers. **Motion by McDaniel to approve the purchase of a bill acceptor and general maintenance for the residential water hauler coin machine; not to exceed \$2,000.00.** Roll Call: Porter-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes. **Motion passes. ACTION ITEM**

The Mayor then asked for a Motion to amend the order of the agenda and do Public Comments before they start in the executive session, as there were residents present for the meeting. This would allow them an opportunity to speak and not have to wait until after the executive session. **Motion by Porter to move Public comment up before beginning the executive session.** DISCUSSION All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: 1) Neil Smith (5505 E Fremont Street) – He wanted to remind the council that it's been a few months when he was last here regarding the matter with his neighbor to the north, Chad Vinyard and Jack Pine Flats. He was present tonight to give us an update on his situation with him and his threats of the new owners plans. After a brief rundown of events, the council encouraged him to really try and communicate with the county as they are the ones who have jurisdiction regarding the property to the north and that application.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: City Council- Councilwoman Kramer asked about reviewing the Fire District Impact Fees and if they want to continue doing it or not, staff said they would investigate getting some information and the attorney also wanted to review the Joint Powers and Ordinances. / **Mayor** – nothing. / **Staff** – Lori 1) Tree lighting will be Saturday 11/30/2024. Kevin 1) Portalogic- investigated solar options and there are no options there. He gave a brief update on minor work he did and that he put in a backup heater. Still could be a problem if the power goes out. 2) Heaters in the community center had problems so we brought Shafer's out to do some maintenance, but it now appears one of the gym heaters is cracked and we are going to need to do more work on it. He will keep the council updated as he gets more information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) “to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public-school student; **ACTION ITEM**


MOTION by Devine, to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) “to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public-school student;” Roll Call: Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes; Porter-yes. **Passed.**

BREAK - EXECUTIVE SESSION Began at 7:20pm and Ended at 8:45pm

ADJOURNMENT at 8:45pm

ATTEST:

Approved at Council on 12/3/2024


Steven Ruch, Mayor

Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer