

City of Athens
Regular Meeting
January 12, 2015

Mayor Donald Neisler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Debra Richardson called roll. Present were Aldermen: Larry Buhr, Ron Canterbury, Bobbie Dowell, Harry Nichols and Deni Wilson. Alderman Chris Reichert arrived at 7:15 PM. Also in attendance were Police Chief Tim Becker, Merle Messersmith, Rex Kieffer, Tom Croft Sr., Linda Wasilewski, Athens Fire Chief Joe Crowe and Sherman Fire Chief Todd Masterhan.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Wilson, to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2014 meeting. Motion passe unanimously.

Motion made by Alderman Canterbury, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to approve the police, treasurers', and water and sewer reports. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Canterbury, to approve the payment of the bills. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to approve the purchase of four tires for the Taurus Interceptor from Bert's Service at a cost of \$621.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Alderman Dowell, seconded by Alderman Wilson, to purchase four new Generation 4 Glock .45 pistols at a cost of \$1911.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Neisler recommended that the council consider a water rate increase. Mayor Neisler stated that he would like to see a 5% rate increase. Alderman Nichols asked about being able to review budget figures and if the stalite pipes placed in several homes had been tested regarding the pinhole leaks. Mayor Neisler stated that plans are to pull the pipes out at different locations at different time frames. Alderman Nichols stated that he has not seen a full financial report since April, and he would like to see the figures before he decides on any increase. Alderman Nichols asked if the City has sold any equipment recently. Chief Becker stated that there has been some equipment sold. Mayor Neisler indicated that he does not want to rely on equipment sales for revenue. Mayor Neisler stated that the City loses water revenue if the rates are not increased and he does not want to borrow money from bank. Alderman Dowell asked where the 5% figure came from. He stated that because of the complaints he has received regarding the quality of the water, he couldn't vote in favor of an increase at this time.

Alderman Buhr suggested that the City donate \$250.00 to the Athens library to use for the 40th anniversary celebration, to be held on January 24, 2015.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to give the Athens library \$250.00 from the video gaming fund, to be used for the 40th anniversary celebration. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Nichols asked Chief Becker if there would be a meeting regarding the new housing code.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to enter into executive session for personnel matters at 7:26 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Council left for conference room and returned at 8:18 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Dowell to adjourned the meeting.
Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.