

***Town of Oakesdale***  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
***For***  
***September 19, 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 George Dewan. Councilman Al Evans was not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
  
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Randy Noble, TD&H
  
- IV. **RANDY NOBLE, TD&H:** Randy gave an update on the First Street Sidewalk Project. The concrete will be poured tomorrow by Crossett's. Bacon Concrete's crew is working up by the railroad tracks. They reviewed with Frank Thomas, WA & ID Railway, the approach and crossing of the sidewalk over the tracks. The mailbox port on Williams Street will be moved to the NE corner of the street and the current port will be replaced with new tubular metal supports that can hold more mailboxes. There will be two change orders consisting of the new location of the mailbox supports and LED lighting in the two light poles by Crossett's Food Market. Randy Robinson made the motion to allow the Mayor to approve and sign the two change orders. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Council members received a copy of a letter from the school confirming Bacon Concrete has permission to dump the cement from our sidewalk project on the empty school lot below the gymnasium. The concrete is to be dumped off the end of the lot so it falls off the side and should not pile up above the edge of the dirt. When and if the space runs out and these stipulations cannot be met, Bacon Concrete can no longer use the lot to dispose of old concrete. We also received an email message from Gloria Bennett from TIB announcing they will pay the extra money to convert our two lights from metal-halide bulbs to an LED head. Mayor Palmer provided a copy of an article that stated Seattle has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars with LED street lights. Randy made the suggestion that we have a ribbon cutting ceremony sometime in October to recognize the funding from TIB. Mary will contact TIB for available dates.
  
- V. **DAVE HOOKS – LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS:** Not in attendance.
  
- VI. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed September 6, 2011 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. FIRST STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT – UPDATE** – This was covered under section IV. with Randy Noble, TD&H.
- B. BARTH PIT** – Our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, had Pioneer Title Company do the title search on the Barth Pit. The title report shows the State of Washington has a \$114,000.00 judgment lien on the property. If Barth is willing to allow us to pay over all proceeds (the selling price of \$10,000) to the State of WA, and if the State is then willing to give us a partial release of lien in exchange for the proceeds, we could proceed. Otherwise, we discontinue the purchase discussions with Barth and consider the cost of the report (\$53.90) money very well spent. Much discussion was had by council members on the pros and cons on proceeding any further with this property purchase. Randy Robinson made the motion to discontinue purchase discussions on the Barth pit. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, one council member voted yes and three council members voted no – **motion failed**. It will be referred to our Town Attorney to contact Allen Barth to see if he will allow us to pay the proceeds to the State.
- C. WATER HOOKUP FEES** – Our Town Attorney will be at our next meeting to answer any questions council members have on creating water hookup fees.
- D. PROBLEM RENTAL PROPERTIES** – Council members received a copy of an ordinance from the City of Tekoa regulating the keeping of Pit Bull dogs within city limits. We will further discuss all the issues we are having at the next meeting with our Town Attorney.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. NOTICE & ORDER – CAFÉ BUILDING** – Council members reviewed a copy of a Notice & Order issued to the Estate of Rick Kuykendall regarding the property at 108 W Steptoe, Oakesdale, WA – Parcel# 1-0645-00-12-07-0000. The building has been determined to be unsafe under Section 202 of the 1997 Uniform Building Code. This determination has been made due to the fact the structure is failing. On April 19, 2011, we sent the estate a Correction Notice about the deteriorating condition of the building. That notice gave the estate 90 days to establish repairs. We have received no correspondence from the estate regarding the Correction Notice. The building has been left open to extreme weather exposure which resulted in the failure of the back wall and the west side wall is beginning to buckle under the lack of support from the collapsed wall. Permits must be secured and work must commence within 60 days from the date of the Notice & Order. If work has not commenced within the specified time, the Town may proceed to cause the work to be done and charge the costs thereof against the property or its owner.

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

**DENNY** – He would like to hire Dan's Custom Woodwork to paint the remaining windows and doors on the main level of the library building. The cost of the project would be about \$1,400. Council members stated that was not in the budget and it would cost less if we did it ourselves. It was suggested to add that project into next year's budget. We could have our summer temp position do that next summer. Council members did not give their approval for the project to be done this year.

**GEORGE** – He made a suggestion to recognize Bill Elkins for all his hard work on keeping the sidewalks clear of snow for many, many years. We should have some sort of appreciation day. Mayor Palmer congratulated George on his daughter's performance winning Miss Palouse Empire Fair Queen.

**TOM J.** – He asked if there was anything the Town could do about the back yard at 605 W McCoy. The house is empty and the property is not being maintained. He was asked to voice his concerns to the Town Marshals.

**TOM C.** – He would like to see public restrooms discussed at our next planning meeting when we begin discussing projects for the 2012 budget. The park restrooms have no heat and the water is turned off for the season.

**RANDY** – Nothing at this time.

**MARY** – She talked to former Mayor, Russ Rickett, and he would be interested in working for the Town while Mary is gone on vacation in November. Council members discussed an hourly wage for Russ and agreed that \$15 per hour is a fair wage. He will only be needed the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested to have Russ open City Hall at 8 a.m. and stay until the money carrier comes which can be anytime between noon and 1:30 p.m. Russ will make daily deposits and have a refresher course on the BIAS software.

- X. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed September 2011 Treasurer's Report. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks #22475 - #22496 in the amount of \$11,579.42 for claims and \$6,648.44 for payroll totaling \$18,227.86 from September 07, 2011 through September 15, 2011. George Dewan seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Johnson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

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DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

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Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer