

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
October 3, 2022

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Pro-tem Al Evans called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Al led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Pro-tem Al Evans, Bill Auvil, Claudia Louk, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Mayor Dennis Palmer was not in attendance as he was a participant for the Honor Flight program. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Pete Baljo

Pete asked council if they were aware the old flour mill is for sale. Mary Jane Butters is asking \$217,000. Pete said you can search for Oakesdale Flour Mill for sale on line and look at the pictures of the inside of the mill. He asked council what their thoughts were about the mill being for sale. Randy Robinson said he will try to get a look at the old mill and see what's left inside and the condition of the old mill.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed September 19, 2022 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. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper gave his department's report for September 2022. There were eleven cases ranging from 9-1-1 hang-ups, warrant arrest, reckless driving, domestic dispute, animal problem, parking problem, junk vehicles and noise complaint. Keith stated as the Zipland line phones get converted to fiber, the phones are randomly calling 9-1-1 on their own.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Mary gave the Public Works report since Brad was not attending the council meeting. Last month our DOE Permit Writer, Kim Prisock came down for a visit with our new DOE Permit Writer, Greg Dobb. Kim is taking on more responsibility at DOE and Greg will be in training as our new permit writer. They toured the lagoons and treatment facility so Greg can see our operations. Brad & Pam have been prepping streets for Whitman County to lay the asphalt mats. The generator at the grinders will be repaired sometime next week after the thunder storm shorted out the control switch on the generator. We added road material to the street going by the football field and added more gravel to control the mud pulling thru the rock from the water project.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. CP&P VERSATILE LOTS** – Mary called Tim O’neal to inform him the council will not be offering a counter offer on the lots for sale. Council members are standing firm at \$10,000 which is the same price we sold the lots to him. Tim said the lots are already sold.
- B. 2023 BUDGET** – Mary presented the 2023 budget to council members. This is the first budget to have preliminary numbers for Fund 001 Current Expense, Fund 101 Streets and Fund 401 Water/Sewer. We are still waiting for budget figures from our liability insurance company, employee benefits, annual software support and employee wages. Each council meeting the budget figures will be updated. The Finance Committee of Tom Crooks and Al Evans will make a recommendation to council on employee wage increases at the next council meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. FOOD BANK** – According to Dee Eck who is the manager of the Oakesdale Food Bank, an anonymous donor named Andy from Alaska saw the article in the Whitman County Gazette about the food bank needing to be relocated due to the current building being for sale. He contacted Dee and asked if they would stay in the building if they could – yes. Andy then purchased the building for the food bank.
- B. MAYOR PRO-TEM** – Al Evans has been Mayor Pro-tem for several years. He will be traveling more to see family and could be gone for months at a time. Bill Auvil nominated Claudia Louk to be our new Mayor Pro-tem. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

BILL – He is happy to see Whitman County will be able to get our street work done this month. They will be laying asphalt mats where the streets have alligator cracking. If all goes well and the street levy passes this November, we will be able to chip-seal over those mats making the streets look pretty darn good.

CLAUDIA – None

TOM – None

RANDY – None

- X. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for September 2022. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #28206 - #28237 in the amount of \$10,872.44 for claims and \$6,612.96 for payroll totaling \$17,485.40 from September 21, 2022 through September 30, 2022. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** Randy Robinson made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER