

TOWN OF OAKESDALE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2009

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

City Hall will be closed Labor Day weekend on Friday Sept. 4th and Monday Sept. 7th. The city council meeting will be held on Tuesday Sept. 8th at 7:00 p.m.

TOWN MARSHAL CHANGE

John Goyke has resigned his position as Town Marshal/Public Works Director effective August 31st. John served as our town marshal for many years before taking on the added responsibility of serving as our Public Works Director. In addition to his other duties John became our certified water system manager. We wish him well as he moves from the beautiful Palouse (Cougar) Country to San Antonio, Texas.

The city council has changed the marshal position from a full time to a part time position and we will be filling the new position with Deputy Sheriffs Dan Brown and Keith Cooper who both live in Oakesdale. Both will be employed by the Town and will use the Town's office, patrol car and equipment. The phone number for the Marshal's office for non-emergency calls will continue to be 285-5333.

Dick Brown will move to the position of Public Works Director.

OAKESDALE CAFE

Andrew and Brandi Davis will be the new operators of the Oakesdale Cafe which they hope to have open by the middle of September. They will be serving "down-home country" food for breakfast, lunch and dinner with a menu from omelets to steaks.

Street and Public Safety Levies

For the last several years we have had to depend on the generosity of our taxpayers to pass our street and public safety levies. These two levies make up over half of the property taxes we receive from Whitman County.

This year, because we have reduced our marshal position to part time we have reduced the proposed Public Safety Levy (Proposition No. 1) to \$20,000. As you can see on the following 2010 early budget projection, this levy only covers a portion of the expense for law enforcement and fire protection.

However, because our 2009 Street Budget is projecting a loss of over \$20,000 (which we will cover with reserve funds) we felt it prudent to add the \$10,000 reduction of this year's public safety levy to our street levy, which will result in a proposed Street Levy (Proposition No. 2) of \$30,000.

The estimated amount per \$1,000 of assessed valuation will be \$1.32 for Proposition No. 1 and \$1.98

for Proposition No. 2. We will appreciate your careful consideration of these two propositions.

2010 Early Budget Projection

Following is an early projection of our 2010 budget needs. You will notice that Water/Sewer shows a \$30,000 profit this year. This is because we made our last sewer replacement loan payment of \$24,000 last year and because we will be paying off the \$150,000 balance of our water improvement loan for which we have been paying \$17,666 a year. Our loan agreement with the USDA allowed them to call in our loan when they felt we could reasonably pay it off. We have stalled them for a couple years but with interest rates on our reserves dropping to 2% or below we decided to pay off this 5% interest loan with 2% interest money. The profit shown this year and in years to come will restore the reserves we are trying to build up for much needed water improvements in the future.

General Revenue	
Real and Property Taxes	\$ 42,000
Proposition No. 1	20,000
Sales, Use & Utility Taxes	22,885
Fees, Permits & Licenses	2,460
State & County Assistance	22,840
Interest & Miscellaneous	<u>7,802</u>
	\$117,987
General Expense	
Mayor, Council & Office	\$ 41,592
Buildings & Utilities	11,799
Law Enforcement	30,640
Fire Control & ENS	16,170
Inspection & Miscellaneous	<u>5,420</u>
	\$105,620
Street Revenue	
Street Levy Proposition No. 2	\$ 30,000
Electric & Phone Utility Tax	39,000
State Fuel Tax Share	9,500
Interest	<u>1,326</u>
	\$ 79,826
Street Expense	
Buildings Expense	\$ 4,758
Wages Maintenance, etc	64,409
Street Lights	<u>14,000</u>
	\$83,165
Water/Sewer Revenue	
Water/Sewer Revenues	\$141,000
Utility Taxes	8,300
Interest & Miscellaneous	<u>13,722</u>
	\$163,022
Water/Sewer Expense	
Administrative Share	\$ 39,740
Buildings Expense	4,056
Direct Water/Sewer Expense	<u>90,605</u>
	\$134,401

Mayor/ Council Contacts

Councilmen:

George Dewan = 285-5282, Alan Evans = 285-4727, Tom Johnson = 285-4303

Dennis Palmer = 285-4209, Randy Robinson = 285-6750

Mayor: Russ Rickett = 285-4049, **City Hall** = 285-4020