

Town of Oakesdale
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
for
August 5, 2024

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7 p.m. Guest Kim Anderson led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Claudia Louk and Bruce Palmer. Councilmen Al Evans and Randy Robinson were not in attendance. Also present were Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer and Brad Sullivan, Public Works Director.
- III. **HEART & SOUL PRESENTATION BY CONNY CROW:** Conny had been asked by Aaron McMurray with the Innovia Foundation to attend a training program for an upcoming grant funding opportunity through Heart & Soul. Conny and Josie Booth are both working on this application for our community. Heart & Soul is a resident-driven process that engages the entire population of our community in identifying what they love most about their community, what future they want for it, and how they can work together to achieve it. Conny was asking the Town to be a sponsor of this program. The Oakesdale School has already agreed to be a sponsor. She brought a Resolution template for council members to adopt to show their support. They will be having a Heart & Soul activity in the Oakesdale Park this Wednesday with three different sessions to help accommodate community member's schedules. This activity will help give ideas of visions for Oakesdale. If this application is awarded funding, it could be a \$30,000 grant. It's a 2-year period to cover expenses, build trust and get the community to believe in the direction the program is going. A question was asked if this program could also be combined with Main Street Program. Conny said these programs could be used together. Council members' consensus was to give their support for the Heart & Soul application.
- IV. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Kris Johnson, Shon & Dee Eck, Pete Baljo, Conny Crow, Kim Anderson and Frank Sabo.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed July 1, 2024 minutes. Claudia Louk made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- VI. **TOWN MARSHAL REPORT:** Keith Cooper was on duty for the County and was not able to attend the council meeting. There were nine cases ranging from traffic offense (possible DUI reported), suicidal person (not taken into custody), warrant arrests (2), taking motor vehicle without permission, runaway juvenile, animal problem (dog running at large), suspicious person and ordinance violation (grass & weeds).
- VII. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Brad Sullivan reported that we continue to load a container every two weeks for the outdoor recyclables, continue to mow weekly, installed an additional traffic rated

meter box at the RV park, put a new radiator on the backhoe and everything seems to be running good finally, replaced the water meter at WSDOT shop, all fire extinguishers in our buildings, vehicles and equipment have been inspected, charged and certified, installed a sprinkler system at the little gas station and extra lot behind it, the new generator had the wiring harness replaced and is in working order, read water meters and continue with weed control.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. BUSINESS INCUBATOR LEASE SIGNED – Effective August 1, 2024 Ben Crossett will be the new tenant in our Business Incubator office space. The repair work has been completed in the leased space. His company Palouse Software & Support will offer custom software solutions and computer support services tailored for residents and businesses of the Palouse and surrounding areas. He will offer computer support, data backups, software development, malware removal and disaster recovery.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2025 BUDGET TALKS BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER – Mary reminded council members that our work on the 2025 budget will begin in September and will be a part of each council meeting until it is adopted in December.

B. COUNCIL MEETINGS GO BACK TO TWICE A MONTH – Our monthly council meeting will go back to twice a month effective September. Our next council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 3rd due to the Labor Day holiday.

C. ENCOURAGE CUSTOMER WATER LINE SERVICE SURVEY COMPLETED FORM – Customers received a bright yellow form titled Customer Water Service Line Survey in their monthly water/sewer bill asking for customers to let us know what type of water service line they have coming into their homes from the water meter. This form is from the Department of Health who is requiring the Town to complete a Lead Service Line Inventory report due in October 2024. Council was asked to encourage customers to return their yellow sheet to City Hall with their water/sewer bill payment. An explanation was also added to the monthly newsletter.

D. VARIANCE FOR 407 W JACKSON – Council members received a copy of an email from Frank Sabo, Jr. requesting an adjustment to the setback on the north side of Jackson Street from twenty feet to ten feet. Frank will be building on the property this fall. Attached to the request was a map showing the three lots he has purchased. Council consensus was to approve the variance. This will be adopted by Resolution at our next council meeting.

X. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:

BILL – The place across the alley from him has not taken care of their garbage or weeds that are taller than him. This will be referred to Keith again. This is a rental home and we need to go to the property owners next to make them aware of the condition of this property.

CLAUDIA – None

BRUCE – None

- XI. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed July’s Treasurer’s Report, Check Register, and Receipt Register. Bruce Palmer made the motion to approve paid checks #29104 - #29148 in the amount of \$21,543.02 for claims and \$19,019.36 for payroll totaling \$40,562.38 from July 02, 2024 through July 31, 2024. 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 7:42 p.m. Bill Auvil seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**

DENNIS PALMER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY DEGON, CLERK/TREASURER