

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
October 5, 2009

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor R.W. Rickett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor R.W. Rickett, Randy Robinson, Dennis Palmer, Tom Johnson, Al Evans and George Dewan. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Dick Brown, Public Works Director and Dan Brown, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:** Mayor Rickett introduced Whitman County Gazette reporter, Joe Smillie.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** After council members reviewed September 21, 2009 minutes, Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Officer Dan Brown submitted a report to council members of his department's activities for September 2009. Day Wireless came to Oakesdale and calibrated both radar guns so they are now current. Pictures were taken of the railroad crossing that need repair in town and Mayor Rickett has contacted the railroad to make them aware of the situation. Dan has seen the black and white dog that has been reported running around town for the past several months but was unable to catch it. Dan has submitted a draft ordinance for council members to review for the RV parking. This will be discussed under old business.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Dick Brown reported the water tank has been cleaned and inspected last month. We also installed a stop silt riser to help eliminate sediment building up at the bottom of the tank. They removed approximately 3-4 inches of sediment and recommended the tank be cleaned every 3 to 5 years. The handicap parking space on Steptoe has been re-painted. We have a water leak on 5th and Pearl that will be repaired this week. We will spend two days laying hot mix on the streets where water leaks have been repaired. The truck had the clutch adjusted last week and after the hot patching is completed we will get the truck down to ED-KA for the work on the blade.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. PARKING ORDINANCE** – Town Marshal, Dan Brown, submitted a RV ordinance rough draft to council members that summed up everyone’s request and/or needs from the past sessions. Dan reviewed each page with council members and there were two minor changes made to the submitted draft. Council members decided to have two members, Al Evans and George Dewan, review the draft ordinance one more time before it goes before council for approval at the next meeting. The draft ordinance will then be sent to our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, to be approved in ordinance format.
- B. EMPLOYEE MEDICAL COVERAGE OPTIONS** – Council members received copies of medical benefit plan coverage for both Blue Shield/Asuris and Group Health. The plan our employees are currently using will be discontinued as of 01/01/12. Mary DeGon discussed the next best plans that are close in comparison with what our employees have now. The Town can choose a medical plan from each carrier and the employees can then choose which plan works better for them. Our employees do not have to have the same plan according to AWC Benefit Trust. They need a one month notice before we make any changes to our current plan. Mayor Rickett will compose the premiums on an Excel spreadsheet for comparison by the next council meeting.
- C. CERTIFIED SEWER OPERATOR** – Council consensus was to have a contract between The Town of Oakesdale and Duane Groom from Tekoa to be our certified sewer operator. The contract will be effective October 1, 2009 for a monthly service fee of \$200.
- D. OUTDOOR RECYCLING AREA** – The asphalt work is complete and the EKO blocks have been set in place. We are now waiting on the fence installation.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. BUSINESS INCUBATOR LEASE RENT** – Council members would like to see potential renters approach council with a business plan before deciding on an exact amount. We need to advertise the available space.
- B. 2010 PRELIMINARY BUDGET** – Mayor Rickett reviewed with council members the 2010 preliminary budget using Excel spreadsheets. Each fund was discussed and Mayor Rickett encouraged council members to take the spreadsheets home for further examination.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

RANDY – His concern about a go-kart being driven around town was already taken care of

yesterday by Town Marshal, Keith Cooper.

DENNIS – Nothing at this time.

TOM – Nothing at this time.

AL – Nothing at this time.

GEORGE – Nothing at this time.

- X. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report, Receipt Register, Check Register and Inter-fund Transfer Register for September 2009. George Dewan made the motion to approve checks #21354-#21379 in the amount of \$15,210.21 for claims and \$7,972.52 for payroll totaling \$23,182.73 from September 25, 2009 through October 02, 2009. Check #21376 to Bishop Law Office was voided due to a printer error. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

ATTEST:

R.W. RICKETT, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer