

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
January 4, 2016

- 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, Tom Johnson and Tom Crooks. Councilmen Randy Robinson and Al Evans were not in attendance. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer; Stephen Bishop, Town Attorney; Bob Hooper, Public Works Director and Justin Derosier, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Travis Hall
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed December 21, 2015 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Dolores Haley seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Justin Derosier gave council members the police report for December 2015. There were five cases ranging from civil, non-injury accident, drugs, trespassing and communications. The Whitman County Sheriff's Office handled four cases involving juvenile problem, drugs, civil and domestic dispute.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Bob Hooper reported they have been busy plowing and removing snow. The brakes on the orange dump truck are being fixed.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **SMALL WATER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN GRANT** – Our engineers, TD&H, are busy working on the grant application that is due this month.
 - B. **UP RAILROAD AGREEMENT** – Stephen Bishop has not contacted the railroad yet about the concerns of the agreement to remove the old railroad bridge.
 - C. **WIRELESS CONTROL SYSTEM FOR WELLS** – The installation of the wireless control system between the water tower and wells should be finished by tomorrow.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2016-355** – Tom Johnson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2016-355 designating an official Town newspaper. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Dolores Haley made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2016-355 designating the

Whitman County Gazette as our official Town newspaper effective January 1, 2016. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

B. MAYOR PRO-TEM – It is that time again to designate a Mayor Pro-tem for the next six month in case the current Mayor should not be able to perform his duties. Council consensus was to leave Al Evans serving as the Mayor Pro-tem.

C. REQUEST FOR SOQ'S FOR ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING SERVICES FOR 2016-2017 – Every two years we need to run an ad for engineering and land surveying services. The ad will appear in the Whitman County Gazette over the next two weeks. The deadline for SOQ's is February 16th by 4:00 p.m.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

STEPHEN – He received a call from an attorney representing Al Chidester's late Mother's estate in regards to the old drug store building that Al owns. There is someone interested in purchasing the property for a locksmith business. The Town placed a lien on the property in July 2009 in the amount of \$584.70 for past water and sewer charges. The account now has a balance of \$3,731.34. The last payment Al made on this account was January 2008. The attorney asked Stephen if the Town would consider eliminating the bulk of the charges so the property can be sold. The concern is the property is in bad shape and it would take a lot of money to bring the building up to code. Council agreed they would talk to the potential buyers to see what can be done about the outstanding charges on that property.

Stephen reviewed the updated police procedure manual and said it does not fit Oakesdale very well. He understands it is a blanket county policy that most towns are using who still have their own police departments. Stephen said we need to find a policy that fits a fourth class city. Justin and Stephen discussed the pros and cons of the current policy. Stephen said to continue under the current police procedure manual until a better fit policy can be found. He encouraged all the council members to read the policy so they can understand where he is coming from with his thoughts on replacing it with a more suitable policy for our Town's size. Stephen will check with our liability insurance carrier to see if they have any policies we can review.

DOLORES – Nothing at this time.

TOM J. – Nothing at this time.

TOM C. – He noticed the lamp in the courtyard has been turned again. Do we think someone is purposely turning it or is it being caused by the wind? He just wants to make sure the lamp is secure. Bob will check on it tomorrow.

X. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for December 2015. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks #24695 - #24713 in the amount of \$4,944.81 for claims and \$9,002.82 for payroll totaling \$13,947.63 from December 22, 2015 through

December 31, 2015. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Crooks made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer