



## Approved Minutes

### Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

**Tuesday, July 21, 2026**  
**Council Meeting**

**Mayor Ruch called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.** – He announced that Councilwoman Kramer has given her resignation dated July 10<sup>th</sup> and it has been accepted. He plans to make an appointment for her position at the next council meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Ruch; Councilwoman Devine; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Porter; City Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; Public Works-Pete Weigman; Rand Wichman, City Planner, and Nick Peterson, Attorney, Not Present: none.

#### **REPORTS:**

**TREASURY REPORT** – Lori submitted the June 2026 report; Lori read the ending STCU Checking account balance on the report which was \$13,055.66; the ending Savings/Money Market account was \$67,453.67; and the ending LGIP account balance was \$1,884,381.04. The P1FCU Money Market was \$100,499.87 and the savings were \$71,927.78. Lori also shared the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financial statement has been posted to the website and a copy is in the packets. She briefly read that total revenues to date were 64.49% received and after next week when we get the June property tax payments it will be right in line with the budget. For the expenses to date, we are only 47.65% if the budget which is good. She noted that we have some expenses going out.

**WATER REPORT-** Lori submitted a written report and shared the June usage was 10,149,154 gallons; coin haulers used 477,720 gallons. June billed utilities were \$25,376.00, overage \$4,550.00, and monies collected were \$24,404.81. Lori said she hadn't applied late fees yet, but thinks there will be quite a few this month.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1) **APPROVAL OF June 26<sup>th</sup> Budget Workshop and the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.** Lori said she didn't get the budget workshop minutes done, so we will have to do them at the next meeting.

**Motion by Devine, that we approve the meeting minutes for the July 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting without amendments.** \*DISCUSSION \* All in favor-any opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

2) **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by McDaniel that we approve paying the June/July bills as submitted without amendments.** \*DISCUSSION-All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of a Bounce House rental for Athol Daze from Joyful Jumps:** Lori shared there is a bounce house being donated for free to the city for Athol Daze, but an agreement for the use is necessary. If it gets damaged, the city will be responsible for the replacement. The city will need to man it with volunteers for the day. The following motion was made: **Motion by McDaniel, to recommend approving the mayor's signature on the agreement for the bounce house for Athol Daze as requested.** \*DISCUSSION Roll Call Vote: Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Porter-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.*

- 4) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of seven patchworks on various city roads:** Pete shared that he solicited 5 bids but only received 3 back. They were: American Asphalt LLC \$10,500.00 (\$1,000 deposit); Leo Neal \$10,880.00 (1/2 down); and Mountainside Paving LLC \$9,330.26. After a short discussion and concerns over the total square footage varying between the bids, the following motion was made: **Motion by Devine approving the patchwork on the roads with Leo Neal Asphalt Paving and paying the required deposit; not to exceed \$10,900.00.**

\*DISCUSSION – This would be paid from the street improvements/repairs line 6454/100% general fund. **Roll Call Vote: McDaniel-yes; Porter-yes; Devine-yes.** Motion passed.

**ACTION ITEM**

- 5) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of a Letter to the Tallents regarding Fencing between Properties at the Cemetery:** Rand first reminded everyone of the work done to date and how Shane has been working with the Tallents so that we can get the cemetery land matters and boundaries in order. While that part has been accomplished the last thing is approving this letter that states the city has every interest in putting up a fence along the new cemetery boundaries on the city property. Nick explained this one thing is not being connected as a condition but rather a separate unrelated decision by the council and their desire to fence the cemetery property. **Motion by Devine to approve the letter to the Tallents regarding the cemetery fencing.** \*DISCUSSION – **Roll Call Vote: Porter-yes; Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes.** Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

- 6) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL for a Tentative Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the City of Athol:** The Budget Appropriation Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2027 has been scheduled to be held on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm. Lori shared the only updates made were the few council gave her at the last budget workshop. Councilwoman Porter asked if they can still make changes to the various line items until the public hearing; Lori responded yes but reminded that we could not increase the overall budget from this point forward. Then the following motion was made: **Motion by McDaniel to approve the tentative Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the City of Athol and authorize the clerk to publish in the CDA Press legals.** \*DISCUSSION **Roll Call Vote: Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Porter-yes;** Motion passed. **ACTION ITEM**

**DISCUSSION – Ordinance Amendment Language Options for Parking in Right of Way:**

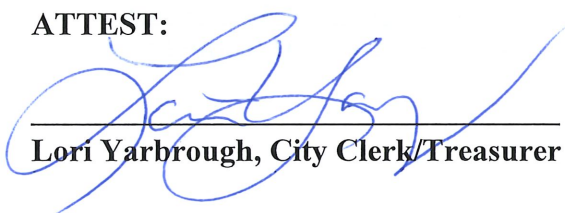
Councilwoman Porter presented staff with a draft ordinance for the Parking in the Rights of Way; staff thought it was conflicting with their last direction from the council, so staff brought it back to the council for discussion to review and discuss possible changes. The discussion covered getting rid of the prohibition of parking in the rights of way and allowing for possible motorhome overnight parking where designated. The conclusion of the discussion was to do nothing leaving the present ordinance as is.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: City Council – none. / Mayor – none. / Staff – Lori - none. Pete – 1)**

Shared that the new park restroom is set to be delivered this Friday. We are still not sure if it will be ready for use at Athol Daze, but we will try.

**ADJOURNMENT at 7:48pm**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer**

  
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**Steven Ruch, Mayor**

Approved at Council on 8/4/2026