

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
May 03, 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 Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Bekah Miller-MacPhee, Sexual Assault Prevention Educator with Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse and Jeslyn Lemke from the Whitman County Gazette.
- IV. **ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE OF THE PALOUSE:** Bekah Miller-MacPhee gave a brief description of the private non-profit agency that provides help for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse offers free Legal Advocacy to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The legal advocate provides legal services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Legal advocates help survivors obtain the necessary forms, file the paperwork, and accompany survivors to court hearings. The legal advocate cannot offer legal advice. They have a 24 hour crisis hotline (509) 332-HELP or (208) 883-HELP and they have an office based in Pullman. Their services are county wide and they also have an office in Colfax where someone is there four days a week. The program is funded by United Way and they have approximately fourteen employees. Brochures and business cards were left at City Hall for information to the public.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** After council members reviewed April 19, 2010 meeting minutes, George Dewan made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Due to Dick Brown's absence, Mayor Palmer gave the Public Works Report. The welcome to Oakesdale signs have been landscaped. There were two main line water leaks last week that were repaired. Preparation is on-going for the mini-parkway between City Hall and Crossett's. Well #5 had packing in the seal changed a few weeks ago and it was noted that the shaft was in bad shape and the seal packing may only be a temporary fix. The oil in the top bearing reservoir was changed and he commented it had been a long time since it had been done. The water and sewer samples for April 2010 were good. Water meter readings went really well at the end of April with help from Bob Hooper. This coming summer we will replace the roof over Well #4.
- VII. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper submitted the police report for April 2010 listing eight cases for the month. Fifteen traffic stops were made in the month. Letters were hand delivered

to residents who failed to renew their dog licenses for 2010. The letter explained that tickets would be issued to people who failed to purchase a license by May 1, 2010. They have been in contact with the Whitman County Sheriff's Office about using a radar trailer for our town. Currently, all radar trailers are being used by other towns. We are in line for the use of the radar trailer and hope to have one by the middle of May. Al Evans would like to get together with one or both of the Marshals to review the Town codes for disturbing the peace.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. CHIPPER/SHREDDER** – Garfield has replaced all the blades on the chipper and it should work much better the next time we need to use it. Council discussed giving community members a “second chance” at using the outdoor recycling center by unlocking the gates on Monday – Friday from 7 am to 4 pm and on Saturday from 9 am – 5 pm since one person came forward admitting to placing the 2 X 6 boards in the recycling center. They misunderstood what was collected at the center and thought it was a public dump site. The hours that the gates will be unlocked will be posted in the next town newsletter.
- B. BUSINESS INCUBATOR LEASE** – Our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, has completed the lease agreement and it has been emailed to First Wind for their review. We have requested two changes to the agreement involving heating oil which does not apply since the space is heated by base board heaters and to include utilities to read water, sewer and garbage. Mayor Palmer will be hosting an open house on Saturday, May 8th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm for anyone interested in seeing the remodeled space before it is occupied.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. ENGINEERING SERVICES** – Council members were given an extra two weeks to review all statement of qualifications for engineering consultant services from nine different companies. Randy Robinson made the motion to select TD & H and JUB for future engineering services for 2010-2012. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- B. RV ORDINANCE (DRAFT)** – Council members had some concerns about the revised draft ordinance compared to the first draft and would like to discuss the changes with our Town Attorney at the first meeting in June. Keith Cooper will obtain examples from other towns/cities to compare ordinances. This was tabled until the council meeting on June 7th.
- C. CONTRACTOR REQUESTING WATER FOR ROAD PROJECT** – We received a request from a contractor, Thompson Bros. Excavating, for purchasing water for the Pine Creek bridge replacement project on HWY 27. Over the next few months they are anticipating using a 3200 gallon water truck to aid in the compaction of fill materials as well as dust control when needed. The amount of water used will vary from day to day from zero gallons up to 10,000 depending on the weather and the day's activities. We do have a meter/back flow device to use on the fire hydrant to meter the amount of water used. The site has been determined to be the hydrant by McGregors as this site will disrupt the water

system the least. George Dewan asked that the company slowly turns the water flow from the meter off and on so it does not cause severe damage to the hydrant. Council consensus was to abide by Resolution No. 2010-313 to furnish water to a commercial contractor for the charge of .01¢per gallon.

X. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

GEORGE – Nothing at this time.

AL – Nothing at this time.

TOM J. – Nothing at this time.

TOM C. – The light for the mini-parkway is suppose to be wired and ready for pick up by this Friday. The budget on this project is pretty much maxed out after we pay for an electrician to install the light. Council discussed raising the spending cap to consider buying sod rather than planting the grass. No decision was made. Tom had heard through the grape vine that we may want to do something with the tennis courts. He talked to Whitman County Assessor’s office today and the school district still owns the tennis courts, not the Town. He personally thinks the tennis courts can be salvaged. He asked how the other council members feel about helping the school to repair them. It was suggested to go to Dr. Dingman and the school board to find out what their intentions are for the area. Tom will pursue this matter with the school.

RANDY – Nothing at this time.

XI. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Receipt Register and Check Register for April 2010. George Dewan made the motion to approve paid checks #21710 - #21732 in the amount of \$7,307.06 for claims and \$5,694.80 for payroll totaling \$13,001.86 from April 23, 2010 through April 29, 2010. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: George Dewan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer

