

City of Athens
City Council Meeting
July 07,2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Welcome given by Mayor Reichert. Roll call was taken by Clerk Rhonda Ethell. All the Alderman were present except for Alderman Thompson was absent.

Mayor Reichert asked Chief Becker for the police report.

All vehicles maintenance is up to date. Uniforms and issued equipment are being purchased to equip the new SRO.

Shelly Widger has accepted the position of SRO for the Cantrall Campus. Shelly retired from the IL State Police in 2017 at the rank of Master Sergeant and has an extensive background in the active shooter/rapid deployment training/instruction. As reported last month, this addition should be budget neutral as the school will be picking up the cost of the additional officer.

During the month of June, Athens officers responded to 135 calls for service, conducted 20 traffic stops, issued 7 citations and 13 verbal warnings. There were no traffic crashes during the month.

During the month of April four ordinance violation warning were issued.

Mayor Reichert than asked Treasurer Derek Frits for the treasurer's report, public works report.

Streets: MFT packages have been included on the agenda for approval. Once this is done and approved by IDOT we can schedule our maintenance program. Timing of this will depend on when IDOT approves our revised MFT plan. Because of the Intergovernmental agreement in place with Menard County we will not need to bid the materials since they have bid the same materials this year. Patching is nearly complete for the roads that we plan to oil and chip.

Sewer: The influent flow meter at the plant quit working and had to be replaced. This was nearly \$3,500.00. We have discovered that the expansion tanks in the headworks building, and the office are not functioning. The tank in the office is no longer needed. The tank in headworks will need to be repaired. The cost of the replacement parts is nearly \$3,300.00 plus labor to install.

Water: A bid package for Well #8 was published in the Petersburg Observer the week of 6-20-2022. Bids for Well #8 were opened on July 8th. I will have further information for the meeting.

Vehicles: No maintenance was required.

Mayor Reichert asked for the Office Managers report.

The report was given by Michele Becker. There were 22 shut offs on Wednesday.

The new water/sewer rates took effect June 1, raising them by 2%. Customers will see this increase on their current water bill. In town minimum is now \$57.08. Minimum with garbage added is \$74.58.

There are several new Veterans signs up around town with a new order going in soon. We have had a lot of compliments on this project.

We looked into a new billing system called Reline Data. Greenview uses it and really likes it. We watched a demonstration Wednesday, and it looks like it would be a great fit for us as well. It works with our meter system and is cheaper than our current billing system. They have also moved customers from CUSI, our current system, to their system without issues. We are hoping we can switch over to their system soon.

Mayor Reichert asked Alderman Lantz for the Cemetery report. The report will be presented on Monday.

Mayor Reicher asked Ginger Library Director for the Library report. 217 kids are registered for the summer reading program. The snakes and turtle program drew 97 people.

New Business

New flags for poles around \$50. For each 3x5 flag. Vote on Monday with funds being taken from the gaming fund.

Old Business

City wide clean up mid-September to early October.

Request for City limit sign on South Athens Blacktop.

Business District Development to be brought to a vote on Monday. Yes, to move forward.

Restaurant building update not received follow up with citations.

Public comments

Linda Wasileski asked for help for the Long Nine Museum with the sign.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

