

***Town of Oakesdale***  
***TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES***  
***For***  
***July 20, 2015***

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Dolores Haley, Al Evans, Tom Johnson, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed July 6, 2015 minutes. Tom Johnson 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. **POLICE POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL UPDATE** – Justin Derosier is still in the process of updating the manual.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **LIBRARY AIR CONDITIONER** – Council members discussed several options on providing air conditioning to the library. Friends of the Library purchased a portable air conditioning unit for the Oakesdale Library but it needs to be vented out the building. Since the windows do not have an option of opening up, we will have to put a hole thru the brick to vent it out from the front of the library or place it in the back room where it can be vented thru a wood section of the library. Consensus of council members was not to create an exhaust vent thru the brick structure. Mayor Palmer will check to see if a vent free air conditioner is a possibility or even if there is such a thing.
  - B. **MAYOR PRO-TEM** – Every six months we need to renew who we have as Mayor Pro-tem should the Mayor not be able to perform his duties. Al Evans is our current Mayor Pro-tem. Council consensus was to keep Al as Mayor Pro-tem.
  - C. **SCHOLARSHIP QUESTION** – Pete Baljo had asked Mary to check into the possibility of the Town having a scholarship program. His idea was to have people round up when paying their utility bill and have the excess go into a scholarship fund. Mary sent an email to the Pullman State Auditing Team which then forwarded the question to the State Auditor’s Client Help Desk. The SAO responded back, “As a Town operating under RCW35.27, powers are generally limited to purposes

specifically identified in state law. State law for second class cities does not identify program scholarships as a municipal purpose.”

**D. OUTDOOR RECYCLING CENTER** – Mayor Palmer and Tom Crooks attended the special school board meeting tonight before our meeting to discuss the property where the outdoor recycling center is located. In 2008, the Town entered into an inter-local agreement with the School District to use a portion of the school’s property to build the recycling center. The school has since listed the property as surplus and is considering selling the property. The agreement states either party must give a twelve month notice to void the agreement. The school may check to see if the lot could be split so the old gym could be sold separately from the recycling center. The Town would be interested in purchasing the property if it comes down to keeping the recycling center where it is currently located. This has been a great community service for our residents to recycle their yard waste.

**VII. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

**DOLORES** – She shared a news article she clipped out of the Gazette about the City of Tekoa trying to put an ordinance together to mandate property owners take care of their yards. We have an ordinance already that takes care of that, but when it comes to bank repos and estates tied up in legal actions, it can take some time before we locate a responsible party to notify them that the current property is violating our codes. Justin did send out two certified letters to the person who has been paying the taxes on the property across from Dolores on Pearl Street notifying them they needed to take care of the property.

**AL** – The renters in Phil Brown’s house on Bartlett have thrown some garbage up on the embankment where they have parked some cars along Bartlett Street. This will be referred to the Town Marshal.

**TOM J.** – He had retrieved the property owner’s information from Whitman County for Justin to use on the house across from Dolores, but Justin has already handled the situation.

**TOM C.** – Nothing at this time.

**RANDY** – He noticed as he was signing the checks that Justin had worked over the allotted 20 hours during the last pay period and instead worked 40 hours. Denny was asked if he permitted the extra hours. Denny was not aware until his pay check needed to be signed. We need to make sure we are getting our bang for our buck when it comes to police coverage.

**VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for July 2015. Al made the motion to approve paid checks #24485 - #24505 in the amount of \$3,480.226 for claims and \$8,044.20 for payroll totaling \$11,524.46 from July 09, 2015 through July 15, 2015. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

---

**DENNY PALMER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

---

**Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer**