

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2020

Mayor Dowell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7pm at Athens City Hall. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Clerk Cindy McFarland called roll. Present were Aldermen: Larry Buhr, Amy Chernowsky, Rachel Lantz, Butch Nichols, Chris Reichert, and Angella Thompson. Also, in attendance were Linda Wasilewski, Gary Richardson, Michael Lockwood, Hayley Yoakum, and Robert Bluett. All stood, and Linda Wasilewski led the pledge.

Mayor Dowell asked that the council look over the provided Streets Report. He pointed out that the report contained a lot of information this month including specific areas of town that had been patched, street project proposals, roads rebuilt from 2014-2019, and improvement plans for the park. There was 8 tons of patch used for the patch work that had been completed. Alderman Reichert had asked the cost of patch and Mayor Dowell said the cost was \$83 per ton. The Mayor referenced the improvement plans for the park and noted that some of the work needed should be paid for by AYSA, such as lighting for the ball diamonds, scoreboard repair, and painting the fences. Alderman Buhr and Alderman Reichert agreed that AYSA should be responsible for some of the repairs. Alderman Buhr asked about new Christmas decorations which was a miscellaneous topic in the report. Mayor Dowell provided some sale pricing information he had received that day. There was agreement that buying decorations off-season would save money. Alderman Thompson asked for some clarification on the street rebuilding. Alderman Reichert said that he had done some research on an alternative type of pavement. He will gather more information for the council.

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

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

Motion made by Alderman Chernowsky, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve the purchase of a gas-powered drain/culvert jetter for a maximum of \$2,500. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept previous Executive Session meeting minutes as written, to be kept confidential. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Lantz, second by Alderman Thompson, to approve a salary increase for the Utility Clerk Sara McCart to \$15 per hour. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Reichert, to approve the hiring of two part-time grounds workers for April-October, \$10 per hour each, not to exceed four days per week. All ayes. Motion passed.

Last was the raffle drawing for the weather radio. Michael Lockwood drew the name of Divinia Hickey.

The Mayor asked if anyone had anything else. Alderman Chernowsky said that this Wednesday, she will accompany Sargent Fritz in visiting Ward #1 residents to request their property be cleaned up in order to improve our city. Alderman Buhr said he had one more topic. The ice machine in the kitchen

had stopped working. Alderman Buhr will have the breaker checked and gather information on repair or replacement of the ice machine. The council discussed what size machine may be needed and frequency of use. The football league may want to pay part of the cost since they are frequent users.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Nichols to adjourn at 7:24pm.