

*Town of Oakesdale*  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*For*  
*August 3, 2020*

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Tom Crooks lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Marletta Sisak and Leta Palmer

They wanted to inform council that the next Ruck for the Fallen event will be during the first weekend in October on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Once again, the event will be held in Oakesdale. Mitch has gained over 10,000 new members since the last Ruck. They will have more flags to be flown this year. Council again supports the event and asked that protection measures are followed for the pandemic.

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed July 20, 2020 minutes. Randy Robinson 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:** None – Keith was on vacation.

VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Brad Sullivan was on vacation so Mary gave the monthly report. Current projects completed included:

- Prepping Steptoe Avenue for crack sealing
- Cleaned the wet wells at the treatment plant
- Re-sloped the embankment below the tennis courts
- Trimmed trees on Steptoe for the chip sealing crew's equipment
- Replaced the front tires on the backhoe
- Replaced the gate valve at the treatment plant
- Replaced the clay valves on Well #5
- Repaired the furnace at the city shop

The upcoming projects included repairing the fence around the treatment plant, build a flow machine hut at the treatment plant, repair the snow blade for the plow truck, continue working on Montana Street at the top of the hill to have access to water meters and resize approximately 20 sewer lids to be used on current manholes.

VII. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. ORDINANCE NO. 641 – WATER RATES** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Ordinance No. 641 increasing the basic water rate. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Randy Robinson made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 641 increasing the basic water by \$7.50 effective September 1, 2020 making the basic water rate \$37.30 per month. The basic rate will be increased another \$7.50 effective January 1, 2021 making the basic water rate \$44.80. Dolores Haley seconded the motion, three council members voted yes and one council member voted no – **motion passed**.
- B. ENGINEERING CONTRACT FOR DOE PROJECT** – Steve Marsh emailed council members a DOE funding cheat sheet and agreement for engineering services for our upcoming DOE project. We were awarded \$189,000 for writing a wastewater facility plan, write inflow and infiltration study, provide recommendations for monitoring equipment and to purchase that equipment. It will take at least 18 months to 24 months to complete. We were awarded the funding from DOE with a 50% forgiveness leaving the loan amount at \$94,500 to be paid over 5 years. Dolores Haley made the motion to give the Mayor permission to sign the engineering contract between the Town of Oakesdale and TD&H Engineering for the DOE project. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- C. PROCLAMATION FOR OAKESDALE AS NORTH GATEWAY TO STEPTOE BUTTE** – Mayor Palmer has had people asking him why there is not a sign posted showing Oakesdale is the north gateway to Steptoe Butte. Mayor Palmer would like to get WSDOT involved with getting a sign installed. Council consensus was to let Mayor Palmer inquire about the sign.
- D. BARBER SHOP** – Larry Stanley would like the opportunity to come to a council meeting to discuss the possibilities of building a new barber shop in Oakesdale. Many years ago, his Father, Zeek, operated the barber shop in town. He has always appreciated the support the community showed his family after his father passed away. Council agreed to listen to Larry’s prospect of building a barber shop when he attends a council meeting.
- E. KELLEY CABIN** – Mayor Palmer inquired if there would be enough interest to ask the Kelley family to move the Kelley Cabin to Oakesdale to be restored. Council agreed that decision is up to the Kelley family before any decisions would be made about the cabin’s future.

**IX. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

**DOLORES** – None

**AL** – He inquired if someone was living in the garage attached to the old hotel building. The owner of the building allows her son to work on cars in the garage. No one is living there.

**TOM C.** – None

**RANDY – None**

- X. **TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Receipt Register and Check Register for July 2020. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #27056 - #27071 in the amount of \$2,444.59 for claims and \$8,497.88 for payroll totaling \$10,942.47 from July 22, 2020 through July 31, 2020. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
  
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Al Evans 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.**

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**DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer**