

*Town of Oakesdale*  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*For*  
*September 18, 2023*

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7 p.m. Guest Pete Baljo led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Al Evans, Claudia Louk and Bruce Palmer. Councilman Randy Robinson was not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Kris Johnson, Pete Baljo and Shon Eck.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed September 5, 2023 minutes. Bill Auvil made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Bruce Palmer seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - A. **2024 BUDGET** – The 2024 budget had very few changes from the last council meeting. Mary was on vacation and only one line item was updated which was the AWC membership fees. The next budget update will show some expense line items being adjusted and hopefully employee benefits from AWC Trust.
  - B. **VOTER’S BOX – Skins installed** – Mayor Palmer was here when the skins were placed on the voter’s box making it official on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The box should now be ready for the General Election.
  - C. **PINE CREEK APPLICATION FOR FIRE RESILENCY – Casey will attend 10/2/23** – Casey called and told Mary that they did submit the application for funds to hire a person to go town to town to help with awareness. He will attend our next council meeting to discuss this further.
  - D. **WA STATE MAIN STREET PROGRAM APPLICATION** – Bill Auvil made the motion to apply to be an affiliate with Washington State Main Street Program. Bruce Palmer seconded the motion, three council members voted yes and one member abstained – **motion passed.**
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **LEVEL 2 EV CHARGER (AVISTA) – Paul Kimmell will attend 10/2/23** – Council members reviewed a flyer and email from Paul regarding the charger. There is no charge for the equipment or installation and maintenance. The Town would only be responsible for the monthly energy charge which is usually around \$30 per month. They have a QR code

that can be used to have the EV owner make a payment to the Town for their use of the EV charger.

**B. WAIVER FOR 2024 ELECTIONS PAMPHLET** – We received a notification from the Whitman County Auditor regarding the 2024 Voter’s pamphlet for all elections that year. There is an RCW that requires every jurisdiction that has filed a resolution or has candidates running for a position to share in the cost of the printing and publishing of the voter’s pamphlet. However, there is a clause in the RCW that allows a jurisdiction to submit a waiver from being included in the pamphlet and excludes the jurisdiction from having to pay the fees. Claudia Louk made the motion to complete the 2024 waiver from participation in the voter’s pamphlet. Al Evans seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

**VII. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

**BRUCE** – He was wondering if we should ask other wireless providers to see if they are interested in putting equipment on our water tower for cell service. We could review the income we receive from the telephone utility taxes each month to find the providers.

**CLAUDIA** – None

**AL** – None

**BILL** – There is a car that has been parked on Steptoe by 7<sup>th</sup> Street and it makes it hard to see if the street is clear on Steptoe when coming down 7<sup>th</sup> Street hill. This will be referred to Officer Cooper.

**VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report for September 2023. Al Evans made the motion to approve paid checks #28690 - #28709 in the amount of \$61,916.07 for claims and \$9,142.30 for payroll totaling \$71,058.37 from September 06, 2023 through September 08, 2023. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** Al Evans made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:35 p.m. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

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**DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER**