

Athens City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 10, 2017

Mayor Bob Dowell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7pm at Athens City Hall.

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chief Tim Becker called roll. Present were Alderman: Chris Basso, Larry Buhr, Ron Canterbury, Tom Croft Sr., Tom Herman and Harry Nichols. Clerk Cindy McFarland was absent. Also in attendance were Karissa Carls, Robert Bluett, Ryne Crowe, Linda Wasilewski, Gary Richardson, Merle Messersmith, Rex Kieffer, Missy Hodgdon, and Owen Iocca.

Mayor Dowell began with the monthly reports and noted that Ryne Crowe and Robert Bluett were present to answer any questions about the water and wastewater report. Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Herman, to approve the police, treasurers', water and wastewater, streets and alleys, and cemetery reports. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed. Mayor Dowell also noted that he had passed through a small town recently and saw street signs that said "Drive like your kids live here." The Mayor said that, although he was not speeding, he did reduce his speed and note his surroundings. He thinks that these signs would be a good idea for making our streets safer for our children.

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

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Canterbury, to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 Committee Meeting, and the June 12, 2017 Regular Meeting. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Basso, to switch to Agility Communications for phone service at an anticipated savings of approximately \$14,000 per year with no more than \$815 set-up costs. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Herman, seconded by Alderman Buhr to provide paper shredding during the fall clean-up at a cost not to exceed \$400 to be paid from the gaming funds. This will be the same weekend as the yard sales-date to be determined. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Basso to accept the bids for the concrete approach from IL Route 29 to the Boars Nest entrance at Prairie Drive for \$20,250 and \$1,500 for the ditch excavation at Zephyr Drive. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Canterbury to authorize a pay raise to \$15 per hour for Robert Bluett due to increased duties at the sewer department. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Basso, to sponsor the Reading by Design program at the Athens Municipal Library in the amount of \$250. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Croft, to pass Ordinance No. 05-2017 authorizing execution of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement (IPWMAN). Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Canterbury, to pass Ordinance No. 06-2017 adopting the City of Athens, IL City Code prepared by Sterling Codifiers. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Basso, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to pass Ordinance No. 07-2017 Annual Appropriation Ordinance of the City of Athens, Illinois for the Corporate Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2017 and ending April 30, 2018. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Herman, seconded by Alderman Buhr, to pass Ordinance No. 08-2017 Prevailing Wage. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Basso, seconded by Alderman Nichols, to pass Ordinance No. 09-2017 amending Athens City Code 2-1-17, paragraph 2, Sunday Hours of Operation for Class A Liquor License within the City of Athens, changing the time liquor could be served to 10AM from 1PM. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Nays: Alderman Canterbury. Motion passed.

Motion made by Alderman Nichols, seconded by Alderman Croft, to pass Ordinance No. 10-2017 Annual Appropriation Ordinance and Estimate of Revenues of the City of Athens Road District No. 13, Illinois for the Corporate Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2017 and ending April 30, 2018. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Mayor Dowell then took a moment to introduce the city employees present: Police officer Dalton Meredith, Office Manager Karissa Carls, and water plant operators Ryne Crowe and Robert Bluett. The Mayor said he wants to make sure everyone knows our city workers. They are a good team.

Missy Hodgdon said that there are 4 scouts who are working to become Eagle Scouts and they are available for service hours.

Motion made by Alderman Buhr, seconded by Alderman Croft, to adjourn. Ayes: Basso, Buhr, Canterbury, Croft, Herman and Nichols. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm.