

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
April 16, 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, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Also present were Stephen Bishop, Town Attorney and Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Dave Kliewer with JUB Engineering and James Orton.
- James – He wanted to thank our Public Work Department for all their help with the water leak at Wilbur Ellis today. His wife, Sherry, has become the 4-H Leader in our community and the young group is looking for service projects to do in our area. Council members gave them ideas to contact the Parks and Rec District, Cemetery District and the School District for community service projects.
- IV. **JUB ENGINEERING – DAVE KIEWER:** Dave wanted to take a minute and thank the council for selecting his firm to work with us on the Steptoe Bridge Project. JUB Engineering was selected out of three firms to be the bridge engineer for the project. He sincerely appreciates our trust and they are dedicated to providing us with a project we will be happy with and proud of. They will work very closely with the Town keeping good communication and staying within the proposed budget. Layne Merritt will be our daily contact on the project and Dave will be attending all meetings. They look forward to making this a successful project for the Town.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed April 2, 2012 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. **RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY LEASES** – Stephen Bishop has not had a response back from WSDOT regarding the leases. Mayor Palmer expressed concern about the railroad leaving unsightly piles of broken ties along the rails in Town. He was encouraged to contact the state to give them a nudge to do a better job of cleaning up their piles of ties.
- B. **PORT OF WHITMAN'S REQUEST** – Stephen Bishop has contacted the Port and we are moving forward with a twenty year lease agreement in the amount of one hundred dollars per year. He will put the lease together within the next week.
- C. **SURPLUS 1960 GALION GRADER** – Mayor Palmer had contacted three dealers asking for suggested value of our grader and had no return calls. Dan Brown found some comparables on-line ranging from \$1,500 - \$3,000. Council member's consensus was to place the minimum bid on the grader at \$2,000.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. STEPTOE STREET BRIDGE** – On April 4th Mayor Palmer spent the day with Mark Storey reviewing engineering statements of qualification for the Steptoe Street Bridge Project. They conducted two phone interviews and chose JUB Engineering. There will be another meeting with JUB, Town and Whitman County to finalize the paperwork and start reviewing bridge designs with council.

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

KELLI – She had a neighbor complain to her about all the cars parked along 305 East Bartlett Street. There is also a motor home along the street too. This will be referred to our Town Marshals. She has noticed an ongoing concern about the 3 way stop at the intersection of HWY 27 and Steptoe Avenue. People still seemed to be confused that the north bound traffic does not need to stop at that intersection. There have been some close calls for our volunteer firemen trying to get to and from the station when answering emergency calls. Al Evans suggested having a flashing light at the intersection that could be activated when the firemen are responding to calls.

AL – He wanted to ask our Town Attorney if we can change the wording in Ordinance No. 610 regarding the marijuana collective garden to read passage of said ordinance shall be the majority vote of council members instead of majority plus one. Stephen Bishop stated he could make the change in the ordinance. Randy Robinson has a concern trying to form a Planning Commission of nine members. Stephen has seen some towns change their Planning Commission members from 9 to 5 members. The committee can meet regularly or be on demand when needed. Stephen encouraged council to continue having a Planning Committee. Council members asked Stephen to compose an ordinance to change the amount of members needed for a Planning Committee from nine members to five members.

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

- IX. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for April 2012 and the Budget Position for the first quarter of 2012. Mary DeGon reviewed beginning balances for all funds and fund expenses that were unexpected. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #22805 - #22827 in the amount of \$6,709.43 for claims and \$4,718.18 for payroll totaling \$11,427.61 from April 05, 2012 through April 15, 2012. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Check #22826 to Robert Hooper was voided due to incorrect L & I deduction.
- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Johnson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer