

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
December 7, 2020

****PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2021 FINAL BUDGET – Mayor Dennis Palmer opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. Mary reported there has been no changes to the budget since the last council meeting. It’s as good as it’s going to get! Being no comments from the public, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:02 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. following the Public Hearing.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Al Evans, Tom Johnson, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Cory Doneen

Cory provided an arial map showing the lots he owns and where he wants to place the temporary electric fencing for the horses. The 6 lots he owns is almost two acres. He will be extending the current fence to an acre and a half. Cory is asking council for 30ft of city right-of-way on the north side of Williams Street from Roberts Road to Idaho Rd. Bill Auvil walked that area with Cory a few weeks ago and saw no issue with his request since Williams Street is not being used by the Town for public transportation at this time. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve Cory Doneen’s request to use 30ft of city right-of way for a temporary fence to be placed for the two horses and one heifer. The fence will need to be removed should the Town have need of improving Williams Street for public transportation or Town services. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. This will be drawn up as a Resolution and council members will adopt the Resolution at the next meeting. Randy reminded Cory not to add any other farm animals to the fenced area. The Town code states you need half an acre fenced off per animal in that particular zone.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed November 16, 2020 minutes. Tom Crooks made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Tom Johnson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- V. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper gave council members his department’s report for November 2020. There were 12 cases ranging from disorderly person, domestic dispute, suspicious, disabled vehicle, civil issues, animal problems and theft.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Mary gave the Public Works report to council for November 2020. Current project completed last month were water and sewer locates for the GEO Engineers core sampling, built a cover over the containment chamber at the Treatment Plant, built a hut over

the flow machine at the Treatment Plant and decorated the Town for Christmas. The generator at the Treatment Plant is not working. The governor board and speed sensor went out. Kohler no longer makes the parts for the generator model we have. We will need to consider replacing the generator.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. RIGHT-OF-WAY FENCE REQUEST BY CORY & MEHGAN DONEEN** – This was discussed under Section III. Introduction of Guests.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE NO. 644 – ADOPTING 2021 BUDGET** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Ordinance No. 644 adopting the 2021 budget. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Al Evans made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 644 approving the 2021 Budget expenses for Fund 001 Current Expense in the amount of \$142,142.92; Fund 101 Streets in the amount of \$125,807.89 and Fund 401 Water/Sewer in the amount of \$2,924,135.57. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

- B. CARES ACT FUNDING** – The funding has been used between the Oakesdale Library, Oakesdale School and the Town Marshal. Council members reviewed the A-19 Activity Report that was required by the Department of Commerce for reimbursement. The funds spent are as follows:

- Oakesdale Library - \$5,073.65 - purchasing (2) new computers, (2) wireless mouse, protective personal equipment, desk with plexiglass barrier, (2) benches for outside customer use, cables, ports, connectors and battery backup surge protector.
- Oakesdale School – \$22,817.86 - (66) Asus Chrome notebooks for students, (59) power cords for notebooks and (59) Google Chrome EDU
- Town Marshal - \$2,108.49 – public safety COVID

We have received our reimbursement from the CARES Act funding totaling \$30,000 today via direct deposit.

- C. INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WHITMAN COUNTY** – Council members reviewed an inter-local agreement we received from Whitman County updating the last agreement that was made between the Town and Whitman County in 1986. The agreement was sent to our Town Attorney for review. Eric had two suggestions on the agreement:

In paragraph IX, he suggests clearly stating that any suit brought to enforce the contract shall be brought in Whitman County Superior Court.

In paragraph XIII, he suggests that the dispute resolution be voluntary, that the Dispute Board’s decision could be appealed to Whitman County Superior Court, and any decisions of the Dispute Board shall be written, served on all parties, and included findings of fact and conclusions of law.

Council members agreed with the Town Attorney's suggestions and asked Mary to send them on to the County.

- D. **ZIPLY FIBER INTERNET UPDATE** – Mayor Palmer received a notice from Ziplly Fiber that they have identified the Town of Oakesdale as a region which would greatly benefit from internet service upgrades. Ziplly is committed to investing more than \$500 million in network upgrades after they acquired Frontier Communication. Many people who had been on Frontier Communication's high-speed internet had been complaining about the slow speed and dropped service.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER'S BUSINESS:

RANDY – He told Mary she did a good job on the budget. Pam did a great job decorating the Town for Christmas. It looks good!

TOM C. – None

TOM J. – None

AL – None

BILL – None

- X. **TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer's Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for November 2020. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #27216 - #27244 in the amount of \$30,749.10 for claims and \$12,003.55 for payroll totaling \$42,752.65 from November 19, 2020 through December 03, 2020. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:45 p.m. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer