

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
January 22, 2013

- 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 was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.

III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Dolores Haley

Dolores invited council members to the next Museum Soup Social on Sunday, February 17th. The first Soup Social they hosted was last Sunday, January 20th and it was mainly attended by members of the Presbyterian Church. She commented that there were no members of the council in attendance and she encouraged them to attend the next one.

- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MIUNTES:** Council members reviewed January 7, 2013 minutes. Al Evans 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. **FRONT STREET PROJECT** – Council members were given a status report that was emailed to us from TD&H. The design work is still on hold until the right-of-way issues are resolved. Ownership of the parcel east of Front Street is not clear. TD&H has found evidence that a property owner named Bailor deeded a 20 foot strip of land to Oakesdale in the early 1900's. TD&H has ordered a Title search for the parcel on January 14th. We are awaiting receipt of the report.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **AGREEMENT FROM NOANET** – We received an email from Kristie Kirkpatrick, Director of Whitman County Library, regarding the upgrading of the internet service to the library in Oakesdale. As part of the project they need to bring the necessary infrastructure into the library building. This would consist of a 1.25 inch conduit that will house a fiber optic cable from NoaNet. Since the library does not own the building, NoaNet needs permission to finish the connection to the building. They are asking the Town to sign a Landlord Agreement with NoaNet. This agreement has been sent to our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, for review. Stephen did have some

concerns with the wording of the agreement. Mary attempted to contact Stephen twice last week about the agreement but has not heard back from him. The library needed this to be done over a week ago. NoaNet is on a tight time schedule. We are not able to approve the agreement tonight without advice from our attorney. This was tabled until the next meeting.

B. BRIDGE INSPECTIONS – We received notifications from Whitman County Public Works and from WSDOT that we have seven out of nine of our bridges in need of routine inspections before the end of January 2013. It is mandatory by the state that our bridges are inspected every two years. Whitman County is willing to inspect our bridges and needs a letter of intent to proceed with this process. Mary talked to Phil Meyer, Operations Manager for Whitman County, and he thought the cost would be around four to five hundred dollars. Mayor Palmer did send a letter, as per our inter-local agency agreement, requesting Bob Sevedge, Bridge Supervisor, to perform the Town of Oakesdale’s routine bridge inspection on the 7 bridges that need to be in compliance. If at all possible, we would like the remaining 2 bridges to also be inspected so we can have all nine of our bridges on the same two year inspection cycle.

C. 2012 BUDGET – ENDING BALANCES – Mary DeGon reviewed with council members the final fund balances for 2012:

- Current Expense Fund 001 - \$233,865.64
- Current Expense Reserve Fund 002 - \$131,089.24
- Street Fund 101 - \$30,115.71
- Street Reserve Fund 103 - \$40,105.67
- Water/Sewer Operating Fund 401 - \$182,894.94
- Water/Sewer Replacement Fund 409 – \$67,808.96
- Water/Sewer Capital Equipment 412 - \$75,370.04

There were no budget amendments needed for our 2012 budget as we stayed within our budgeted expenditure amounts for all funds.

VII. PLANNING:

A. WELCOME PACKETS – Dolores Haley was nice enough to put together an example of a welcome basket for council members to understand her request from last meeting. She had a basket with various food products and brochures from local businesses, churches, schools and organizations. The idea would be to see if some of the businesses would sponsor some of the food products, like lentils, to be placed in the welcome baskets. The Town can’t financially put together the welcome baskets as that is considered gifting in the state’s eyes. However, it was suggested for the museum committee to possibly organize the welcome baskets. All council members agreed this is a great idea for new residents which would normally be supported by your local Chamber of Commerce. Oakesdale’s Chamber of Commerce disbanded approximately ten years ago.

B. WATER SYSTEM – Council members asked if Frank Triplett gave Mayor Palmer the Small Water Systems Plan yet. Mayor Palmer talked to Frank after our last meeting and he would be bringing the plan by City Hall. Mary has not seen Frank since last month. Mayor Palmer will have a visit with Frank to get this done.

C. OTHER – Nothing

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

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

IX. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for January 2013. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks #23200 - #23205, #23212 in the amount of \$6,377.09 for claims and \$0 for payroll totaling \$6,377.09 for December 31, 2012 AND EFT payment to WA State Department of Revenue in the amount of \$466.99 for excise taxes AND paid checks #23206 - #23211, #23213 - #23216 in the amount of \$2,753.87 for claims and \$7,155.97 for payroll totaling \$9,909.84 from January 11, 2013 through January 16, 2013. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

X. ADJOURNMENT: Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer