

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
April 2, 2012

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Kelli Meserve, Al Evans, Tom Johnson and Tom Crooks. Councilman Randy Robinson was not in attendance. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Dick Brown, Public Works Director and Bob Hooper, new Public Works Director.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Randy Noble from TD&H and James Orton
- IV. **TD&H – RANDY NOBLE:** Randy presented council with an engineering agreement for the Front Street Project being funded by TIB. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the Mayor to sign the agreement for the Front Street Project contingent upon acceptance by TIB. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- Randy reported that Steve Marsh is reviewing the final documents for the USDA Rural Development Funding and a copy will be submitted to the Town after final review is completed.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed March 19, 2012 minutes. Al Evans made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **TOWN MARSHAL’S REPORT:** No report given
- VII. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Dick Brown’s replacement, Bob Hooper, began his employment with the Town today. We will need to chip at the outdoor recycling center this month. Weather permitting, he hopes to chip in the middle of April. We have been discharging for the past three weeks out at the lagoons. The creeks in Town did rise but we had no overflows around town last week.
- VIII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. **NEW HIRE – BOB HOOPER** – We hired Bob Hooper to replace our retiring Dick Brown as our new Public Works Director. Bob will job shadow Dick the entire month of April. Mayor Palmer asked Bob to give a brief introduce of himself to council members. Bob has worked on an on-call basis with the Town since November 2005 helping the Public Works Department fix water leaks, read water meters, mow and lay asphalt. Bob received many congratulations and welcome aboard from council members.

- B. RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY LEASES:** We are waiting for WA Department of Transportation to return a call to our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, regarding the amounts of the railroad right-of-ways and the increased annual fees.
- C. PORT OF WHITMAN** – Council members need to set an annual lease amount so our Town Attorney can propose a long term lease agreement with the Port of Whitman for the fiber optic telecommunication hut. Council members discussed various amounts and came to a consensus to have an annual fee of \$100 per year with a possibility to re-negotiate after five years. Council members would also like to see the lot that would be leased to the Port should be maintained by the Port. This will be referred to our Town Attorney.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. ANNUAL REPORT CLASS** – Mary DeGon will be attending a BIAS Annual Report Class on Wednesday, April 4th. BIAS will aide Mary in learning all the new requirements for annual reporting along with preparing the annual reports in BIAS.
- B. SURPLUS GRADER** – Council members were asked to consider to surplus the Town’s 1960 Galion Grader. The tires on the grader are badly in need of replacement and the swing arm has been broken off. We have very few areas left in Town that are not paved. What few graveled areas that need maintaining, George uses the backhoe. Council discussed the pro’s and con’s on removing the grader from our equipment roster. Council members were asked to vote if they wanted to surplus the grader, 2 voted yes and 2 voted no. Mayor Palmer broke the tie with agreeing to surplus the grader. Council asked Denny to find out how much the grader is worth in its present condition.

X. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

KELLI – She asked if there was anything the Town could do about the big grain trains idling their engines throughout the night in Town when they are loading the grain cars. Council is not aware of anything that can be done about that. This can be referred to our Town Marshals and Town Attorney for further information.

AL, TOM J. AND TOM C. – Nothing at this time.

DENNIS – He has a meeting this Wednesday, April 4th with Mark Storey in Colfax to review and select a bridge engineer for our Steptoe Street Bridge Project.

- XI. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Receipt Register and Check Register for March 2012. Al Evans made the motion to approve checks# 22777 - #22804 in the amount of \$12,952.18 for claims and \$7,902.58 for payroll totaling \$20,854.76 from March 20, 2012 through March 30, 2012 AND EFT payment to WA State DOR in the amount of \$400.06 for excises taxes AND EFT

payment to EFTPS in the amount of \$1,644.08 for employee 941 taxes. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer