

***Town of Oakesdale***  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**For**  
***February 01, 2010***

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Randy Robinson, Tom Crooks, Tom Johnson, Al Evans and George Dewan. Also present were Stephen Bishop, Town Attorney; Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Dick Brown, Public Works Director and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Randy Noble, TD & H; Judy Dunn-Gray, Whitman County Recycling Coordinator and Dave Hooks.
- IV. **JUDY DUNN-GRAY, WHITMAN COUNTY RECYCLING:** Judy gave a brief background description of herself and her role at Whitman County. She commended the great support our town has through our school and the Willow's for our recycling programs. Pilot programs are going very well in the schools for mixed recycled paper and plastic bottles. The chipper/shredder program through the Department of Ecology has ended effective 12/31/2009. Palouse and Garfield have an interest of forming a proposal to purchase the chipper/shredder from DOE. Judy stated it would be a great collaborative effort to combine with Palouse and Garfield on purchasing a chipper/shredder. Mayor Palmer asked if we will ever be allowed to collect cardboard at our recycling center. Judy will look into the possibility. Judy encouraged our council members to go view other community's outdoor recycling programs to see how we can maintain our own.
- V. **RANDY NOBLE, TD & H:** Randy reviewed some grant opportunities that a few of our projects might qualify for the Safe Routes to School Program. The two projects discussed for this grant were sidewalks from Bartlett to Williams on both sides of HWY 27 and a foot bridge from Second St. over the creek to the baseball field. Randy will make sure the projects will qualify first before submitting applications. This grant is 100% funded. Council member's consensus was to allow TD & H to assist us in applying for this grant. We received notification from Whitman County Department of Public Works regarding stimulus funds (ARRA) provided to local agencies for transportation projects. Although we are not really sure whether the funding will materialize or not, we have been asked to take steps to prepare for the possibility. A good example for a transportation project would be replacing the Steptoe bridge. However, replacing the bridge falls too low on our priority list on our 2010 Six Year Transportation Improvement Program. The project is currently listed at a priority number 13 and needs to be in the top three. The council can consider adopting a resolution that would change the priority from a 13 to a top three. Al Evans asked if this were to be funded is it a 100% funded grant? Randy was not sure and he would check for us. Department of Health has a state revolving fund for water system improvements with a very low interest rate loans. To qualify we would need to update our water system plan. We are looking at approximately \$50,000 in costs to update our plan. The plan should be updated every three years. It has been many years since our plan was

updated. If we can get our water system plan updated then we would be ready when an opportunity for grant money comes available.

- VI. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** After council members reviewed January 19, 2010 minutes, Al Evans made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
  
- VII. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper submitted a report to council members from January 5, 2010 through February 01, 2010 consisting of ten cases that involved dog problems, burglary, harassment, civil and junk vehicles. Keith was asked if we still have an animal control officer for our town. We ended our contract with Tina Coe effective September 1, 2008. We were paying her monthly for her services whether we used them or not. We have more problems with licensed dogs roaming at large rather than strays. Council members would like to address junk cars again. Keith referred the junk cars to Dan Brown as he is more familiar with the procedure. Council members would like to see an article in the Town newsletter reminding our citizens they can dispose of their junk vehicles free through Good Guys Towing.
  
- VIII. **PUBLIC WORK'S REPORT:** Dick Brown reported due to the mild winter he has had more time to repair equipment and get equipment ready for spring. He hopes to work on a few water projects this week if the weather holds. Department of Ecology paid us another visit to review the operations at the lagoons. The purpose of the visit was to see if they could make Dick's job any easier with the operations of the lagoons. Both wells will need some maintenance repair work done to the pumps and it won't be cheap.
  
- IX. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - A. **CHIPPER/SHREDDER** – Council members asked Judy Dunn-Gray to review our grant application to see what is our responsibility for the outdoor recycling area. Council members have concerns how we will be able to maintain the compost area with limited staff. Mayor Palmer shared two rental prices for a chipper/shredder from Star Rental and United Rentals. He is still looking into BARRTECH from the Sprague, Washington area for possibilities of them picking up our composting. Council agreed to table this topic until further information can be obtained.
  
- X. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **SERVICE PROJECT FOR LIBRARY** – We received an email from Michele Wright who is the branch manager for the Oakesdale Library requesting council to consider a service project from a local 4-H group, the Saddle Pals, of which her daughter is a member. They would like to paint the interior walls, clean the carpet and windows. They are requesting a budget of \$150 for supplies of which they would like to be reimbursed. Council members gave their approval for the service project not to exceed \$150.00.
  - B. **BUILDING PERMIT FEES** – Council members were asked if they wanted to add wood/pellet stoves and furnaces to the current fee list for building permits. After much council discussion, three council members were against adding it to the fee list while two were for it. The building permit fee list will not be changed.

XI. **COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

**GEORGE** – Nothing at this time.

**AL** – Nothing at this time.

**TOM J.** – Nothing at this time.

**TOM C.** – Nothing at this time.

**RANDY** – When we start processing the junk cars, let’s make sure we give our citizens a chance to deal with it themselves before we start tagging vehicles.

**DENNIS** – The railroad fence is being installed as we speak in Belmont for the chlorine gas tanker cars.

XII. **TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for January 2010. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #21565 through #21589 in the amount of \$28,006.60 for claims and \$5,408.02 for payroll totaling \$33,414.62 from January 20, 2010 through January 29, 2010. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Tom Crooks 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