

***Town of Oakesdale***  
***TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES***  
***For***  
***April 15, 2019***

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Dolores Haley, Al Evans, Tom Johnson and Randy Robinson. Councilman Tom Crooks was not in attendance. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer and Eric Hanson, Town Attorney.

III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** June Crow and Sharon Crow

June and Sharon came on behalf Crow Farms to discuss the possibility of the Town vacating an alleyway in Bamford's Addition along the south side of Block 1. The alley has not been used and is overgrown with brush and trees. Sharon is looking to remove an old single wide trailer off the property adjacent to the alley with hopes to build a home or place a manufactured home on the property. The current sewer service line to the old trailer passes thru the alley in question to connect to the sewer main on Steptoe Avenue. Our Town attorney, Eric Hanson, advised council members that they would need a petition from June and Sharon Crow requesting to vacate the alley with a legal description of the property attached to the petition. Council would then need to post a hearing for the said alleyway before granting Crows' request.

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed April 1, 2019 minutes. Tom Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

V. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **SERVICE TRUCK** – The purchase of the service truck has been finalized and the title transferred in the Town's name. Our insurance carrier has been notified and the vehicle added for coverage.

B. **PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIM** – No further information.

C. **WSDOT – GLENN WAGEMANN** – He has not rescheduled his visit with us.

D. **SURPLUS 1999 PWD PICKUP** – The ad will run in the Whitman County Gazette editions on April 18<sup>th</sup> & April 25<sup>th</sup>. The minimum bid for the pickup is \$1,600 and all sealed bids will be accepted at City Hall until noon on April 30<sup>th</sup> at which time bids will be opened.

- E. **SEWER PROBLEM AT 108 S 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET & PEARL** – The owner continues to have problems with his sewer line. He hired a second plumber to find the problem. It appears to be a blockage in his service line six feet from his connection to the main.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **MASONIC LODGE SUPPORT SIGN** – Members of the Oakesdale Masonic Hall are installing a sign along HWY 27 within city limits on private property owned by Terry Hammer. The Masons did get WSDOT approval for placement of the sign and Terry gave them permission to install the sign on his property. WSDOT is requesting our approval as well since it is within city limits. The sign is thanking businesses who have supported the Masonic Lodge over the years. Council consensus was to approve the sign.
- B. **CROW FARM'S REQUEST TO VACATE ALLEY** – We should receive the petition by our next council meeting from Crow Farms to vacate the alleyway.
- C. **SEWER ORDINANCE CHANGE** – Randy Robinson asked Eric if the Town could add to the sewer ordinances making residents reimbursement the Town for proving our sewer main was in working order and had no obstructions when the problem was on their sewer service line all along. Eric stated we could make this a policy and adopt by resolution. Make the resident's plumber give written verification that it is a Town's problem on the main and not the resident's service line. The resident will then need to reimburse the Town for the sewer inspection should there be no fault with the main. If we do have a problem with the sewer main, we will, of course, take action to fix the problem and the resident will not be charged for the inspection.
- D. **FALLEN OFFICER – JUSTIN DEROSIER** – Our past Town Marshal, Justin DeRosier, was killed in the line of duty on April 14<sup>th</sup> in Cowlitz County. Justin worked for the Town from August 2014 through April 2016. Council members will personally make a monetary contribution to Mary to order flowers for his funeral services. The Oakesdale Track Team has started a donation jar located at Crossett's should anyone like to make a donation to the family.

**VII. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:**

**DOLORES** – None

**AL** – He asked if there is something we can do about that concrete mess on the old tavern lot. He can be served a notice from the Town that he needs to clean that up within a time frame and if it's not done by said date, we can have it cleaned up at the owner's expense by putting a lien against the property for the cost of removing the concrete. The building has been up for sale for a few years.

**TOM J.** – None

**RANDY** – He asked if the lending bank that has the loan on a bank repo house will clean up the property especially when there is an abandoned truck left by the alley. In most cases, the banks hire a property management group to clean up the properties so the house can be placed on the market. We talked about the Town bringing in dumpsters to have a town-wide clean up. However, Eric said that it could be viewed as “gifting of Town funds” for getting rid of other peoples garbage on the Town’s dime.

**VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for April 2019. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #26391 - #26409 in the amount of \$18,959.59 for claims and \$7,986.59 for payroll totaling \$26,946.18 from April 3, 2019 through April 15, 2019. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** Dolores Haley made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:55 p.m. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

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**DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer**