

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
February 16, 2021

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Bill Auvil lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Councilmen Tom Johnson and Al Evans were not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** James Orton
- James asked council members if they would consider vacating a portion of 6th Street that splits through his property. He is needing to tidy some items up before placing his property on the market. There is a shop/barn structure that is partially built on 6th Street. Council informed James we do not vacate streets. Our Town Attorney advises us not to practice vacating streets. You can't foresee what the future holds, but there could come a time that Town utilities may need to run under that street or the street will need to be accessed for potential new development. Mary and James double checked the plot map on the wall to confirm where 6th Street stops. It does stop on James' property and the shop/barn is on a portion of said street. Mayor Palmer was the original owner to develop that property. At the time, Dennis Palmer did have the then Mayor, Press Baldwin's, approval to build the structure on a portion of 6th Street. The problem was Mayor Baldwin did not take care of the vacate as promised. Nothing was every done at the Town level. Council offered James a variance for the structure. The variance would allow the structure to remain on a portion of 6th Street until the Town would need to utilize that street for municipal purposes or decides to use the street for public travel. The structure would then need to be moved. James disliked the answers he was getting from council and began getting louder and louder towards council members. At one point James started swearing and then he finally walked out. His request for vacating a portion of 6th Street was not taken any further.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed February 1, 2021 minutes. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. **INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WHITMAN COUNTY** – No updates
- B. **CRITICAL AREAS UPDATE** – Council members received a copy of an email from the Department of Commerce showing our request for an expedited review of our Critical Areas Ordinance has been granted on February 10, 2021. Since that date, we have been given permission to adopt said Ordinance.

- C. **TREATMENT PLANT GENERATOR** – The generator is up and running and the block heater has been installed. It will be serviced yearly at the same time as the well generator.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-401 PROCUREMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2021-401 adopting a policy and procedure for procurement of equipment, material, engineering services and for entering into contracts. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Tom Crooks made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2021-401 Procurement Policies & Procedures. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- B. **ENGINEERS' STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS** – We received 5 SOQ's from Century West, Budinger & Associates, Munir Daud + Associates, TD&H Engineering and Varela. Each council member received copies of each SOQ and a Consultant Evaluation Worksheet to score each engineering firm. Council members will have two weeks to review and score each SOQ. We will review all consultant evaluation worksheets at our next council meeting to chose our engineer for the next 5 years.
- C. **BUILDING INSPECTOR** – Our beloved Building Inspector, Bob Hill, passed away on February 3rd from COVID. The family will be planning a service within the next week or so. Mary called Tekoa to see if we can use their Building Inspector as a backup again. When Bob would be ill or take vacations, we would use Tekoa's as a backup. Tekoa is using Steve Haxton who is very interested in being our Building Inspector as well. Council consensus was to have Steve Haxton be our new Building Inspector.
- D. **SEWEDA** – Council members received a copy of the Southeast Washington Economic Development Association annual letter updating communities on their progress promoting economic development throughout Asotin, Garfield, and Whitman Counties.
- E. **AWC CQC SCHOLARSHIP – DUE MARCH 1ST** – Council members reviewed the scholarship information we received from AWC. There are up to six \$1,500 scholarships that will be awarded to high school students. Each Town and/or City choose their candidate and submit the scholarship application to AWC. The deadline for the Town to submit an applicant is March 12th. This information was sent to our school the day we received the information on February 16th. We will be reviewing our potential candidate at our next council meeting on March 1st where the applications will be scored.
- F. **ORDINANCE NO. 645 – CRITICAL AREAS** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Ordinance No. 645 adopting an updated Critical Areas Summary and Ordinance. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Randy Robinson made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 645 fulfilling the Town's eight-year periodic update required under RCW 36.70A.130. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

BILL – He announced he will be living back in Oakesdale in his new house by the beginning of March. Public Works did a good job coming in over the holiday weekend to plow snow.

TOM C. – The old hotel “Scot’s Building” is in such poor condition it is starting to cave in. The damaged to that building is beyond repair. We need to find out who purchased the building from the County tax sale and send the new owner a certified letter from the Town and Building Inspector condemning the building.

RANDY – He asked if we received the used police car from the County yet? The police car is a 2012 Ford Utility Interceptor fully equipped for \$8,000. He will be getting the car next week. We will declare the 2002 Crown Vic police car surplus at the next council meeting.

VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the February 2021 Treasurer’s Report. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #27343 - #27368 in the amount of \$56,565.42 for claims and \$7,219.51 for payroll totaling \$63,784.93 from February 03, 2021 through February 11, 2021. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

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

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER