

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
For
January 2, 2024

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilman Bill Auvil led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Al Evans, Claudia Louk, Bruce Palmer, and Randy Robinson. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer and Keith Cooper, Town Marshal.
- III. **OATH OF OFFICES:** Mayor Palmer issued the Oath of Office for Al Evans, Council Position #1, Bill Auvil, Council Position #2 and Bruce Palmer, Council Position #3. All three council members were sworn in by Mayor Palmer.
- IV. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Kris Johnson, Kim Anderson, Pete Baljo, Frank Sabo, and Shon Eck. Pete asked if we have had any news from Mainstreet Program. Mary answered no we have not.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed December 18, 2023 minutes. Bill Auvil made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper gave his department’s report for December 2023. There were eleven cases ranging from a hit & run accident, disabled vehicle, alarm, threatening, stray animal, suicidal persons, domestic dispute, DUI, juvenile problem, and other call. Pete Baljo asked Keith if he gets an alert from the FBI if they are in Town on a case. Keith affirmed he is notified.
- VII. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Mary gave the Public Works Report for December 2023. A new Koller generator was installed at the discharge station at the lagoons. This project was funded by AARP Funds. We also had to install a propane tank for fuel for the generator. Pam has started to take down the Christmas decorations. We started discharging the lagoons on January 2nd per our permit with DOE. We received three notices from the WUTC that we need to add (6) yellow railroad crossing signs on Steptoe, Bartlett, and Williams Streets.
- VIII. **OLD BUSINESS:** None
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **RESOLUTION NO 2024-425 OFFICIAL TOWN NEWSPAPER** – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2024-425 designating an official Town’s newspaper for 2024. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Claudia Louk made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-425 designating the

Whitman County Gazette as the official Town’s newspaper for 2024. Randy Robinson seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

B. RESOLUTION NO. 2024-426 SALARIES – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2024-426 setting the salaries of certain public employees. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Randy Robinson made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-426 setting the salaries of the Clerk/Treasurer, Assistant Public Works Director, Town Marshal, and the Building Inspector for 2024. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes -**motion passed.**

C. RESOLUTION NO. 2024-427 COST ALLOCATION PLAN – Randy Robinson made the motion to dispense with the reading of Resolution No. 2024-427 Cost Allocation Plan for 2024. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.** Claudia Louk made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-427 Cost Allocation Plan for 2024 showing the expense breakdowns for certain employees between department per the time studies completed in October 2023. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

D. ANNUAL 3 YEAR ACCOUNTABILITY STATE AUDIT – Our three- year accountability audit for 2020, 2021 and 2022 will begin on January 9, 2024. Dylan Wharton will be the Lead Audit and Matt Thompson will be the assistant Audit Manager. Estimated time for their field work is three weeks. This audit will cost approximately \$15,000.

X. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

RANDY – None

AL – Happy & blessed New Year

BRUCE – None

CLAUDIA – None

BILL – None

XI. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Council members reviewed the Check Register, Receipt Register, and Treasurer’s Report for December 2023. Randy Robinson made the motion to approve paid checks #28831 - #28856 in the amount of \$9,926.07 for claims and \$5,848.39 for payroll totaling \$15,774.46 from December 19, 2023 through December 29, 2023. Claudia Louk seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Claudia Louk made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:22 p.m. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

ATTEST:

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER