

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2020

Mayor Bob Dowell opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He asked for a veteran to lead the pledge. All stood and Alderman Nichols led the pledge. 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. Also, in attendance were Linda Wasilewski, Gary Richardson, Michael Lockwood, Rex Kieffer, Judi Harlan and Ryne Crowe.

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

Next on the voting agenda were two zoning issues. Zoning Administrator Judi Harlan approached the podium to summarize the two applications. The first was a request from Deborah Angella Turner Thompson for a special use permit to sell plants and produce at 307 E. Hargrave Street. Neighbors have all been notified and have no concerns. One person questioned parking availability. Judi explained that there is room to park seven cars and parking on Hargrave will not be allowed. The next request was from Dan Julian to change zoning from B-1 to R-1, and for a special use permit to allow E-commerce business at 1001 N. Route 29. There would be no outdoor storage allowed. Motion made by Alderman Lantz, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve Special Use permit #2009 for 307 E. Hargrave. All ayes with Alderman Thompson abstaining. Motion passed. Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Buhr, to approve the zoning request change permit #2007 and Special Use permit #2008 for 1001 N. Route 29. All ayes. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Chernowsky, seconded by Alderman Reichert, to approve the employment of Kuhn & Trello as our city engineers, replacing Klingner & Associates. All ayes. Motion passed.

There was discussion about Halloween trick or treating, stressing the importance of social distancing. Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Lantz, to approve Trick or Treating hours from 5pm to 8pm on October 31, 2020. All ayes. Motion passed.

The Mayor thanked everyone, and the meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.