

## **The Athens City Council Committee Meeting**

### **Thursday June 12, 2025**

The City of Athens Council met for a regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting on Thursday June 12, 2025. Mayor Chris Reichert called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The roll call indicated that Alderman Amy Chernowsky, Alderman Kevin Puma, Alderman Rachel Lantz, Alderman Kyra Leinberger, and Alderman Greg Hoffman were present. Also in attendance were City Clerk Rhonda Ethell, Treasurer Derrick Fritz, Deputy Clerk Monica Brumm, Police Chief Ben Harmening, and City Attorney John Hoblit.

#### **Introduction of Visitors**

Ashley Cantrall made a presentation to the board for the Hello Athens Facebook page.

#### **Department Reports**

Chief Harmening gave the police report for May. Officers responded to 146 calls for service, conducted 27 traffic stops, issues 14 traffic citations and 8 ordinance violations were investigated and resolved.

Derrick Fritz gave the Treasurer's Report for May. General Fund balance \$64,589.26, ABF Fund \$756,264.79, MFT Fund \$210,162.05, Video Gaming Fund \$64,106.05, Streets Fund \$62,483.88, Meter Deposit Fund \$95,613.43, Business District Fund \$35,063.45.

Derrick Fritz gave the Public Works report for May. Gave a summary of tasks completed for the month of May and advised of vehicle repairs needed.

Monica Brumm gave the Office Manager report for May. Gave a summary of billings and shut off's, and tasks completed during the month of May. Discussion was had on the copy machine contract that expires in August.

Ginger Newingham gave the Library report for May.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Public Works:** Nothing to report.

**Internal Affairs:** Nothing to report.

**Commerce & Community Affairs:** Alderman Chernowsky advised that the Business District Sub-committee is working on beautification of Athens and more festivals. The Commerce and Community Affairs is working on Athens Freedom Festival for 07/05/25 and will need volunteers. Working on replacing some of the equipment on the playground that is need of repairs. And asking for a budget of \$4000 for the Music & Merchants Festival in the fall.

**Public Safety:** Nothing to report.

**Library:** Nothing to report

**Cemetery:** Alderman Lantz advised that they are working on mapping the cemetery to where veterans are buried.

**Liquor:** **Nothing** to report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mayor Reichert opened the floor for questions for the final payment of \$43,369.32 to Brotcke Well for the final payment on Well #8.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Mayor Reichert opened the floor for discussion on creating a TIF district for possible new subdivision coming into Athens. Anthony Schuring from Brown & Stephens will be at the meeting Monday to explain more about the process of a TIF district and to answer questions.

A motion was made to move into executive session as per 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) – Personnel Issues at 7:42 pm.

Executive Session ended 8:06 pm.

**Public Comment:**

Dawn Ratliff asked questions regarding getting a crosswalk.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.