

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Preliminary Draft
Town Hall – February 8, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ray McCown called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ray McCown, David Jones, Dave Ulrick, Neal Leon, and Mark Young. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer Cody Lord and Public Works Reuel Klempel and Mark Phillips Absent: Daymon Marple

GUESTS: Jeff Rathbun and Sandra Cavallo

Jeff Rathbun is here to talk about the restaurant and check in with the council and mayor to see where things are at. He expressed that he is still interested in the space and knows that the movie people are wrapping up. Mayor McCown said the movie group has moved out and they are getting prices from an electrician to put the lights back up in the space. He is wondering if Jeff would like to have the awning painted back to the original color. Dave Ulrick said he talked with the movie crew and they didn't use the best product to paint it and also it was done in the cold weather so it may just start peeling off in the spring time. Jeff thinks they can just leave it for now since they are thinking about leaving the restaurant named Busy Bee and playing off the movie set for marketing purposes.

Mayor McCown said the town would be open to almost anything he would like to do with the space. Jeff said he is tied up until April with his responsibilities at his other job and that will eventually turn in to just a consulting position. He has been making ties with the WSU Hospitality Program and various non-profits to kick around some ideas. Students in the hospitality program must do an internship before graduating so he is considering using some students to staff the space and help them with internship hours. Also they have a program to get people off the streets and teach them a career so possibly he will work with them on this program and teach some cooking skills to people that are interested. He is thinking he could start the catering side of the business as early as April and he would like to entertain doing a dinner bi-weekly or monthly and also hosting the senior meals until the restaurant is up and running. Mayor McCown said all that sounds interesting and he just needs to bring his final proposal to town hall. Mayor McCown said since Jeff is not interested in starting until April and the movie crew is gone, he will go ahead and blow out the water lines for the remainder of the winter.

Cody Lord said something to keep in mind is if Jeff is interested in leasing to purchase the space, the town must first get an appraisal of the space and determine they would like to surplus the building. They will then open the bidding up to the community to see if any other offers or perspective buyers would come forward and if not then they could move to surplus the building and items to the highest bidder. If he is just interested in leasing the space then the town would simply need to agree to the terms and have Eric Hanson write up a lease agreement. The thing to keep in mind is typically if the town leases the space they would also be responsible for the up-keep of the building and equipment that the town owns.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: David Jones **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting Jan. 25th, 2017. Dave Ulrick seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Officer Joe Handley present for this meeting.

Officer Handley said they have been dealing with some calls at the school district and have brought in additional resources to handle it. There have been quite a few calls for service in the last couple weeks and some have resulted in arrests. There is a residence with suspicious drug related activity and so far several people who were at that residence have been transported to jail. The police department has informed the homeowner that if it continues they will be in jeopardy of losing their home because of a drug seizure. Sandra Cavallo asked who takes possession of the property if it is seized and Officer Handley replied the town would.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Reuel Klempel is present for the Public Works Department

Water

- Leak at Love's shop has been repaired and has stopped leaking. Mayor McCown said Jerry thanked the guys for their help in fixing it.
- The telemetry box for the water system has been going on the fritz about every two weeks. Currently they are unplugging it and restarting it to make it work correctly again. Well #3 decided it didn't want to operate again yesterday. Mayor McCown suggested getting ahold of Joe Keller and having him take a look at it. Mark said he took some information about the system with him last time and was doing some research on it.
- There was also a little chlorine leak on Well # 3.

Sewer

- On Monday the plant took in 277,000 gallons in one day. In the summertime they are used to processing about 25,000 to 30,000 a day. Right now it makes things very hard to operate at the plant.
- Currently the influent pump is plugged at the bottom and they can't get down there to repair it due to the high flows.
- The influent return pump for the aeration basin is not sealing right.
- On Tuesday they checked the manhole below Larry's house and it was a couple feet deep. It bubbled up in his bathtub again but didn't flood his downstairs.
- They set up a pump to bypass the manhole, got the jetter running and they were able to get the material in the pipe to start running again. About 150 feet down from the manhole there are roots clogging the system. Right now they will focus on getting the roots all cut out until they can replace the line this spring. Reuel also said there is no infiltration on the line so he believes the issue has to be due to the roots.
- Reuel and Mark started to pop manholes with the heavy flows and see if they could determine where some of the infiltration was coming from. About every manhole they inspected was allowing water to enter the system. You can look in the manholes and see the water stain marks of where the infiltration is happening. The main issue was down at 7th Street by the old food bank. Water was penetrating the pipe and pouring inside. Reuel explained the manholes are made in sections and they have never been sealed so they allow a lot of water to penetrate. Dave said down in the low lands the water comes from everywhere.

Mayor McCown said he would suggest running the camera up the sewer line and seeing where the roots are clogging the line. He thinks they will have to eventually dig it up and replace the line and they should put a check valve between the line and Larry's house in the future. Reuel said HD Fowler has a backflow device that can be taken out and cleaned out from time to time. Dave said that Larry Palmer has one at his place and there are several others around town.

- Reuel purchased some leak seal to make some repairs at the plant and hopefully it will solve the problem. When he checked the lights, there was water in there meaning at some time the water had flooded in the basement at least to that level.
- Reuel also purchased some pumps so if it gets flooded out there they can move it around. Mayor McCown asked if Andy O'Neil had been by and Reuel said he left a voicemail stating he couldn't make it.

Garbage

- The brakes on the truck are done and quite a few parts on the truck brakes needed to be repaired or replaced.

Mayor McCown said a resident called him and complained that he was missed again on the garbage route which has happened several times.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ATV Ordinance

Mayor McCown said he and Stephen Bishop discussed the proposed ordinance and they both feel like they don't currently need it. Dave said there really aren't that many recreational vehicles running around now but he also understands law enforcements issues with them. Officer Handley said when they enacted this law they allow towns under a certain size to govern their own towns. If the council chooses not to move forward, the council can dictate to the police what they feel is an appropriate response on ATVs and ORVs, however if the county or state come through, they will require it to be licensed. If the town had an ordinance in place then they can inform the county or state of that. Neal Leon said that he is also thinking that it is not needed for the town and the people that are out on them right now are old enough to know they are supposed to be licensed and if they get a ticket, they get a ticket. Mark Young said he doesn't really care one way or the other. Dave said he doesn't intend to drive his to the tavern but rather just uses it to plow his place and his neighbors place in the winter. Mark said it was at first something it seemed like the police department wanted in place, but if the state already has a law in place that can apply then he believes they should be consistent with what the state laws says. Dave said another potential bad thing is it would encourage them to drive them on the streets. Mayor McCown agreed stating pretty soon more and more people would want them. Mayor McCown suggested tabling the idea a little longer and Mark said let's just take action on it and be done with it. David Jones **MOVED** to deny accepting the new ATV/ORV ordinance as written. Neal Leon seconded the motion and the council unanimously agreed to reject the ordinance.

2. TIB Re-Light Washington LED Program

Cody wanted to inform the council that TIB has provided grant money to replace all of the street lights throughout town, this is to save us money on utilities and reduce power consumption. He just wanted to pass that along in case council members were getting questions on how the project was funded. Mayor McCown said that Avista is making their way through town now replacing all of the street lights to LEDs. Once the project is completed they will bill us for the entire batch and then we will pass that invoice along to TIB who will cut us a check to pay Avista. The town has elected to go forward with the 100 watt over the 200 watt to save additional operating costs. There are 2 - 200 watts in town, one on 2nd and California Street and one at 10th and Main Street since it is not very well lite up there. Avista is unsure of the savings on these LEDs just yet because they had to move to a new style with better performance. They will know the cost savings and energy savings soon.

Dave mentioned at the beginning of the year the mayor asked for a list of what they would like to accomplish and he would like to focus on getting back to those goals. One of the items is the I&I problems around town, especially the one by 4th and Adams Street. Mayor McCown said that is a great idea, at the next meeting everyone bring a list of projects that they would like to see accomplished. Reuel said in order to do the I&I work they will need to purchase some confined space equipment to meet requirements. He has borrowed a gas meter from Colfax but they will also need to get a harness, tripod and blower. They are required to turn the air so many times per minute in a confined space. The blower would be about \$400 but the tripods could run a couple thousand dollars. Dave said when they looked into it they also were thinking it would cost a couple thousand dollars to get everything needed to do the work.

NEW BUSINESS:

David Jones brought up the length of the minutes that are taken at the meetings and thinks they should be reduced. Dave Ulrick said they are really only to be a synapses of the meeting. Sandra Cavallo said it is nice to have the full minutes because it adds transparency for the community and she thinks the town needs to keep the residents as informed as possible. Mark said he also agreed with this and feels they should keep it as informed as possible. Council decided to keep the minutes as complete as possible and not move to action only minutes.

Cody asked council and the mayor if he had permission to reach out to the Department of Transportation to arrange to clean the garbage out of the ditches on the approaches to town using town volunteers. DOT should provide the signage, safety vest, hardhats and collection bags. Cody would also like to reach out to the Garfield Community Association and see if they would be willing to help and possibly pay for and fix lunch for the volunteers after the project is completed. Neal offered to talk with the street superintendent in Colfax to see if they could help with the process.

FINANCIAL:

Approval of Checks: Neal Leon **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #12614-12617 PLUS EFT Dept. of Retirement	Payroll: \$9,216.38
Check Register #EFT Dept. of Revenue	Claims: \$1,428.06
Check Register #12618-12635	Payroll: \$20,818.07
	Total: \$31,462.51

ADJOURNMENT: David Jones **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. Dave Ulrick seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer