

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
November 15, 2010

**** Public Hearing for 2011 Preliminary Budget – Mayor Dennis Palmer opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Mary DeGon gave a brief summary of the 2011 budget and the changes since the last council meeting. Being no comments from the public, the hearing was closed at 7:05 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. following the public hearing for the 2011 preliminary budget.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Tom Crooks, Tom Johnson, Al Evans and George Dewan. Councilman Randy Robinson was not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Dave Hooks, Greg Partch ,Whitman County Commissioner and JUB Engineering – Dave Kliewer, Layne Merritt, Dave Barnett and Austin Ball.
- IV. **MARK STOREY, WHITMAN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS:** Mark discussed federal funding for the bridge on Steptoe and what steps we need to take by choosing an engineering firm, follow the LAG manual from the Department of Transportation and how we can coordinate with Julie Banks from Whitman County Public Works for our CA agent. Mark is familiar with both engineering firms, TD&H and JUB, and either firm will do a good job for us. They are both very similar in qualifications and professionalism. Greg Partch commented on how lucky we are to have Mark in his position at Whitman County and recognized his leadership skills. Mark encouraged us to call him with any questions we may have during this project. Mark stayed for the first engineering interview with JUB which followed after his comments.
- V. **J.U.B. ENGINEERING:** Dave Kliewer, Area Manager for JUB, introduced the rest of his team – Layne Merritt, Project Engineer; Dave Barnett, Lead Structural Design and Austin Ball, Structural QA/QC. JUB has been in business for fifty nine years and would like to be there for us from the start of design through project closeout. They will handle the paperwork related to this project keeping duplicate files in Oakesdale as well in Spokane in order that we will be bullet proof for project closeout and audits. JUB spent almost one hour using flip charts and handouts showing various stages of the project. Their design goal is for the bridge to last seventy five years. The floor was open to comments from council after the conclusion of the presentation. Mark Storey also gave his opinion on the design of the bridge where he has envisioned a void deck with a low

profile. Traffic can be redirected using 6th Street and Bartlett. Project construction timeline is at least eight weeks. Pedestrian lighting was mentioned for safety concerns on the bridge and Avista may have a program to help provide lighting for that area. Communication is very important between the Town, engineers and contractor.

VI. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: After council members reviewed November 1, 2010 minutes, Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. George Dewan seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. 2011 BUDGET – The preliminary 2011 budget included the federal funding for the Steptoe Street bridge replacement. The raises for Dick Brown and Mary DeGon are at three percent. Funds have been added to bring our Town Codes up-to-date with an estimate of \$3,600 which will be divided three ways between Fund 001 Current Expense, Fund 101 Streets and Fund 401 Water/Sewer. George Dewan inquired why we are carrying large beginning balances in Fund 101 and Fund 401. He proposed to transfer monies to reserve accounts rather than leaving the funds as large beginning balances. Mary will contact the State Auditors for confirmation on such a transaction. The final budget hearing will be Monday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. before the regular council meeting.

B. WATER SYSTEM PLAN – Dick talked to Dave from Evergreen Rural Water and their base rate for small water system plans ranges from \$8,000 - \$13,000. The best quote has been from our certified water operator, Frank Triplett. Frank will be providing a bid as soon as he has had the opportunity to review our data.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. STEPTOE STREET BRIDGE – The next interview for engineering services will be with TD&H on Monday, December 6th. Council members will need to decide which engineering firm we would like to have on the project after reviewing both presentations. Council members also received a copy of the email the Town received from Kathleen Davis, WSDOT, congratulating us on being selected to receive funding from the Federal Highway Bridge Program.

B. RESOLUTION NO. 2010-318 – George Dewan made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2010-318 setting the salaries for the Clerk/Treasurer and Public Works Director. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. George Dewan made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 318 increasing the salaries of the Clerk/Treasurer and Public Works Director by three percent. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

C. PURCHASE OF OLD SNOW PLOW BLADE – Council members discussed selling the old snow plow blade that no longer can be used by our truck since we changed the plowing mechanism last year. George made the motion to surplus the old snow plow blade. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. We are

not sure how much the blade is worth and Al Evans stated he would check into the value.

IX. **PLANNING:** Tabled due to the length of the meeting.

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

TOM C. – Nothing at this time.

TOM J. – Nothing at this time.

AL – Nothing at this time.

GEORGE – He inquired about the remainder of the 2011 budget process. Council members will have one more time to review the budget and changes at the December 6th meeting. The final budget hearing will be before the December 20th meeting in which we will adopt the budget during the council meeting.

DENNIS – He reminded council members about the NIMS training this Saturday at the fire station from 9 am – 4 pm. Dennis and Dick will be attending the Southeast Washington Economics Development Association special presentation about the economic benefits of wind energy in Whitman County this Wednesday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m. at McGregor Company headquarters. Dennis encouraged council members to attend a school meeting next Tuesday evening for an informative session about the school's bond to improve the structure of the school.

XI. **TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for November 2010. George Dewan made the motion to approve paid checks #22027 - #22044 in the amount of \$8,477.46 for claims and \$6,327.57 for payroll totaling \$14,805.03 from November 04, 2010 through November 16, 2010. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XII. **ADJOURMENT:** George Dewan made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer