

*Town of Oakesdale*  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*for*  
*January 21, 2025*

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Dennis Palmer called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Palmer led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Dennis Palmer, Bill Auvil, Shon Eck and Bruce Palmer. Council members Claudia Louk and Randy Robinson were not in attendance. Also present was Mary DeGon, Clerk/Treasurer.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Kim Anderson, Pete Baljo and Frank Sabo  

Kim – She is excited to have the council consider fireworks for New Year’s Eve!

Pete – He reminded council members there is a Heart & Soul meeting next Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Fire Station.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** Council members reviewed January 6, 2025 minutes. Bill Auvil made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Shon Eck seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - A. **WIFIBER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT** – The updated revision of the franchise agreement between the Town of Oakesdale and Wifiber has not been received.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **TIB APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH TD&H** – Council members received a copy of an email from Jonathan Heusman, the Southeast Region Engineer for TIB, who had no comments on the agreement between the Town of Oakesdale and TD&H engineering for the ADA ramp replacement project. Jonathan requested a copy of the fully executed agreement once it has been signed.
  - B. **FIREWORKS ORDINANCE** – Council members reviewed Ordinance No. 634 that states, “No person, firm or corporation shall explode, shoot, use, or otherwise discharge fireworks within the Town of Oakesdale, except between the hours of 8 a.m. and 12:00 midnight upon July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year.” The council discussed adding New Year’s Eve to the Town Code. It was agreed upon to add New Year’s Eve from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. by council consensus. Mary will send the requested change to the Town Attorney, Eric Hanson, for a revised Ordinance to be drawn up for adoption.

- C. WATER/SEWER RATES** – Council members reviewed our current rates for water and sewer. The current base water rate for residential and commercial is \$44.80 for 4,125 gallons of water. The current sewer basic charge is \$33 for residential; \$38 for commercial; and \$198 for the school and pool when in session. Council members asked to table this topic until the next meeting when we hope to have a full council present.
- D. 2024 YEAR END BUDGET** – Council members were given the 2024 final budget positions showing Current Expense Fund was to the good by \$3,827.66; Street Fund 101 was to the good by \$8,617.03 and Water/Sewer Fund was to the good by \$117,248.70. Mary explained the final numbers for the water/sewer budget were higher due to the DOE grant for the Small Sewer System Plan. Invoices and the plan from the engineers were not submitted by the end of the year, that were thought to be paid in 2024 and thus were budgeted as so.
- E. 2025 BEGINNING BALANCES** – The beginning balances for the 2025 budget following the open period month are as follows:
- 001 Current Expense Fund - \$456,786.79
  - 002 Current Expense Reserve Fund - \$131,089.24
  - 101 Street Fund - \$40,109.12
  - 103 Street Reserve Fund - \$40,105.67
  - 401 Water/Sewer Fund - \$126,135.39
  - 409 Water/Sewer Replacement Fund - \$67,808.96
  - 412 Water/Sewer Reserve for Capital Equipment Purchase - \$75,370.04

All funds total \$937,405.21

**VII. COUNCIL MEMBER’S BUSINESS:**

**BILL** – None

**SHON** – None

**BRUCE** – None

**VIII. TREASURER’S REPORT/APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Council members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report, Check Register and Receipt Register for December 2024. Bruce Palmer made the motion to approve paid checks #29347 - # 29349, #29351, #29359 - #29363 in the amount of \$7,282.37 for claims and \$0 for payroll totaling \$7,282.37 for December 31, 2024, AND paid checks #29344 - #29346, #29350, #29352 - #29357 in the amount of \$46,547.90 for claims and \$10,973.66 for payroll totaling \$57,521.56 from January 7, 2025 through January 15, 2025. Shon Eck seconded the motion, all council members voted yes – **motion passed**.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** Bill Auvil made the motion to adjourn the council meeting at 7:48 p.m. Shon Eck 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**