

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
August 1, 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, Al Evans and George Dewan. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Dan Brown, Town Marshal and Dick Brown, Public Works Director.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Randy Noble, TD&H and Greg Partch, Whitman County Commissioner.
- IV. **TIB SIDEWALK PROJECT BIDS:** Randy Noble presented the bid opening certification for the First Street Sidewalk Improvement Project. We received three bids from:
- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Cameron-Reilly, LLC | Base Bid \$96,570.00 | Alt Bid \$39,315.00 | Total \$135,885.00 |
| • Bacon Concrete, Inc | Base Bid \$99,576.50 | Alt Bid \$35,190.00 | Total \$134,766.50 |
| • Wm. Winkler | Base Bid \$110,841.25 | Alt Bid \$35,041.00 | Total \$145,882.25 |
- Randy asked council for permission to award the low bid to Bacon Concrete contingent on approval from the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB). Randy Robinson made the motion to give TD&H permission to award low bid contract contingent on TIB approval. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Randy reminded council members that TIB applications for 2012 funding are due at the end of this month. He suggested applying for sidewalk replacement between First Street and Second Street on Steptoe and from Second Street to Fourth Street on Steptoe.
- V. **GREG PARTCH, WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Greg encouraged council members to apply for more TIB funds for next year. There will also be funds available for street overlays. He asked council if we ever thought to reduce the sharp corner on HWY 27 past Larry’s Service on the corner where the old flat house used to be. Mayor Palmer commented that the corner helps to slow traffic down before they reach the intersection of Steptoe and First Street. Greg gave a brief update on First Wind.
- VI. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed July 18, 2011 minutes. George Dewan 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:** Dan Brown submitted a monthly report for July 2011. There were 11 cases ranging from 911 hang up calls, Town Ordinance violations, animal problem, traffic offense and driving while license suspended. Whitcom recently did a switch from wide band to narrow band. The police car radio and portable radio were not compatible. The new equipment will cost around \$3,000 to replace. George Dewan made the motion to approve the replacement of radio equipment in the police car and portable radio. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. The Police Department has purchased a new security camera system for City Hall. We were awarded a loss control Grant from AWC RMSA in the amount of \$350 which covered most of the cost. The new system will be installed sometime this month.
- VIII. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Dickerson’s repaired the pump at the lagoons. The repair was more work than originally thought it would be. Water and sewer have been installed on Ben Crossett’s lots. The meter was changed at Al Evans commercial building before the sidewalk project begins. We rented Whitman County’s chipper last week and the machine works ten times better than Garfield’s chipper.
- IX. OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. WHITMAN COUNTY INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT** – Still pending. WADOT has called twice within the week encouraging the completion of this inter-local agreement so we can begin the work on the Steptoe Bridge. Mayor Palmer will contact Mark Storey and Stephen Bishop and try to get this finalized.
- B. VACATING ALLEY** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2011-325 initiating the procedures to vacate the east-west alley between Lots 2 and 3, and 1 and 4, Block 7, McCoy’s Second Addition to the Town of Oakesdale. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Randy Robinson made the motion to adopt Resolution 2011-325. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, four council members voted yes, one council member abstained – **motion passed**. There will be a public hearing on Monday, September 6, 2011 to hear public comment regarding the proposed alley vacation. Mary will post notice of the public hearing in three of the most public places in Town and a like notice to be posted in a conspicuous place on the alley sought to be vacated. The Clerk is further directed to mail notices to the owners or reputed owners of all property or lots abutting those portions of the alley for which vacation is sought. Such notices shall be mailed at least fifteen days prior to the public hearing.
- C. FIRST STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT** - Mayor Palmer will discuss with Randy Noble from TD&H about the cost of two light poles that will be included on the sidewalk replacement project on Steptoe by Crossett’s Food Market. Mayor Palmer attended a meeting with Holophane last week and they are coming out with LED lighting that will use less electricity. Our current light poles up on the hillside sidewalk could be converted, but the cost is around \$1200 per pole which is too costly at this time.

D. BARTH PIT – We received a reply from Allen Barth accepting the Town’s offer to purchase the Barth Pit for \$10,000. However, if a title search should reveal any liens on said property the Town will not proceed in the purchase of the pit. Our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, was notified to begin the title search on the property. Council members received copies of all correspondence between the Town and Mr. Barth regarding the purchase of the property.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2003 EMPLOYEE FIDELITY CLAIM STATUS – We received a letter from AWC RMSA indicating the status of the employee fidelity claim against Patricia Kay Barth in 2003. Patricia was ordered to pay restitution to the Town in the amount of \$113,321.40. The first \$1,000 of restitution was to paid to AWC RMSA. AWC RMSA has not received any restitution payments since October 7, 2009. They reminded us that should any restitution payments come to the Town that we forward the payment to AWC RMSA.

B. MOSQUITO FOGGING – Council members were asked if we needed to pursue further applications of Biomist for mosquito control. Council member’s consensus was to stop fogging for mosquitoes. We were able to fog for the past three weeks in July.

XI. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

GEORGE – He would like to see the Town contact Mark Doneen to give an estimate on repairing the brick work on City Hall and the Library. He addressed the need to charge for new water services as he had been charged when he built his new home nine years ago. Tom Crooks also verified he too was charged when he built his insurance agency. Mary reviewed every Resolution she could find and nothing was found pertaining to the charges of a new water line. The Town does not have a water hook up fee and the Town Codes refer to the capability of charging for a new water service per resolution. Council discussion decided to table until the next meeting. Mary will contact neighboring towns to see what their codes state for new water connections.

AL – He had some traffic concerns on east Bartlett. He asked the Town to consider removing the tree at the intersection of Montana and Roberts Road due to safety concerns.

TOM J. – He asked about the lot between his rental home and the next residence. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain control of the grass and weeds.

TOM C. – Nothing at this time.

RANDY – Nothing at this time.

XII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Receipt Register and Check Register for July 2011. Randy Robinson made the motion to

approve paid checks #22412 - #22430 in the amount of \$5,063.47 for claims and \$6,615.80 for payroll totaling \$11,679.27 from July 19, 2011 through July 31, 2011 AND EFT payment to WA State Dept of revenue in the amount of \$510.23 for June Excise taxes and EFT payment to Electronic Federal Tax Payment System in the amount of \$1,927.21 for July 2011 employee 941 taxes. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer