

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
January 3, 2023

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Guest Roger Hagar 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. **INTRODUCITON OF GUESTS:** Roger Hagar
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed December 19, 2022 council 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 was not able to attend the council meeting tonight. There was a report for his department for December 2022 with nine cases ranging from assault, welfare check, harassment, animal problems, fraud, suspicious person and 9-1-1 hang-ups. Keith has addressed the horse and steer violation with Darin Berntgen. He does not own enough property to have both animals. Urban Residential only allows one animal with access to half an acre not including buildings. Darin owns about .75 of an acre. The pen the animals are in does not meet code let alone having two animals. Darin asked Keith to talk to council to see if they would allow him to keep both until winter was over. He had pasture to keep the horse but it fell through and could not find a place to put the horse. Darin stated by the end of winter he will have it moved. Darin also told Keith they are trying to buy the property across the road which has acreage out in the county. Council discussed the code violation and council consensus was to allow the horse to stay through winter if in fact they did buy the property across the road. If they did not purchase the property, then Darin has 30 days to move the horse and get in compliance. Keith is also working on an Ordinance to address semi-truck parking in residential areas of our Town.
- VI. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Mary gave the Public Works report for December 2022. They are staying busy with plowing snow and sanding streets. We continue to discharge the lagoons. We are dealing with flooding issues around the outskirts of the treatment facilities. Pam has started taking the Christmas decorations down. Upcoming projects include installation of the generator at the discharge station at the lagoons, new flow meter at the discharge station, finish removing the damaged sheet rock and insulation at the old fire station and replace with tin and replace the row boat at the lagoons. Randy Robinson said he would tackle looking for an aluminum 14ft boat with tall sides to replace the old wooden one.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. RESOLUTION NO. 2023-419 OFFICIAL TOWN NEWSPAPER** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2023-419 designating an official Town newspaper for 2023. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Claudia Louk made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-419 designating the Whitman County Gazette as the official Town’s newspaper for 2023. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- B. RESOLUTION NO. 2023-420 SETTING OF SALARIES** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2023-420 setting the salaries of certain public officials for 2023. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Claudia Louk made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-420 setting the salaries of the Clerk/Treasurer at \$4,268.66 per month; PWD Assistant at \$3,860.63 per month; Town Marshal at \$1,158.18 per month and the Building Inspector at \$281.11 per month. The Town of Oakesdale will pay employee, spouses’ and dependent children’s medical, dental and vision for the Clerk/Treasurer and PWD Assistant effective January 1, 2023. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- C. RESOLUTION NO. 2023-421** – Bill Auvil made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2023-421 revising the Cost Allocation Plan for 2023. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**. Claudia Louk made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-421 revising the Cost Allocation Plan with the Clerk/Treasurer and her sub having 70% allocated to Fund 001 Current Expense and 30% to Fund 401 Water/Sewer. Mayor and council members will remain 100% to Fund 001 Current Expense. The PWD will be 72% allocated to Fund 401 Water/Sewer and 28% to Fund 101 Streets. The Assistant PWD will be 68% to Fund 401 Water/Sewer and 32% to Fund 101 Streets. The as needed part-time PW position will remain at 50% Fund 401 Water/Sewer and 50% Fund 101 Streets. Tom Crooks seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.
- D. TOWN CODE FOR SEMIS IN RESIDENTAL AREAS** – This was tabled until Keith Cooper can present a policy to council.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

BILL – None

CLAUDIA – None

TOM – He said our council runs real smooth compared to the House of Representatives!

RANDY – None

- X. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF PAID CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for December 2022. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #28337 - #28355 in the amount of \$54,128.00 for claims and \$6,316.94 for payroll totaling \$60,444.94 from December 27, 2022 through

December 30, 2022. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Crooks made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:28 p.m. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER