



Approved Minutes

Regular City of Athol City Council Meeting

Held in the Council Room in City Hall

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

6:00pm Regular Council Meeting

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Ruch; Councilwoman Kramer; Councilwoman Porter; Councilman McDaniel; Councilwoman Devine; Attorney, Zach Jones; and City Clerk/Treasurer-Lori Yarbrough; Public Works-Kevin Foster and Rand Wichman, City Planner.

REPORTS:

TREASURY REPORT - Lori submitted the December 2024 report. Lori read the ending STCU Checking account balance on the report was \$44,849.39; the ending Savings/Money Market account was \$101,572.74; and the ending LGIP account balance was \$1,352,635.62. The P1FCU Money Market is \$79,600.56 and the savings were \$37,692.66. Lori also provided the council with the 4th Quarter Fiscal Year ending 2024 Financial Statement, and 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Statement and then shared they will both be available on the city website.

WATER REPORT- Lori submitted a written report and then read aloud the usages as listed on the report. She noted 45 accounts received a late fee and only 2 accounts are past due over 60 days who will be getting a shut-off notice.

PLANNER REPORT – Rand submitted a written report and recapped: the Area of Impact Map will be talked about separately tonight; Rocky’s Auto Body is still working on a complete set of plans for their next phase. The property Chad Vinyard owned north of town off Pastime has been sold to someone new, he might be interested in doing a minor subdivision; but Rand shared it will be interesting with the upcoming changes in the area of impact, because depending on when it gets done will determine our role or position in that. Lastly, Rand suggested making another round of code amendments, specifically the sign requirements. After a short conversation the council agrees, we should begin working on some sign updates in the code.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) APPROVAL OF THE January 7th REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Devine that we approve the last regular meeting minutes for the 7th, 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 January/February bills as submitted without amendments. *DISCUSSION-All in favor-none opposed.

Motion passed. ACTION ITEM

3) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Staff Recommended Area of Impact Map update.

Motion by Devine to approve the staff recommended map of the updated Area of Impact. Rand gave the council a brief of how the Area of Impacts was created and how the new legislature has changed the standards being applied here. After a short conversation and Rand shared his recommendation for the map boundaries the

***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.*

motion was made to approve his recommendation. **Roll Call:** Porter-yes; Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes. **Motion passes. ACTION ITEM**

4) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL to Accept and Participate in the Kootenai County Emergency Operations Plan dated August 2024 *DISCUSSION – Lori shared this is something the county updates every 5 years, the city has signed and accepted it in last update, in 2018. The full plan is 200 pages, Lori printed the first part to give you the basic information and can email the link to access it online. Councilwoman Porter shared her concerns as she has heard about other people having concerns with the constitutionality of this emergency plan. There was some short back and forth conversation the Councilwoman Porter asked if Mr. Macomber can speak as he wrote a memo regarding this topic, she has provided a copy for the council. The Mayor then allowed, and Mr. Macomber shared: he finds this plan doesn't involve the community as FEMA statues are intended. It leans too much on the governor's power and there are some objectionable parts to this plan. He felt it is more a military style instead of a community of civil governance. Overall, he recommends the city look at this more because he finds many things objectionable. After a bit more discussion the following motion was made: **Motion by Devine to approve the Mayors signature to accept the Kootenai County Emergency Operations Plan Update.** **Roll Call:** Kramer-yes; McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes; Porter-no. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

5) DISCUSSION/APPROVAL of the Annual City Alcohol Licenses Renewals. Lori to share. **Motion by Devine to approve the annual city alcohol license list as presented.** *DISCUSSION
Lori shared the annual renewal list and asked the council to approve them all now and staff will issue as they bring in their new state and county licenses. She noted that any new licenses or transfers of licenses will still need to come to the council for approvals. With no further discussion the following motion was made:
Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes; Porter-yes; Kramer-yes; **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

6) APPROVAL to go into Executive Session. ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f) “to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. **ACTION ITEM**

MOTION by Devine, to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f) “to Discuss legal ramifications with the City Attorney.” **Roll Call: McDaniel-yes; Devine-yes; Porter-yes; Kramer-yes; Motion passed. ACTION ITEM**

EXECUTIVE SESSION Began at 6:52pm and ended at 7:48pm

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

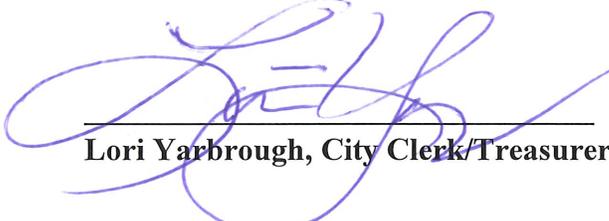
ANNOUNCEMENTS: City Councilwoman Devine – asked to have the T-Mobile lease be put back on the agenda for the 18th of February for a vote, she doesn't need a workshop. Three of the 4 council members agreed to this. / **Mayor** – none. / **Staff** – none.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:54pm

ATTEST:



Steven Ruch, Mayor



Lori Yarbrough, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at Council on 2/4/2025