

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
July 5, 2011

- 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 and Al Evans. Councilman George Dewan was not in attendance. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Keith Cooper, Town Marshal and Dick Brown, Public Works Director.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Dave Hooks
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed June 20, 2011 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:** Keith Cooper submitted the police department’s monthly report for June 2011. There were eleven cases ranging from burglary, junk vehicle, bad checks, animal problem, fireworks complaint and suspicious circumstances. Letters were sent out to residents who were not mowing their property. No follow up letters were required since the properties were mowed as requested. The police department did not receive any fireworks complaints through Whitman County dispatch during the 4th of July weekend.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Dickerson Pump should be out later this week to fix the leaking pump at the lift station. We had a broken pipe out at the lagoons that was fixed last week. The new doors were installed on the old fire station. The pile at the outdoor recycling center was chipped last week and we should be good until fall.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **WHITMAN COUNTY AGREEMENT** – We have not heard back from Whitman County or our Town Attorney on the one change Mark Storey had suggested to Mayor Palmer.
 - B. **VACATING ALLEY** – Ben & Danielle Crossett are scheduled to sign the closing papers this week on the property purchase. We will refer the vacating alley paperwork to our Town Attorney after the closing papers have been filed and the building permit purchased.
 - C. **FIRST STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT** – Council members received a copy of the advertisement for bids from TD&H that will be published in the Whitman County Gazette on July 7th & July 21st. Sealed bids must be received by mail or delivered in person by August 1, 2011 until 4:00 p.m.

D. **BARTH PIT** – A copy of a letter that was sent to Allen Barth inquiring about the property he owns on Roberts Road, Block 2 Lots 1-4, was reviewed by council members. The letter stated the Town would be interested in purchasing the pit if it was available. We have not received a response from Mr. Barth as of today.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **FIRST WIND UPDATE** – Council members received a copy of a press release from Avista and First Wind announcing Avista selects First Wind’s Palouse Wind Project for a power purchase agreement.

B. **JOEY HOOPER’S WAGES** – Mayor Palmer asked council members to consider raising Joey Hooper’s wage from \$10 an hour. He has not received a wage increase in three years. Council members discussed various wage increases and it was council’s consensus to increase it by \$1.50 per hour making his hourly wage \$11.50 effective July 1, 2011.

IX. **COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

AL – He asked if the Town could do anything about the fireworks litter on the eastside of Bartlett. This will be referred to our Town Marshals.

TOM J. – He wanted to know if anyone knew what was going on with the home at 605 W McCoy Street. The family moved to the Tri Cities area and had been listing their home for sale on Craig’s List.

TOM C. – Nothing at this time.

RANDY – Nothing at this time.

X. **TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Receipt Register and Check Register for June 2011. Mary DeGon reviewed the 2nd quarter budget position with council members. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve checks #22361 - #22385 in the amount of \$5,064.53 for claims and \$9,195.58 for payroll totaling \$14,260.11 from June 23, 2011 through June 30, 2011 AND EFT payment to WA State Department of Revenue for \$555.52 for May 2011 excise taxes and EFT payment to Electronic Tax Payment System for \$2,016.59 for June 2011 employee 941 taxes. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Johnson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer