

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
November 17, 2014

****Public Hearing for 2015 basic water rate increase – Mayor Dennis Palmer opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. Council reviewed the proposed increase of five dollars per month to the basic rate. The current base rate is \$22 and would be increased to \$27. Being no comments from the public, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. following the Public Hearing.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Randy Robinson, Tom Crooks, Tom Johnson and Al Evans. Councilman Jake Dingman was not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** John & Shawnette Kirwin and their son Jacob. They are in the process of purchasing the old tavern. Their plan is to renovate the building. Make living quarters on the top and have a restaurant down below. They are thinking a pizzeria that would also serve wine and beer.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed November 3, 2014 minutes. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **2015 BUDGET** – The only changes to the budget were for the liability insurance increase and salaries. Mary is budgeted for a 2% increase. Council agreed to give Bob a 7% increase when he passes his certified sewer operator test. This is equivalent to the \$200 a month we are paying Duane Groom for his certified sewer operator license until Bob gets his license. There will be a Final Budget Hearing before the next council meeting on December 1st.
 - B. **WELL #4 REPAIRS** – We have the final numbers from Specialty Pump to repair the well. The first quote was \$12,067 before tax to pull the pump and rebuild the motor, replace the bearings, replace top shaft, tear down and inspect bowls and reinstall the pump. After pulling the pump and inspection we need a new 12 stage bowl assembly, new shafts and new columns. The new quote is \$30,179 before tax. Randy made the motion to repair Well #4 in the amount of \$30,179 plus tax. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

- C. **2015 WATER RATE INCREASES** – No discussion since there was nobody here with questions or concerns.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 619** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Ordinance No. 619 increasing the basic water rate in 2015. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Randy Robinson made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 619 increasing the basic water rate from \$22 per month to \$27 per month for 4,125 gallons of water effective January 1, 2015 AND increasing the basic water rate by 2% over the next 5 years. The increases will be:

2016 - \$27.54

2017 - \$28.09

2018 - \$28.65

2019 - \$29.22

2020 - \$29.80

Tom Johnson seconded the motion. Council discussion – Randy Robinson called for question. Three council members voted yes and one council member voted no – **motion passed**.

VII. **COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

RANDY – We need to get recreational vehicles and extra vehicles off the City right-of-ways and alley ways for access for emergency vehicles and for plowing snow. We will have our Town Marshals check all the alley ways for access. Randy spoke with Bob Westby, WSDOT Manager of the Palouse River and Coulee City Rail System, about the reed canary grass choking out the channel at the south end of Town causing flood water to back up into Town. The original wetland designation is no longer valid. In that case, WSDOT could issue a permit to the Town of Oakesdale to perform the mowing of the reed canary grass in the channel within WSDOT’s right-of-way. This problem has been turned over to Tammie Williams, WSDOT Environmental Manager of the Eastern Region. Randy will meet with her hopefully this week to look over the area we have concerns with the reed canary grass.

TOM C. – He noticed our Steptoe Sidewalk project from last year has not been completed at the corner of Steptoe and HWY 27. Our engineers, TD&H, are aware of the problem and have taken pictures to submit to Frontier. Frontier is responsible for fixing the sidewalk they broke to remove their lines.

TOM J. – He has a concern about the old trailer sitting in the front of the Eagan rental property at 605 W McCoy. It is just unsightly and asked if it could be moved. It is located on private property and we can not make the home owner move it.

AL – He want to follow up on what Randy is saying about the vehicles being in alley ways and on city right-of-ways. Maybe we need to consider an ordinance restricting parking during a certain time of year.

VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for November 2014. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #24149 - #24170 in the amount of \$4,610.31 for claims and \$7,072.70 for payroll totaling \$11,683.01 from November 04, 2014 through November 14, 2014. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

IX. 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