

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
February 3, 2014

- 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; Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Bob Hooper, Public Works Director and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed January 21, 2014 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper submitted the monthly report for January 2014 that listed 11 cases ranging from trespassing, theft, animal problem, civil issue, welfare checks and house checks. Mayor Palmer thanked Keith and the Quad Cities Drug Taskforce Team for helping this community clean up the problem drug houses. Keith referred to Ordinance No. 615 that addresses public nuisance housing: Persons who own or control property within the Town of Oakesdale who allow their properties to be used for illegal purposes and the properties present serious health, safety and welfare concerns and interfere with the quality of life, comfort and solitude of other persons residing in Town. Phil Brown's rental house at 305 E Bartlett has had numerous search warrants for stolen property and drugs. The house recently made the news for the last raid on the house which four people were arrested for meth, marijuana and stolen guns. Keith will discuss with Stephen Bishop what we need to do to issue a written notice to Phil Brown declaring this property a chronic nuisance and the Town will take action against the property.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORK REPORT:** Bob Hooper reported he finished making a workbench in the shop. He has been busy servicing equipment and plowing snow. We have also sanded the streets where it has been icy.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **REPAIR OF WELLS** – Mayor Palmer and Bob have talked to Specialty Pump and they are ready to install the pump back into Well #5. Due to the extreme cold temperatures this week they will try to be down next Tuesday.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. 2014-2015 SMALL WORKS ROSTER FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES** – Mary informed council members that this week and next week in the Gazette will be an ad for 2014-2015 engineering services. The Statements of Qualifications (SOQ's) will be due on Tuesday, February 18th by 4:00 p.m. at City Hall. We will have the SOQ's available for our council meeting that evening.
- B. 2013 BUDGET TOTALS** – Mary reviewed with council members the results of the 2013 Budget. Current Fund No. 001 ended the year with a \$843.93 deficit, Street Fund No. 101 ended the year with a \$6,198.90 deficit and Water/Sewer Fund 401 ended the year with a positive \$4,905.34.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

RANDY – Kudos to our cops for all the work they have done recently to help clean up our Town.

TOM C. – He brought up our ordinance we passed about not allowing any activity that is illegal with the Feds would not be allowed in our Town. That ordinance is holding up for the moment on marijuana being sold as a business in Oakesdale. Stephen Bishop reviewed the latest in Olympia on marijuana with council members.

TOM J. – He concurs with Randy Robinson on the kudos and appreciation to our law enforcement officers and to the Public Works Department.

AL – He would like to see a letter sent to Whitman County thanking the drug task force team for all their hard work. He has some ideas to fix up the little gas station making it look like it did in its day. He suggested meeting only once a month for council meetings. Stephen Bishop suggested not to change the Code for meetings. A council member can make a motion at the current meeting not to meet at the next one if there is no need to meet.

KELLI – Nothing at this time.

- X. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVE OF CHECKS:** Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid check #23753 in the amount of \$32,531.88 for claims and \$0 for payroll totaling \$32,531.88 for December 31, 2013 AND approve paid checks #23754 - #23773 in the amount of \$100,279.15 for claims and \$5,801.47 for payroll totaling \$106,080.62 from January 22, 2014 through January 31, 2014 AND EFT payment to EFTPS in the amount of \$1,757.16 for employee federal taxes. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Kelli Meserve seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER. MAYOR

ATTEST:

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer