

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
October 20, 2014

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Tom Crooks, Tom Johnson, Al Evans and Jake Dingman. Councilman Randy Robinson was not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** James Orton
- IV. **OATH OF OFFICE – JAKE DINGMAN:** Mayor Dennis Palmer asked Jake Dingman to raise his right hand and repeat the oath of office. Jake was sworn in as Council Member Position 2 that was previously occupied by Kellie Meserve.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed October 6, 2014 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Jake Dingman seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **2015 BUDGET** – Mary reviewed changes to the budget from the last meeting. There will be a preliminary budget hearing before the regular council meeting on Monday, November 3, 2014. There will also be a public hearing for the 1% increase over the actual levy amount from the previous year. The income from property taxes has not been increased for the 2015 budget yet as Mary was waiting to get the figures from County Assessor, Joe Reynolds. The next budget update will also include beginning and ending balances.
 - B. **WELL #4 REPAIRS** - The shaft, casing and pump were pulled last week. The casing is very pitted and will need replacing. We should have another update on the well by the next council meeting.
- VII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **STORMWATER FUNDING** – Stillman Norton with Keller Associates met with the Mayor, Bob Hooper and Tom Crooks to discuss what upgrades are needed to help prevent flooding down Steptoe Street. The first phase is identifying our needs. The second phase is the planning phase. The planning study cost which includes Environmental and Cultural would cost approximately \$45,000. There is funding available through DOE Centennial/319 Funding that could fund 75% of the cost of the planning study with a 25% local match. After the planning study has been

completed, funding for the design and construction funding could come from DOE SFAP Funding. There is \$66 million available for this year's applications which are due by November 7, 2014. The funds are 75% of the cost with a 25% local match. There is consideration for hardships and the local match could be reduced to 15%. If funds are not available for local match DOE does offer a low interest 20 year loan. Council members discussed the concern about the local match. We still have some questions that need to be answered by Stillman Norton. Mary will contact him tomorrow about our concerns. Mayor Palmer did bring up his progress on getting the old, undersized train rail bridge on the south side of HWY 27 between the lagoons removed. We are waiting for Union Pacific Railroad to decide to deed it to the Town or sell it to us. The old railroad bridge appears to be the culprit causing the flood waters to back up into Oakesdale.

- B. SEWER FACILITY PLAN FUNDING** – Steve Marsh with TD&H is in the process of applying for DOE funding to fund a sewer facility plan that is being required by DOE in regards to our discharge permit. We have not been informed if there is matching local funds required for this or not. The application is due by November 2, 2014.

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

TOM C. – He is concerned the amount of money we spent last year on Well #5 for repairs and now we will be spending more to repair Well #4. We need to look at increasing our water rates to help cover these expenses.

TOM J. – Nothing at this time.

AL – Since this is budget time, he would like council to consider purchasing a generator for the wells. If we lost power for a long period of time we could still operate at least one well on a generator.

JAKE – Nothing at this time.

DENNIS – He asked Jake if he could give school updates under Council Member's Business to keep council in the loop.

- IX. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for October 2014. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #24117 - #24134 in the amount of \$2,992.34 for claims and \$3,715.91 for payroll totaling \$6,708.25 from October 09, 2014 through October 15, 2014. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all members voted yes – **motion passed.**

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer