

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2020

Mayor Bob Dowell opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Chief Tim Becker called roll. Those in attendance were Mayor Bob Dowell, Chief Tim Becker, and Aldermen: Larry Buhr, Amy Chernowsky, Rachel Lantz, Butch Nichols, and Angella Thompson. Clerk Cindy McFarland and Alderman Chris Reichert were absent. Also, in attendance were Linda Wasilewski, Randy Gum, Jennifer Gum, Derrick Fritz, and Michele Becker. All stood and faced the flag. Mayor Dowell asked if there was a veteran present to lead the pledge. Chief Becker led and all present and said the pledge.

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

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

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Chernowsky, to approve Ordinance 01-2020, the Annual Appropriation Ordinance and Estimate of Revenues of the City of Athens Road District No. 13, Illinois, for the Corporate Year beginning May 1, 2020 and ending April 30, 2021. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve Ordinance 02-2020, the Annual Appropriation Ordinance of the City of Athens, Illinois, for the Corporate Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2020 and ending April 30, 2021. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Thompson, seconded by Alderman Chernowsky, to approve the final Annual City of Athens Budget for 2020-2021. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve the annual employee 3% Cost of Living adjustment. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Chernowsky, to approve the Watts Copy System MX-2651 copy machine lease agreement for the monthly cost of \$153.67. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Chernowsky, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve the purchase of a replacement water meter, used to measure Rural Water District usage, for \$725 from Badger Meter. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Thompson, to approve moving forward with seeking out the best bid for the purchase of a raw water feed line and approving the purchase at the lowest bid. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve the appointment of Rhonda Ethell as the Library Board's Treasurer. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Chernowsky, to approve the annual Performance Evaluation pay increase of \$2 per hour for Sgt. Derrick Fritz. All ayes. Motion passed.

Next was the presentation of the Life Saving Award to Officer Morgan Gum. Mayor Dowell said he was on the scene when Officer Gum saved the person's life, and he believes the Officer Gum is one of the most respected officers on the force. Chief Becker then spoke saying that being a police officer is not the most glamorous job right now. Chief Becker continued, saying that one of the best parts of his job as an administrator is recognizing the work of our officers when they do a good job. This is definitely an instance when Officer Gum stood out in carrying out his duties. Chief Becker then read the letter of recognition, explaining the incident and how Officer Gum saved this person's life. Officer Gum stood and the audience applauded. Chief Becker presented the letter and Life Saving Award to Officer Gum. Chief Becker said that he feels our police department has really come together and is at their best right now and he is very proud of the department.

Officer Morgan Gum drew the names of Corey Malone and Chuck Eden as the winners of the Weather Radio raffle.

The Mayor thanked everyone, and the meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.