

## **The Athens City Council Committee Meeting Monday January 8, 2023**

The City of Athens Council met for a regularly scheduled council committee meeting on Monday January 8, 2023. Mayor Chris Reichert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The roll call indicated that Alderman Amy Chernowsky, Alderman Angella Thompson, Alderman Greg Hoffmann, Alderman Kevin Puma, Alderman John Tobias, and Alderman Rachel Lantz were present. Also in attendance was Police Chief Tim Becker, Treasurer/Public Works Director Derrick Fritz, Librarian Ginger Newingham and City Clerk Rhonda Ethell.

All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Shelly with Kyle McGinnis, CPA advised board of the 2022/2023 audit details. Overall things looked good a couple of suggestions to increase fidelity bond and need statements of economic interest on file with county clerk.

Chief Tim Becker gave the police report for December. Questions by Alderman Tobias regarding the procedure for reporting loose animals, crashes at Hargrave and Rt. 29, and hours for curfew for minors.

Treasurer Derrick Fritz gave the treasurers a report, advised the board that the business district taxes were not where they thought they would be as per the study that was done.

Derrick Fritz gave the public works report. Due to weather the Christmas Tree pick up will be delayed. Advised council that blowers at the sewer plant may have to be replaced soon. And advised of future plans for the public works department. Discussion was also had regarding water tower rehab projects.

Librarian Ginger Newingham gave the library report for December. Advised will be having a Community Feedback for ways the library and the community can assist families with disabled members. They will be having a book sale coming up. Applied for grants for new computers at the library. Also was approved for a grant for her to attend the National Public Librarian Conference.

The meeting went into executive session as per OMA 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) for personnel issues at 7:28 pm.

The Executive Session ended at 7:30 pm and returned to regular session.

A motion was made by Alderman Lantz and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the Public Works, Police, Treasury, Library and Office Manager's Report. Motion was roll called, all present in favor voted aye, motion passed. Reports filed into record.

A motion was made by Alderman Chernowsky, seconded by Alderman Puma to approve the payment of the bills. Motion was roll called, all present in favor voted aye, motion passed. Report filed into record.

A motion was made by Alderman Thompson, seconded by Alderman Lantz to approve the meeting minutes from the December 12/07/23 meeting and 12/11/23 meeting. Motion was roll called, all present in favor voted aye, motion passed. Minutes filed into record.

A motion was made by Alderman Puma and seconded by Alderman Lantz to appoint Jessica Mueller and Linda Hofmann-Lorimer to the zoning board. Motion was roll called, all in favor voted aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Puma to approve the salary increase for the two officers discussed in Executive Session. Motion was roll called, all present in favor, voted aye. Motion passed.

**Public Participation**

No public participation

The meeting adjourned 7:36 pm.