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MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

### WATER METER READINGS

It has been five months since we have read water meters. If there is any snow on the ground or lots of rain by the end of March, we will have to postpone reading meters until April. But, ***weather permitting***, meters will be read around March 25<sup>th</sup> and your water bill may or may not reflect water use overages. During each of those five months you were billed for the minimum use of 4,125 gallons/550 cubic ft. of water. If your household used above the minimum amount then the overage will reflect on the billing you will receive at the end of March due by April 20th. Any water customer whose monthly water charges have suddenly and unexpectedly increased as the result of a water leak may petition the Town Council for an adjustment in the charges for the period during which the leak remained undetected, provided, as a condition of any such adjustment, the Town Council must:

- ***Find that the customer did not know about the water leak and could not have reasonably known about the water leak during the period for which the adjustment is sought;***
- ***When the leak was finally discovered, the customer took reasonable action to promptly repair the leak;***
- ***The Town Council must find that the increased water charge resulting from the leak during the period for which the adjustment is sought will impose an undue hardship upon the water customer.***

### JUNK VEHICLES

We have received reports of more junk vehicles in City limits and that falls under junk storage as a nuisance. It is declared unlawful and a nuisance for any person to keep or store any wrecked, worn-out, disassembled, junk or abandoned automobiles, trucks, tractors or machinery of any kind or the parts thereof, or any junk whatsoever on any private lot or premises, or any street, avenue, alley, or driveway. Junk is also defined to include all old appliances, old iron or metal, glass, paper, cardboard, old lumber, mattresses, concrete, and all other waste discarded materials. Our Town Marshal will be talking with owners of junk vehicles for removal by the owner. We do have Junk Vehicle Affidavits at City Hall for those who wish to scrap their junk vehicles. We want to keep our community clean and we hope you do too! To be a Junk automobile and/or truck means it must meet 3 out of the 5 following requirements:

- Is it three years old or older;
- Is extensively damaged, such damage including but not limited to any one of the following: broken window(s), missing wheels, tires, motor, or transmission, or cannot be operated legally on the highway as the result of damage or disrepair;
- Is apparently inoperable;
- It has an approximate fair market value for scrap value;
- It has no valid license plate or tabs displayed, or is not insured for the minimum amount required for a motor vehicle to be operated on public roads with the State of Washington.
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### SNOW REMOVAL HELPERS

The Town of Oakesdale is very grateful for those individuals who used their snow blowers, tractors and four wheelers to help plow out their neighbors and city sidewalks. Our Public Works team thanks you!

***Remember...your dog tags were due in January. The cost of a dog tag in March is now \$17.50 for spayed/neutered and \$20.00 if the dog is not spayed/neutered. You must have current rabies vaccination records to license your dog(s). Your dog licenses fees cannot be included on the same check as your water/sewer payment. Please provide a separate payment for the dog licenses fees. Thank you!***