

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 14, 2020
Zoom Meeting ID: 825-300-3670 / Password: Apr9Athens

Mayor Bob Dowell opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Cindy McFarland called roll. Those in attendance were Mayor Bob Dowell, Clerk Cindy McFarland, and Aldermen: Larry Buhr, Amy Chernowsky, Rachel Lantz, Butch Nichols, Chris Reichert, and Angella Thompson. Also, in attendance was Treasurer Ryan Siefert.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve the police, treasurers', water, sewer, streets and alleys, fleet maintenance, and office manager's reports. Ayes: Buhr, Chernowsky, Lantz, Nichols, Reichert, and Thompson. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Lantz, seconded by Alderman Chernowsky, to approve the November council meeting minutes and the payment of the November bills. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Reichert, to approve Ordinance 05-2020, the Tax Levy Ordinance of the City of Athens, Illinois, for the Corporate Year beginning May 1, 2020 and ending the 30th day of April, 2021. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Thompson, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve Ordinance 06-2020, the Tax Levy Ordinance of Road District No. 13, Menard County, Illinois, for the Corporate Year beginning May 1, 2020 and ending the 30th day of April, 2021. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Chernowsky, to approve the Employee Christmas bonus of \$200 for full-time employees and \$150 for part-time employees. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve holiday donations of \$500 each to the Athens Food Pantry and the Athens Lions Club Toys for Angels to be paid from the Gaming fund. All ayes. Motion passed.

Next on the voting agenda was employee health insurance renewal. Mayor Dowell explained that the optional insurance company failed to provide rates and information so there would be no vote necessary. Alderman Lantz said that we would be staying with our current insurance plan then and the Mayor confirmed that this is correct.

Motion made by Alderman Reichert, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve the installation of a 12-foot culvert on Harris Road for approximately \$2000. All ayes. Motion passed.

Mayor Dowell asked if anyone had any questions for the treasurer. The Mayor summarized budget issues that Sgt. Fritz had provided. Covid-19 had a negative effect on the budget. Mayor Dowell said that we will be reimbursed for some of the costs. Sgt. Fritz and Mayor Dowell will be meeting monthly to review the budget. On a good note, our new city engineers had informed us that we will receive an additional \$28,000 from Motor Fuel funding for winter road work. We will have a special meeting on Wednesday, 12/16/2020, to vote on this resolution since it was not on tonight's agenda.

The Mayor thanked everyone, and the meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.