

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
February 20, 2018

- 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, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Steve Nelson with Century West Engineering and Steve Marsh and Randy Noble with TD&H Engineering.

Steve Nelson – He thanked council for allowing him to talk to them about Century West. They work for several local communities such as Tekoa, Garfield, Odessa, Lind and Kettle Falls. Kynda Browning, the clerk at Tekoa, had called Mary last week with nothing but praise for Century West. Steve gave a brief description of their services. They are working with Tekoa right now on a GIS – Geo Information System that takes data points of the water and sewer system and puts the information into a data base to create maps. Tekoa is receiving a grant for this service. He acknowledge that he knows we have had TD&H for many, many years and can see we have a great working relationship with them. He would love to be our second pick for engineering services.

Steve Marsh – He informed council members that in the past 12 years they have helped the Town receive over \$2.1 million in grant funding from the Transportation Improvement Board for street and sidewalk projects. They have completed our Small Water System Management Plan and submitted the plan to Department of Health last week. They have aided in 3 revisions on our Wastewater Discharge Permit with DOE saving the Town a lot of money. They also can handle Geo Information System. They have learned over the years that small communities have trouble keeping the data up to date after the engineers have collected the data and installed the program.

Randy Noble – He is now retired from TD&H Engineering but holds Oakesdale very close to his heart. He worked hard many, many years ago to cultivate Oakesdale’s needs and provide services to our community.

- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed February 5, 2018 minutes. Dolores Haley made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. **ENGINEER SOQ’s FOR 2018/2019** – We received seven engineer’s Statement of Qualifications (SOQ’s) from Century West Engineering, TD&H Engineering, Pacific Engineering, Keltic Engineering, Inc., Welch-Comer Engineers & Surveyors, White Shield, Inc. and JUB Engineers, Inc. Mayor Palmer appointed Randy Robinson and

Tom Crooks to review all SOQ's by the next council meeting where they will make their recommendations to council on the engineers that would best fit our needs.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PLANNING – Randy Robinson asked if it would be to our advantage to develop a Public Development Association (PDA) or something similar to that to help fund projects of buying old buildings and repairing them so new businesses can come into our community. The buildings that are vacant now are in poor condition and nothing is available for a new business to come into our Town except for the lease of the Business Incubator located above the Library building. Council members discussed the need of a restaurant/café and if our community could support such a business. We need to discuss this with our Town Attorney, Stephen Bishop, on the proper actions the Town can take on a PDA. It was suggested to consider a market survey amongst the community to see if people are interested in having a restaurant and/or café. Council discussion also included the old flour mill and the need to reach out to the owner to see what the future holds for that building.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

DOLORES – Nothing at this time.

TOM J. – He asked if Public Works could clear the alley of snow behind the building the Food Commodities distribute food once a month. The alley will be kept plowed as it also ties into the Coffee Lab's drive thru window.

TOM C. – Nothing at this time.

RANDY – He is very interested in what Stephen Bishop has to say about public funds being used to buy property in the industrial zone of Town and repairing them to allow new business to come into Oakesdale. Randy was reminded that some of the old buildings may not be worth saving and need to be torn down which would allow a company to come and build on the available lot(s).

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report for February 2018. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve paid checks #25754 - #25776 in the amount of \$10,218.15 for claims and \$6,518.05 for payroll totaling \$16,736.20 from February 12, 2018 through February 15, 2018. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Tom Crooks made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:50 p.m. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer