



Approved Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ruch; Councilwoman Devine; Councilwoman Kramer; Councilman McDaniel; 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 and shared they worked on the valve replacement on Lorraine Drive, they found it was closed. The nut was broken but everything else was in good shape, so they didn't need to change anything else; they fixed the bolt. There should be some savings there and it won't cost nearly what we thought. Also, he wanted to share what he's been working on with the TC Energy with the pipeline project finishing up and getting to an agreeable condition just off the road at the end of Meadow St. they will likely be paying for jersey barriers and doing some crack sealing to the road from all the heavy equipment during their project. The whole idea being we want to discourage people from going off the road there into the woods.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) **APPROVAL OF THE October 21st MEETING MINUTES:** Lori shared she and Councilwoman Porter would like to better clarify one sentence under action item #5, a minor change in grammar.

Motion by Porter, that we approve the meeting minutes with the minor amendments just mentioned.

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

2) **APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED:**

Motion by Kramer, that we approve paying the September/October bills as submitted, without amendments.

***DISCUSSION** * All in favor-any opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) **APPROVED/DISCUSSION for an On-Call Agreement with Keller Associate's for Idaho Forest Group Flow Metering Alternatives Analysis** *Lori briefly explained that staff and Councilman McDaniel recently met with IFG to discuss the need to better meter IFG water consumption, with a few ideas in mind they felt it best to have our city engineers draft up their recommendation for an overall water use and metering on their site; at this time IFG is willing to sign a reimbursement agreement that would then allow the city to engage Keller Associates to begin drafting up 2 alternative options and the cost to do so will be covered by IFG.* **Motion by Kramer, to approve the Mayor's signature on the Reimbursement Agreement**

with Keller Associates related to Idaho Forest Group Flow Metering Analysis; not to exceed \$7,800.00.

***DISCUSSION Roll Call Vote:** Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes; Porter-yes. **Motion passed.**

ACTION ITEM

4) **DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of Ordinance #451 To amend the First meeting of the month**

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.

time from 7:00pm to 6:00pm This will correct a missed change dated back to 2020 when ORD #430 was passed; the clear intention was to change both meetings (the 1st Tuesday and the 3rd Tuesday) from 7:00pm to 6:00pm but was recently noticed that the 1st meeting of the month still reads 7:00pm. **Motion by McDaniel to place proposed Ordinance #451, Amending the Time for Regular council meetings, on its first and only reading by title only while under suspension of the rules.** Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes; Porter-yes; Devine-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

Mayor then read the proposed Ordinance by Title.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHOL, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 1-6-3(A)(1) REGARDING THE TIME AT WHICH REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL BE HELD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion by Devine to approve Ordinance #451 and publish by summary only incorporating the title as to body of the summary. *DISCUSSION Roll Call: Kramer-yes; Porter-yes; Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Idaho Code 74-206(1)(i) “To engage in communications with a representative of the public agency’s risk manager or insurance provider to discuss the adjustment of a pending claim or prevention of a claim imminently likely to be filed. **ACTION ITEM**

MOTION by Devine, to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(i) “to Engage in communications with a representative of the public agency’s risk manager to discuss prevention of a claim imminently likely to be filed.” Roll Call Vote: Porter-yes; Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

EXECUTIVE SESSION Began at 6:33pm and Ended at 7:03pm

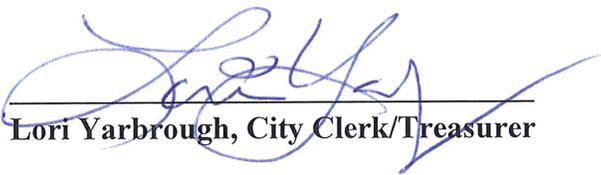
5) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of an Agreement with Keller Associates for Time & Material for a Dosing Tap Set-Up for the Bennett Well. Motion by Kramer, to approve the Mayor’s signature on the Tash Order #5 Time & Material Agreement with Keller Associates for a Dosing Tap set-up for the Bennett Well; not to exceed \$8,500.00 plus the cost of materials for Pete to purchase. Pete explained he thought what he needs to purchase should be less than \$3,000. Once this is set-up the city can use it only as needed, possibly once a year until we can identify properties that don’t have backflows set up on them; as this is a direct result of people not having backflows set up on sprinkler systems and such. **Roll Call Vote: Devine-yes; McDaniel-yes; Kramer-yes; Porter-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council- **McDaniel**- shared the grader was getting put back together now, they did find 1 baring froze and needed to be replaced so they did that, but all other maintenance was conducted, and we should have it back soon. **Kramer** – Asked about her right-of-way and what she needs to do to correct her violation; Mayor said he and Pete will get with her. **Porter** – Asked if commercial properties can have RV’s on them? Staff responded, no, they are not allowed the same thirty days in a one-year period like the residential zone; she then shared she recently noticed a local business as having one- staff responded that they have noticed it as well and has already reached out to them. / **Mayor** – none. / **Staff Updates** Lori – 1) staff is working on a date for the annual City Christmas Party dinner, normally looking at Friday or Saturday Dec. 12th or 13th and want to know if anyone has any suggestions on a location. Or another option was going to Candle in the Woods here in Athol as Conner is willing to host us at a discounted rate, but it would need to be on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. Council agreed Candle in the Woods would be a great location and it’s

close, they were open to either Wednesday or Tuesday. 2) Trunk or Treat we had 17 trunks, was good but she hopes to get more for next year. 3) Council has been given a draft of the fee resolution as purposed by staff, if any council or residents has questions, please feel free to call or reach out. The public hearing has been set for the next council meeting on November 18th at 6:00pm. 4) Annual Tree Lighting event will be Saturday November 29th begin gathering about 4pm and the lighting to happen at 4:30pm, they are working on details. Pete – none.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:18pm

ATTEST:



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer



Steven Ruch, Mayor

Approved at Council on 11/18/2025

