

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
December 3, 2012

**** Public Hearing for 2013 Final Budget – Mayor Dennis Palmer opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. Mary DeGon reviewed final numbers for all funds. Since there were no comments from the public, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:04 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. following the Public Hearing.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Kelli Meserve, Al Evans, Tom Johnson, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Also present were Stephen Bishop, Town Attorney; Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Keith Cooper, Town Marshal and Bob Hooper, Public Works Director.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Randy Noble, TD&H Engineering; Tom Kammerzell, Port of Whitman County and James Orton.

Tom Kammerzell – He updated council members on the fiber optic project and what the Port has been involved in lately. Council members had some questions for Tom about the First Wind Project.

- IV. **RANDY NOBLE, TD&H:** He addressed the council with good news and some bad news. The good news was our Steptoe Street sidewalk project was selected for funding by TIB. Randy did include three new lights to be added to the new sidewalk. This project will hopefully be done at the same time as the Front Street Project. The bad news was about the Front Street Project. The existing Front Street has two sections that encroaches private property – one being property the Town already owns. The street can be moved more to the west to avoid encroachment thus the retaining wall would have to be taller. The sidewalk might need to be reduced from 6 feet to 5 feet. Randy Noble will forward the information to Gloria Bennett at TIB for recommendations. Randy hopes to go to bid for the project in February 2013.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed November 19, 2012 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper reported on the department’s activity for November 2012. There were 11 cases ranging from burglary, alleged theft, animal problems, code violations and 20 traffic stops. There is a safety concern with the 2 wire fence on city right-of-way next to 4th Street that was put up by Jack Fanning. Someone has added color ribbon to the wire so the wire is more noticeable in the dark. Jack was advised

by Officer Jordan the fence needed to be removed for safety concerns and that it was on city property. The house at 305 W Rednour that is in the process of being foreclosed on by the mortgage holder is still full of all their garbage as they did not have garbage service. Officer Cooper did serve them a certified notice of the code violations but they refused deliver of the notice. This was referred to our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, who will review our Town Codes to see what our next step might be. The neighbor has filed complaints with City Hall and with our Town Marshals regarding the bad odor problem and concerned with mice and possible rats being attracted to the garbage.

VII. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Bob Hooper reported that Whitman County did get our gravel delivered last month. The backhoe's snow bucket has been installed and the new back tires will be put on this Thursday. The thumb on the backhoe is being tweaked so it is more usable by Tim Brown from Rosalia. Bob tried sealing some concerned areas on the roof above the library that appear to be leaking into the business incubator. It seems to be leaking around the siren. Bob has been busy building a work bench to have at the old fire station.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. STATE AUDIT – Mary received an email from Karen Wilson with the Pullman State Auditor's team informing us they will be here during the week of December 10th to conduct our 3 year accountability audit.

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

A. ORDINANCE NO. 612- Adopting the 2013 budget – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Ordinance No. 612 adopting the 2013 budget. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Al Evans made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 612 passing the 2013 Budget. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

B. RESOLUTION NO. 2012-334 – Employee Salaries – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2012-334 setting the salaries of certain employees. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Randy Robinson made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2012-334 that gives the Clerk/Treasurer and the Public Works Director a two percent wage increase for 2013. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, four council members voted yes and one member abstained from voting – **motion passed**.

C. CO-AG REQUEST – Council members were given copies of an email from Jackie Tee from Co-Ag in regards to their McCoy Grain Terminal Project on SR 271 by the McCoy grain elevators about 5 miles from Oakesdale. WSDOT has informed Co-Ag that they must keep the highway free of mud and rock the trucks are tracking on it

going in and out of the project site. They are requesting to contract our sweeper on an as needed basis. They have access to a trailer to haul the sweeper and can arrange for the transport of the sweeper. If this is a possibility, Co-Ag would need to know what the requirements of the Town would be for notification prior to the needed service and then payment for the services. Council members discussed the request and the consensus of council members was not to contract our sweeper out due to the age of the machine.

X. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

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

AL – He brought up again the concern of needing a generator to run the wells in case of a major power outage for a length of time.

KELLI – Nothing at this time.

XI. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for November 2012. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks# 23124 - #23137 in the amount of \$4,667.15 for claims and \$5,690.93 for payroll totaling \$10,358.08 from November 20, 2012 through November 30, 2012 AND EFT payment to EFTPS in the amount of \$1,580.68 for employee federal taxes. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Tom Crooks seconded the meeting, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer