

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
July 6, 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 Dick Brown, Public Works Director.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None present
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** After council members reviewed June 21, 2010 minutes, Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Due to the absence of a marshal no report was given.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** The mini-parkway project is basically finished. The grass has been seeded and is growing. The final electrical inspection was done last week and the pallets the pavers were on have been returned for a refund of \$129.36. We have been scheduled to deliver the 219 tires we have received for the Whitman County tire amnesty program tomorrow. This week we will be raising manholes. We will be gearing up to lay hot mix to patch the streets in the next two weeks. We are still chlorinating the wells at the most minimum levels.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **RV ORDINANCE** – The ordinance was faxed to our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, following our last council meeting.
 - B. **MOSQUITO FOGGING** – We have not received a confirmation from the City of Tekoa regarding their employee passing the test for the applicator license to fog for mosquitoes. We should know something by the end of this week.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **2011 LEVIES** – It's that time of year again for us to evaluate the Town's levy amounts and hold a public hearing at the next council meeting. Resolutions are due by August 10th to register our levy amounts for the November 2nd General Election. Council members reviewed last year's levy amounts that had \$20,000 for public safety and \$30,000 for street maintenance. Currently we pay Whitman County Fire District #10

\$14,000 to provide fire protection and emergency medical services per year. The remaining \$6,000 aides in the costs for our own law enforcement. Our street lights are costing around \$14,500 per year leaving the remaining funds for street maintenance. Dennis will be reviewing the budget with former mayor, Russ Rickett, for some advice on future levy amounts.

- B. WATER RELIEF REQUEST (NILES)** – Council members reviewed a letter received from Ken and Penny Niles asking for consideration for a water leak they had at the end of May 2010. They discovered the leak a few days after the meters were read on the water line they have going to their garden. In their letter it states the broken pipe has not been repaired yet but the meter has been shut off to stop the leaking. Council members referred to Town Code 2.16.070 Adjustments of Water Leaks where it states the leak must be repaired before council can consider an adjustment. Mayor Palmer will send them a letter informing them the leak must be repaired before council will consider their water relief request.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

GEORGE – He inquired about the status of the public restroom idea we were pursuing a few years ago with the help of the Scenic Byway. The Scenic Byway received funding two years ago that allowed us to have the public restroom site designed by an architectural firm. Those drawings were presented to council and we should have receive a copy of the design.

AL – He discussed the possibilities of having a public restroom in the new courtyard and if there is a need for one. He talked with an employee for Honey Bucket about having a temporary public bathroom and we could suspend service during the winter months. Some council members do not support the idea of using a porta potty. Al brought up a dog complaint he called in over two weeks ago and felt the officer’s timing was delayed. It appears Al did not receive the message to pick up the dog complaint form at City Hall the following day after the report was made. He has concerns about vicious dogs and do we need to amend our dog ordinances to take care of such incidents. He mentioned the dog ordinance Tekoa just adopted that does not allow pit bulls to live in the city limits. Council members discussed the issue and still feel our ordinances are enough for the Town Marshals to deal with vicious dogs and dogs running at large.

TOM J. – He had stated at the last planning meeting he would check into some prices on pre-fab public restrooms but has not had enough time to complete the inquiry.

TOM C. – M & M Harrison has agreed to remove 3.5 hours of labor from the electrical bill for installing the light in the courtyard. The pallets the pavers were delivered on have been returned for credit.

RANDY – Nothing at this time.

DENNIS – He was approached by Bob Law from WA DOT regarding delivery trucks being parked along the southeast side of Crossett’s Food Market. The trucks are making deliveries to the store and it can make it hard to see the intersection on HWY 27 and Steptoe. The state would like to post a no truck parking sign.

- X. **TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for June 2010. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks #21810 - #21838 in the amount of \$8,665.86 for claims and \$8,893.86 for payroll totaling \$17,559.72 from June 25, 2010 through June 30, 2010. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. George Dewan seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer