

Approved Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting
Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, May 7, 2024
6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Ruch called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

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

REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS - Kevin submitted a written report, council had a couple general questions related to the cemetery work he listed.

2nd Quarter Financial Year to Date Financial Statement – Lori provided the council with a copy and gave a brief explanation of the report. Noting the water fund is showing as short or overspent due to the additional water principal payment of \$100,000.00 that was made that was not in the original budget. We may need to re-open the budget before the end of the year. These things are much more noticeable when we do not have the bigger water or street projects; she will keep the council posted if that is the case.

ACTION ITEMS:

Mayor moved action item #4 to the top of the list to discuss first.

1) (Was #4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL for Commercial Water Hauling Road Approach Kevin shared his two bids (option #1 and #2) he received, and that he had requested two more but they never provided one. He gave a brief rundown of what the bid work is doing. After a short discussion Councilman McDaniel suggested to table this item, and if any councilmembers are interested in joining him after the meeting to take a quick field trip to see the site so they can better understand what the task at hand is about. Shane really wanted to look at the site again, and possibly change the scope of work a little bit, to be more cost effective and to better ensure that winter plowing will not have additional problems. **NO ACTION TAKEN**

2) APPROVAL OF THE April 16th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:
Motion by Devine, that we approve the last regular meeting minutes for the 16th, with the recommended type-o amendments. *DISCUSSION All in favor-none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

3) APPROVAL OF BILLS AS SUBMITTED: Motion by McDaniel, that we approve paying the April/May bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION- There was a short conversation regarding the breakout of the various bills. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL Regarding possible Scope of Services with Great West Engineering to help in preparing an application for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund a Park Improvement Project (Permanent Restroom Facility) The council after a very brief discussion made the following motion: Motion by Kramer to approve using Great West Engineering for a Community Development Block Grant to help fund a permanent bathroom; and authorize the Mayor's signature on the contract agreement; not to exceed \$5,000.00. Lori shared as we

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.

had previously discussed the overall cost of the facility is approx. \$150k, if awarded the grant, the city would use \$40k of ARPA funds as their match money if they received the grant. * DISCUSSION - **Roll Call: Porter-no; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes. Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

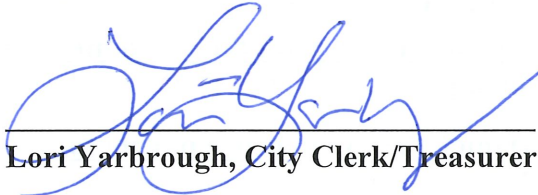
5) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of Resolution 2024-05 PA System for Council Meetings, as requested by Councilwoman Porter. The Mayor asked her to explain why she was interested in having this. She feels it is important for the public to be able to hear everyone during the meetings, she attended a lot that it was hard to hear. The mayor asked for any specific details, does she want everyone to use a microphone? The mayor then suggested having one hang from the center of the room that runs to a couple of speakers in the back corners of the room. After a discussion the mayor asked if he could do some research and asked if he could try a few things to see how the council likes it, and if it will work before the council passes a resolution requiring it. The council liked the idea of trying it first. **NO Motion made. ACTION ITEM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS City Council – none. / Mayor – nothing. / Staff – Lori 1) The first Athol Daze meeting happened today; the next meeting is set for June 25th at 2pm if anyone is interested. We have 18 vendors signed up already, only taking 100 this year and 3 food vendors so far. We have filled in the 3 top level sponsors already and have about 8 or so white sponsors so far. New this year we are planning to hold a pre-sale event with t-shirts, sweatshirts, and tank tops! 2) Circus tickets are on sale now at City Hall and at the Athol Super 1 Foods; this is a fund raiser for the ABC Foodbank. Get your tickets early and more money stays locally with the food bank. 3) Keller has submitted the right of way survey for Freemont/Pastime street, they will be recording it soon. Lori also shared this with Zach for the next steps. 4) Lori also wanted to share that she reached out to the gal from the historical society one last time before giving up; since the Mayor did not get a response. She did respond and she said she would be in touch after her vacation. 5) Sallie Hansen restitution, we finally received some money again from her, it has been over a year. The council asked when we will need to renew the judgement again so that does not lap. Lori will have to investigate that again. **Kevin - gone already.**

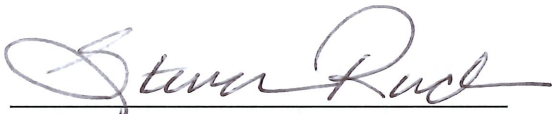
Public Comments: none

ADJOURNMENT at 7:10pm

ATTEST:



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer



Steven Ruch, Mayor

Approved at Council on 5/21/2024