

## **The Athens City Council Meeting Monday March 11, 2024**

The City of Athens Council met for a regularly scheduled council committee meeting on Monday March 11, 2024. Mayor Chris Reichert called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The roll call indicated that Alderman Greg Hoffmann, Alderman Amy Chernowsky, and Alderman Rachel Lantz were present. Also in attendance was Police Chief Tim Becker, and City Clerk Rhonda Ethell.

All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Tim Becker gave the police report for February. Advised the reports may look a bit different due to county switching software. Advised all vehicles maintenance is up to date. Have someone that is interested in attending the academy. Informed the council that they had replied for a grant for recruitment and retention. Over the last 5 years they have had 9 officers leave, so they received a grant of \$233,000 for retention and recruitment, and to start an explorer program at the high school to get young people interested in law enforcement.

Mayor Reichert read the library report.

Discussion was had on the suggested changes to the water ordinance and rate changes. Discussions was had on the things that will need to be repaired/replaced to the water system.

Mayor Reichert updated the council regarding questions regarding the animal control report from last month. He did verify that when they report the number of time patrolled is not included in the number of calls taken, they are two separate items. He has reached out as to the reason we pay property taxes, yet we have a yearly cost for the city.

A motion was made by Alderman Lantz and seconded by Alderman Chernowsky 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 Hoffman seconded by Alderman Lantz 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 Hoffman, seconded by Alderman Lantz to approve the meeting minutes from the Committee Meeting from February 8, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes from February 12, 2024, and Executive Session meeting minutes from February 12, 2024.

Mayor Reichert opened the meeting for public comment.

Gary Richardson advised the skunks were back.

Jackie Lindsey wanted an update on the boil order regarding why it was placed and if lines would have to be flushed once completed. Mayor Reichert advised that order was put into effect due to coliform at our source well. And once the system is changed over to the new well there will be no need to flush lines.

Alderman Lantz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm.