

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
October 17, 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 arrived at 8:40 p.m. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed October 3, 2011 minutes. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. **PLANNING** – Council discussed the continued concern over the problem rental properties and are still waiting for some examples of ordinances that deal with community marijuana gardens and dispensaries. Mary will ask Stephen Bishop about creating an ordinance that would allow the Town to prohibit certain types of businesses such as cannibas shops. Tom Crooks presented the idea again of having public restrooms in our Town. He has been told by several residents that it would be a good idea to have public restrooms. In a sense, we do have public restrooms during the summer in Town at the park. When the pool opens for the season so do the public restrooms. However, when the pool closes for the season so do the restrooms. The restrooms do not have heat and the water is turned off during the winter months. The idea of having a porta-potty surfaced again and not very many council members were open to that idea. No decision was made on the request for a public restroom. Mayor Palmer would like to see the Town purchase a riding lawn mower that also has a snow blower attachment for removing the snow on our sidewalks. The one bid he had was from Arrow Machinery for \$7,370.68. Council members did not see the immediate need for spending that much money on a riding lawn mower and suggested pricing a used mower instead. They would like to see money spent on the New Holland Tractor for a blade for removing snow on the sidewalks instead of a blower mounted to a lawn mower.
- B. **2012 BUDGET** – Council members received the 2012 Budget Totals report and Mary reviewed all fund accounts for next year. The only projects budgeted for next year was the Steptoe Street Bridge Project and the two TIB applications we submitted for sidewalk replacement on Steptoe Street and improve the arterial street on Front Street by the school from McCoy to Steptoe. We will know by the end

of November if either or both of those projects were awarded funding. If they do not receive funding then the projects will be removed from the budget. After estimating fund revenues and expenditures, Fund 001 Current Expense shows \$12,154 to the good, Fund 101 Streets comes out \$11,563 in the black and Fund 401 Water/Sewer squeaks by with \$1,238. There was much discussion about Fund 401 Water/Sewer not having enough revenue to cover the expenses. We may need to consider a 3-5% rate increase on the base rate for water and sewer. The \$1,238 does not leave much for a margin if we have any kind of extra expenditures due to a major water leak or system repair. Council members were encouraged to take the budget home with them and make notes on items they would like to see changed and/or added. There is still plenty of time to make any needed changes. There will be a preliminary budget hearing next month at our second council meeting.

- C. **FIRST STREET SIDEWALK UPDATE** - The final acceptance inspection was conducted on October 6, 2011. All punch-list items that were noted earlier have been completed. There are still outstanding items of work including installation of railroad pedestrian crossing signs and installation of the two street lights and controls. There is a change order totaling \$648.70 which includes to relocate and add mailbox support (\$498.70), add a culvert headwall (\$150.00) and substitute LED lighting heads at no extra cost. Randy Noble asked council members to approve the change order on acceptance by TIB. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve change order no. 1 totaling \$648.70 contingent on acceptance by TIB. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **STEPTOE STREET BRIDGE – SIDEWALKS** – We received an email from Mark Storey informing us they have been exploring the funding potential to include sidewalks on the Steptoe Street Bridge. Department of transportation will entertain the thought of adding sidewalks to the bridge with no additional funding. We will have to add the sidewalks with the existing funding. If we want to proceed, we need to send an email to Don showing an existing section and proposed future section of sidewalks. DOT also wants the Town’s long range plan regarding the extension of the sidewalk. DOT’s first thought is that there is not an existing sidewalk there now on the other side so why should they invest in sidewalks for the bridge if the Town is not going to extend it. Council member’s consensus was to add sidewalks to the bridge and we do want to extend the sidewalk to the edge of the pavement on Steptoe sometime in the future when funding is available. We will add that project to our Six Year Street Report next year.
- B. **NEW CD INTEREST RATES** – Our two CDs have matured this month at State Bank Northwest. The new rate is .55% on both CDs. Mary called the Bank of Fairfield’s Rosalia branch and was quoted a rate of .50%. Al Evans suggested treasury bonds or checking rates with credit unions. Tom Crooks wanted to know if that was an exception rate. Mary will contact the bank and ask about an exception rate.

VII. **COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

AL – The demo car used in the fire department training has not been removed from the eastside of Steptoe Street. The salvage guy was suppose to remove that car weeks ago. Mary

will refer it to the Town Marshals. Al asked where we are on the Order & Notice of the café building. We have had no response from the representative of the estate of Rick Kuykendall. Mary will check on the deadline when a response was due to the Order & Notice.

TOM J. – Nothing at this time.

TOM C. – Nothing at this time.

RANDY – Nothing at this time.

GEORGE – Nothing at this time.

- VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for October 2011. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #22527 - #22550 in the amount of \$4,100.97 for claims and \$7,131.63 for payroll totaling \$11,232.60 from October 06, 2011 through October 14, 2011. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer