

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
November 21, 2022

****PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET** – Mayor Dennis Palmer opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. for the 2023 Preliminary Budget. Mary presented a balance budget with beginning and ending balances. The only item we are waiting further information on is our liability insurance. Being no comments from the public, Mayor Palmer closed the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. following the Public Hearing. Guest Jack Fanning led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Claudia Louk, Tom Crooks and Randy Robinson. Councilman Al Evans was not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **PAUL KIMMELL – AVISTA:** Paul was not able to attend due to an illness. He will reschedule in the near future.

IV. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Jack Fanning

A neighbor behind Jack’s residence had a pile of wet leaves smoldering after burn hours Saturday and Sunday. The smoke was bothering Jack and his wife. He did call Mayor Palmer who went over there and took care of the smoldering. Council will refer this to our Town Marshal, Keith Cooper, to review the burning ordinance with Jack’s neighbor.

- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed November 7, 2022 council minutes. Tom Crooks made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **2023 BUDGET** – Council members reviewed the budget which now contains beginning and ending balances. The only budget item that needs updating is the liability insurance premiums. Some line items will be adjusted for inflation costs. There will be a final budget hearing at our second council meeting in December before we adopt the 2023 budget.
- B. **WATER LEAK PETITION RESPONSE** – Council members received a copy of a letter from the Town to Jared Smith with our response to his water leak petition. Mr. Smith did call asking for a payment plan to pay the additional \$152.11 on his water bill. However, there would still be a late fee for any balance that goes unpaid over \$10.01. Mr. Smith did pay the bill in full.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. CITY HALL HOLIDAY HOURS** – City Hall will be open from 8 am to noon on Wednesday, November 23rd and closed on Thursday, November 24th & Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- B. PWD VACATION 11/30/22 THRU 12/6/22** – Pam will be going on vacation for a week as she heads to Las Vegas to attend the National Rodeo Finals. Skip will need help plowing if we get some snow while Pam is gone. Skip prefers to run the backhoe and we will need someone in the snow plow truck. Bill Auvil is not available to help this time. Randy Robinson thought he could run the plow truck if we should get some snow.
- C. GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS** – Council members reviewed the General Election results from Whitman County Elections Department that showed the results of our three levies:
- Proposition #1 Safety Levy – 83.59% yes
 - Proposition #2 Street Maintenance Levy – 74.09% yes
 - Proposition #3 Street Chip Seal Levy – 64.77% yes

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

BILL – He wishes he could help us plow streets while Pam’s on vacation, but due to his wife’s health condition right now he’s not available.

CLAUDIA – None

TOM – None

RANDY – None

- IX. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for November 2022. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #28283 - #28300 in the amount of \$7,327.93 for claims and \$4,848.23 for payroll totaling \$12,176.16 from November 09, 2022 through November 16, 2022. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Crooks made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:26 p.m. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER