

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, June 8, 2020
Zoom Meeting ID: 825-300-3670 / Password: Apr9Athens

Mayor Bob Dowell opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. The Meeting was held via Zoom technology due to the COVID-19 Executive Order issued by Governor JB Pritzger. 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. Nicole McCormick and Gary Richardson were also in attendance. All stood, faced the flag provided by Mayor Dowell, 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, Reichert, and Thompson. Motion passed.

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

Motion made by Alderman Chernowsky, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve the purchase of tires for the backhoe from R & H for \$1250. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve the donation of \$1000 to the American Legion for their time of need during the COVID-19 pandemic, to be paid from the gaming fund. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Chernowsky, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve the yearly performance-based salary increase for Michael Lockwood to \$18 per hour. His evaluation also included performance objectives including licensing. All ayes. Motion passed.

The Mayor asked if anyone had anything else to discuss. Alderman Nichols noted some specific potholes in town in need of repair. He also asked about a problem property on Washington Street. The Mayor said that he will assign the pothole repair to the street crew. He also said that Chief Becker had spoken to the attorney about the property. The city will mow the property and put a lien on the house. Alderman Buhr noted some tall weeds growing up by the Lutheran Church. Alderman Thompson said that the American Legion should be reaching out to other towns in Menard County as well for help, not just Athens. Alderman Lantz asked how we are advertising the Farmers Market. Alderman Thompson said there are signs around town and to let her know of any businesses who would like to post a sign. Mayor Dowell said maybe we could put information on the Fire Department or Lions Club signs. Mayor Dowell drew the names of Edwin Weiskoff and John Rath as the winners of the Weather Radio raffle.

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