

***Town of Oakesdale***  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**For**  
***January 04, 2010***

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Retiring Mayor R.W. Rickett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Retiring Mayor R.W. Rickett, Mayor Elect Dennis Palmer, Randy Robinson, Tom Crooks, Tom Johnson, Al Evans and George Dewan. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Dick Brown, Public Works Director and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **OATH OF OFFICES:** Retiring Mayor Rickett swore Dennis Palmer into office as the Mayor of Oakesdale. Dennis gave his oath of office before council members and present citizens. Mayor Palmer swore councilman, Tom Crooks, into council position #3. Tom Crooks also gave his oath of office in front of the present council and guests. Mayor Palmer asked council for a motion to reappoint Randy Robinson to his current council position #4. Al Evans made the motion to reappoint Randy Robinson for council position #4. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- IV. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Linda Crooks, Debbie Brown, June Sharp, Darlene Rickett and Jeslyn Lemke from the Whitman County Gazette.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** After council members reviewed December 21, 2009 minutes, George Dewan made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Council members also reviewed the minutes from the special meeting on December 28, 2009. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper submitted a monthly report to council members from December 8, 2009 through January 4, 2010. There have been six cases and three traffic stops. We have been approved for the \$9,999.99 grant for the police department. This grant will be used to update equipment. The grant is 100 percent reimbursable and all purchases must be made by June 2010. The Verizon phone bill for the Marshal's office seems rather high and they will look into decreasing some of the monthly charges.
- VII. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** The relay between the water tower and wells went out over the weekend. A call has been placed to Verizon reporting the problem and Dick is cycling the wells manually to fill the water tower. We are discharging the lagoon. There have been reports of a few residential sewer problems. One resident needed to have his service line replaced as the

orange clay pipe collapsed. The other line was cleared of the blockage on their service line, but we may have some problems on the Town's main line in that area. When the weather improves, we will dig up the man holes and examine the line. Dick has repaired both sweepers and replaced the brooms on the orange sweeper. Council members discussed having a wireless remote for a relay between the water tower and wells instead of using the phone line. We seem to have this problem a few times a year when the ground is saturated with moisture. Dick will discuss the option with our certified water operator, Frank Triplett. Al Evans asked if we will fill in the areas around the manholes that were uncovered on Bartlett.

VIII. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

IX. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2010-310** – Tom Johnson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2010-310 designating an official town newspaper. George Dewan seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Al Evans made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2010-310 designating the Whitman County Gazette as the Town's official newspaper for 2010. Randy Robinson seconded to motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

X. **COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:**

**RANDY** – He asked if any of our guests have any comments or concerns to address the council. The guests were all here to witness the swearing in of new officers.

**TOM C.** – Nothing at this time.

**TOM J.** – He inquired about the standing water on the corner of McCoy & 7<sup>th</sup> St. that is backing up onto the property between the two houses at that juncture. The back up of water is being caused by all the frost in the ground creating an excess of surface water on private property.

**AL** – Nothing at this time.

**GEORGE** – He asked Keith Cooper if our police department considered going after a grant for extra policing for seatbelt safety and DUI's. Keith responded that we would probably not qualify due to the low stream of traffic through Oakesdale. The grant requires three stops per hour.

**DENNIS** – He thanked Russ & Darlene Rickett for everything they have done. He hopes to carry on what they have started. They are always welcome to come to any meetings. Russ did an excellent job and Dennis has big shoes to fill.

XI. **TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report, Check Register, Receipt Register and Inter-fund Transfer Register for December 2009. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks #21511 - #21539 in the amount of

\$10,106.32 for claims and \$7,621.15 for payroll totaling \$17,727.47 from December 22, 2009 through December 31, 2009. Check #21534 to Rural Fire District #10 in the amount of \$1,166.67 was voided due to printer error. George Dewan seconded the motion, all council members voted yes, **motion passed**.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Crooks made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. George Dewan seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

ATTEST:

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DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

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Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer