

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
November 9, 2015

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

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Debra Richardson called roll. Present were Aldermen: Anita Bednarko, Larry Buhr, Ron Canterbury, Tom Croft Sr., Bobbie Dowell and Harry Nichols. Also in attendance were Treasurer Darin Bowman, Justin Myers, Jacqueline Stuebs, Abigail Stuebs, Rex Kieffer, Merle Messersmith and Gary Richardson.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2015 regular meeting. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Mayor Neisler reported that the only report given on November 5, 2015 was the police report. Mayor Neisler stated that copies of all other reports were handed out for council review. Alderman Buhr asked about the DCEO business loan that has a high balance. Bowman stated that only \$1,500.00 has been paid on the \$25,000.00 loan. Mayor stated that there was a nine year note written for the loan. Alderman Nichols asked about the equipment that was to be used as a lien for the loan. Mayor Neisler stated that the paperwork was never filed with the county.

Motion made by Alderman Dowell, seconded by Alderman Buhr, to approve the police, streets and alleys, water and wastewater and treasurers' reports. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Canterbury, seconded by Alderman Bednarko, to authorize the payment of the bills. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to authorize the purchase of a 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe at a cost of approximately \$38,500.00, for use by Chief Tim Becker, to be paid from the LESO account. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Canterbury, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to authorize the purchase of a Caterpillar 305E 48-inch ditch bucket at a cost of \$1,000.00 and a Caterpillar 305E thumb at a cost of \$1,800.00. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to pass **RESOLUTION 03-2015, ALLOWING MILITARY SERVICE CREDIT FOR IMRF RETIREMENT FUND**. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Dowell and Nichols. Nays: Canterbury and Croft. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to authorize the purchase of new tires for Robin Cawley's truck from Bert's Service, at a cost of approximately \$700.00. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Canterbury, to authorize the Illinois Motor Fuel expenditures for 2016. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Mayor Neisler indicated that he had received an e-mail from Klingner and Associates for the cost estimate on the High Prairie field and traffic study at a cost of \$15,950.00. Mayor Neisler stated that the council needs to consider the need for two entrances for High Prairie. There was discussion on the City excepting the subdivision back in 2003. Alderman Nichols stated that the City does not own the subdivision. Alderman Buhr asked if Darin Fritz has seen the cost estimate. Mayor Neisler indicated that he had received it just before the meeting and Fritz had not seen a copy. Mayor Neisler suggested that the council consider taking over the easement and accepting the entrance as a City street. Mayor Neisler stated that the field and traffic study must be done before anything else can be done.

Mayor Neisler indicated that Well #5 went down on Friday and Brotcke Well and Pump will be doing the repairs, which will cost approximately \$21,000.00. Mayor stated that the well was pulling mud. He reported that the City had gotten permission from IEPA to start up Well #4 and use it temporality. Mayor Neisler noted that Well #4 had passed on the first sample testing and that Cawley will be taking the second test soon.

Mayor Neisler opened the meeting to public comments.

Merle Messersmith asked when the City is going to start enforcing ordinances on the property at 500 N. Main Street. Messersmith stated that the owner of the property has not placed the guttering on the north side of the garage as required. Alderman Nichols stated that he has checked out the property and it looks two times worse than the last time he checked. Mayor Neisler advised Chief Becker to make contact with the property owner about the mess.

Alderman Buhr reported that the Leadership Committee from the high school is serving a dinner for area veterans on Tuesday evening. Buhr stated that he would like for the council to consider making a donation for the cause.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Dowell, to authorize the donation of \$500.00 for the veteran's dinner, to be expensed from the video gaming fund. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed

Alderman Croft asked if the City had received money from the scrap clean up and what was done with the money. Mayor Neisler indicated that the City received a check from Ley Metals in the amount of \$306.00, which has deposited in the general fund.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Croft, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: Bednarko, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Dowell and Nichols. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.