

The Athens City Council Committee Meeting Thursday January 4, 2024

The City of Athens Council met for a regularly scheduled council committee meeting on Thursday January 4, 2024. Mayor Chris Reichert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The roll call indicated that Alderman Angela Thompson, Alderman Greg Hoffmann, Alderman Kevin Puma, Alderman John Tobias, Alderman Amy Chernowsky, and Alderman Rachel Lantz were present. Also in attendance was City Attorney John Hoblit, and City Clerk Rhonda Ethell.

The Police Report, Treasurer Report, Public Works Report, and Library Report were postponed until the Monday January 8, 2024, meeting.

Monica Brumm gave the office manager a report. Gave update on the number of water disconnect notices and the number of shut offs done during the month. Advised was still compiling the lead line surveys and that reimbursement was received for schooling. Handed out Economic Interest Statements to all elected officials and advised that had e-mailed to all elected officials the mandated sexual harassment training and cyber security training that needs to be completed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Paul with Toys for Tots gave a presentation of the history and an update for the 2023 campaign. Advised of other campaigns that Toys for Tots offers, and updated the council on the plans for the 2024 season.

The mayor handed out copies of the 2022/2023 audit and advised the auditors will be at the meeting on Monday to go over the audit.

The mayor appointed Alderman Kevin Puma and Alderman John Tobias to review the water rate study that was completed and come back with recommendations to the council.

The mayor appointed Alderman John Tobias and Alderman Amy Chernowsky to review the employee handbook and make recommendations to the council to update the handbook.

OLD BUSINESS:

Appointment of members to the zoning board will be voted on at the meeting, Monday January 8, 2024. Discussion was had on what happens with zoning board decisions. Mayor Reichert explained that anything the zoning board presents is just a recommendation, and that the council has the final say.

The council went into Executive Session at 7:30 pm as per Section 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) – Personnel issues.

Council adjourned Executive Session at 7:47 pm

The meeting adjourned 7:48 pm.