

**Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Preliminary Draft
Town Hall – July 13, 2016**

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

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

GUESTS: Don Brown, Cher Curtis, Cathy May, Chris McCully, Sonja Hall, Jerry Love, Brad Hasenoehrl, Scott Bowman, Tami Southern and Betsy Williams.

Mayor McCown opens by saying after talking with our attorney, in the past couple weeks saying that you can't talk about the sewer plant is kind of infringing on public rights, they recommend that the council pass a motion that no one can speak at the council meeting unless they are on the agenda. The mayor has asked the council to make this motion. Jerry Love said you should be very careful with that. Mark Young adds that our council meetings have gotten out of order and until such time that matters can be talked about in a civil manner he would recommend that they pass this as well. Dave Ulrick asks will there be a time limit on when this would expire. Mark said if you would like to be heard you can get on the agenda, the council is getting hounded with lots of questions and they are losing patience, he adds he hates to see the town have to do this but they have to be able to take care of business in a public setting with the public knowing what is being said.

Daymon Maple explains the meeting is for the town council and the mayor to conduct business, and the community can still be heard they just need to be on the agenda. Neal Leon adds this isn't new to just this town, it is happening across the country, he feels the council should also set a time limit on how long a person can talk. Mayor McCown said possibly they can just make this motion for 3 months however Dave feels maybe not adding a specific time but just leave it in place until things settle down and states citizens should have to be on the agenda under new business. David Jones questioned how long the individual would be given to talk. Dave responded there would be a 3 minute limit. Neal thinks the citizens should also have to make a request to be on the agenda in writing to be delivered to clerk/treasurer to be placed on the agenda. The council decided against a time expiration on the motion stating it could be reversed at any time. Neal Leon **MOVED** to have citizens request to have their comments put on the council meeting agenda and a time limit of no more than 3 minutes be permitted to each approved person on the agenda with no expiration of this motion until council decides to reverse it. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Two changes were requested to be reflected on the June 22nd, 2016 minutes. Daymon stated he was a nah vote instead of abstain and asked it be reflected correctly in the minutes. Dave said the name of the road product was BST instead of DST.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 22nd, 2016 with the above changes made. David Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Jerry Neumann and Officer Joe Handley present for the police department.

Chief Neumann said they have completed the sweep of junk vehicles not in compliance and taken up the issue of a junky yard. Also they have taken care of a couple loose dogs, noise complaints with dogs barking and a pit bull running at large. They have been receiving complaints about dogs up at 7th and 8th streets and they have contacted the homeowners. There is an update on the Lawson Trailer Court, the wood framing has been removed and they are just down to the metal pieces now. They were supposed to have the metal dismantled by this meeting. They are currently working at dismantling it and said it would be complete in the next couple days to a week.

Neal said he would like to address the junky yard complaint. He said the council is not the yard police and unless it is presenting a health hazard they shouldn't be sending the police. He said they have other issues to work on like hydrants, water leaks and dumpsters with holes in the bottom of them and they shouldn't be spending time worrying about people's yards. Mark stated he thinks they are generally sensitive to a person's rights other than public safety issues like junk vehicles. He agrees they are not here to police everyone's front yards, but he also wants to make sure the town stays safe and it can be a difficult job of knowing when to intervene. Daymon said it becomes even more difficult when you have neighbors right next to town hall that have multiple violations.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Mark Phillips present for the Public Works Department

Water

- Well # 4 chlorine pump is having issues. The chlorine is a highly corrosive product and has broken down the pump. Mark will have to analyze whether the pump is salvageable or not.

Sewer

- The plant is getting better and in the last report all the numbers were compliant.
- The new tablets for the de-chlorination are quite expensive mostly because of shipping, he has found a place that sells them \$10 a pale cheaper and there is no shipping, they are the same brand and same potency.
- Matt Bovencamp from Garrett Callahan is analyzing the sludge and the best polymer to use in it. He is also researching some information concerning the chlorination change over. The gas is cheaper and they have a product that is similar to our hypo-chloride, however it isn't EPA certified for the sewer plant. It comes with a lot of service and free shipping but it is a little more expensive.
- Ellie will be down next week and will be bringing a couple guys with her.

Mark asked if David Tysz was involved in this. Mark responded he was wanting to show him today but David didn't make it down to Garfield.

Garbage

- Mark would like to request for another route dumpster. The policy states it is a 50/50 split for the cost of it between the town and the citizen. The unit won't have casters. It is thought the total cost of the dumpster would be around \$475.00 and there is a resident in town that would like one. Mark said they need one more to keep their 5 floaters available. Daymon questions weren't they going to try and get some smaller ones and Brad Hasenoehrl responded they put it off for a year. Mark asked are you asking for one now to add to the route fleet and then you will work on the maintenance of the rental fleet and Mark confirmed yes. Council agrees to go ahead and purchase the additional dumpster unit.

Mark said the Bobcat is down with a computer issue. Mark had Chris McCully take a look at it and there is nothing he can do, Bobcat has to have their computer hook up to it. The town will have to pay them time and mileage to get here to see what the issue could be. Mayor McCown said it will cost about \$2,000 to get it done. Unfortunately the bucket is on the floor and the tires won't turn and there is no override. Mark Phillips said he will pick the cheaper of the two closest dealers in either Lewiston or Hahn Rental in Moscow. Chief Neumann asked if Ed-Ka would have the equipment to lift it up and Mark didn't know if their yard forklift could handle it.

Jerry Love asked how he could be on the agenda if this was just decided today. He asked how many of the small garbage cans the town has. Mark responded he has a couple spares and there are quite a few homes that have double cans. He also said as people move from town he collects them and brings them back to town hall, currently he has about 4 extras. Jerry asked if these totters were registered to an address. Mark said at one time they were but the town would need to go back and do it again as they have been shuffled since they were originally placed. Dave stated that originally the residents had to pay for half the can and they were allowed to make 3 payments towards that cost which was added to their bills.

Neal said his past son in law works at the Pullman WWTP and he talked with him about coming by and checking in with Cody to go out to the plant with Mark and see if there is something similar to his plant that he may be able to provide some suggestions on. Dave mentions that Mark is getting the plant to run pretty well.

Brad Hasenoehrl announced his last day with the town was yesterday and he has accepted a position with the county. He thanked the town for his position here and said based on the ways things have been going it was probably best that it turns out this way.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Forklift Bid

Mayor McCown asks the council to look over the bid specs so that it can be sent to the official newspaper. Dave thinks it covers the basics and whatever bids come in they can deal with the differences. A council member wonders what the time frame for the bid was and Cody replied it will be in the next two issues of the Gazette and bids will be due by 5pm on Aug. 1st. Mayor McCown and the council okayed the ad to be placed in the local paper. It was determined the Pape Forklift that was originally specified is no longer available.

2. Resolution 2016-04 Authorizing Payment of Expenses for Defending an Elected Town Official in Recall Charge

Mayor McCown explains this is a resolution to pay for the attorney fees that the mayor has to pay for his recall charge. The local attorney recommend that he bring it to the council. Mayor McCown said the two attorneys he went to say the town almost always pay it because who would want to serve on the city council or be a mayor if they are in danger of having to pay these. David Jones **MOVED** to pay the bill for \$9,100. Dave said this is the option he sees the town has. Mark responded I agree any one of us could face the same situation, there is a consequence when these things happen and we are going to have to pay it. No other option, and I wouldn't want Ray to pay to defend this when he was trying to represent the town the best he can. Daymon said he challenged the town to recall him and that is what they did and now it will cost us and he doesn't think it is justifiable. Neal all the accusations were pertaining to the city nothing private, if it was it would be personal but it was city business. David when all the charges were exonerated and Jerry Love said no they weren't with Mark asking for no comment from the community. Neal Leon seconded the motion and the motion passed. Daymon Marple opposed the motion.

3. Resolution 2016-05 Special Street Levy for Spokane Street Repairs

Mayor McCown said this is the special mileage the town will be running during the general election however we are still waiting for the dollars per thousand figure to come back so the resolution is not quite ready yet. Mark asked if there were any deadlines that the town was up against and Cody informed them we have one more council meeting it could be adopted before it becomes a time issue.

Mayor McCown said in the past the town advertised for a sewer plant operator and only received one applicant. He called Reuel Klempel last week and he came over three times to look at the plant to see if he could help the town out. Currently he works in Lake Stevens and has his son working with him. Ellie was kind of in favor of it and on Monday his wife said he couldn't go on Fridays to assist us. Now we have had one gal who has applied for the position and is interested in the contract operator position. Said she might be able to team with an operator in Colfax. We also have someone that is interested in the position that is incarcerated but that probably isn't going to work. Need to advertise statewide-nationwide for a level II operator but they will probably need to raise the rate to \$60,000 to attract someone. Mark said he thought they were advertising for a supervisor position for someone that is an operator II plus they would be able to fill all the other requirements of the town's position. He wants to clarify that the town is needing

an operator II but the town also needs someone that can do the rest of the responsibilities. The Tekoa operator is making \$60,000 annually and Neal said entry level in Pullman is \$55,000 and goes up from there.

Mark said if they do advertise at a higher wage, maybe they can get someone from Pullman that isn't moving up because the only way to move up there is if someone retires, maybe they can entice someone with operator II experience to come over and eventually Mark will be qualified to be an operator by then, but at the very least they have to be competitive with smaller towns. Mayor McCown said the town needs to get an ad going and he would like to also talk with this spangle gal to see if there is still an opportunity there. Mark said they need to do both, she is a stop gap so DOE sees that we are trying our hardest to make things better here and fulfill the responsibilities of the town. Daymon asked wasn't that his resolution, wasn't that the direction they were heading in either contract operator or a full time supervisor position. The current ad says about the tenth thing down the candidate needs to be WWTP certified shouldn't that be moved up and then other things come afterwards. Advertise with all these qualifications some are required some aren't and use every avenue we can to get the word out.

Mayor McCown suggested running an ad for the first two weeks, if they have to they can hire some guy with a starting wage to help Mark. Neal recommends possibly not advertising with all the requirements because if someone doesn't have all the requirements they may not apply for the position but the operator II credential is the most important. Mark asks if they going to put a salary range in there and if so do they need to change the job qualifications. Daymon said they need to look the budget over again and figure out how to pay for the additional salary. Mayor McCown thinks they need to post about \$55,000 to \$60,000 but then they are going to have the raise the sewer rate. Dave clarifies by saying instead of salary commensurate with experience they need to put the salary range in there. Mayor McCown said they didn't get one application at \$50,000 so he strongly suggests raising the wage. Mark said they don't have to act on the salary range immediately, that can come later but it needs to get into the paper. Mark Young **MOVED** to advertise for a full time supervisor position with range \$55,000 to \$60,000 negotiable with experience but must be a level II operator and preferably have the skills to fulfill the rest of the job posting requirements. Dave Ulrick seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vacant Public Works Superintendent Position, Job Description and Salary

Already discussed above.

2. Billing Inquiry

Property on California Street is vacant while they are trying to sell it and the landowner has asked if the town can only charge for the water services since there is currently no water, sewer or garbage being used but the water will remain on. Council agrees moving them to water charged only would be fine.

Mayor McCown said he would like to talk about the dust coat. Dave said the only thing that bothers him about that bid is they don't state what product they are going to use. Daymon said it seems like the same price as last year. Neal mentions he brought this up before but the last time they did this the application didn't seem to last but a couple weeks so he called Lyman's and asked there if there are different grades and they told him there are several different grades and the town should let them know what product they want applied. Mayor McCown asked Dave to call Lyman's but Dave said he has been out of it for a while and Neal still does this line of work so he would be better suited to call. Neal thinks they should grade it and roll it and there is concern about water making it stick better. Daymon reads the bid and all it states is dust control and abatement with no product description and Dave said as long as they are willing to put on BST he sees nothing wrong with it. Neal said they didn't have time to let it soak in before harvest last year so it didn't last long and in his opinion it was the wrong product. Daymon Marple **MOVED** to accept the bid with language stating application must be BST or a different long term product. David Jones seconded the

motion and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register #12344-12350 PLUS EFT DOR
Check Register #EFT Dept. Of Revenue
Check Register #12351-12373

Payroll: \$8,440.36
Claims: \$1,568.60
Claims: \$20,340.02
Total: \$30,348.98

ADJOURNMENT: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer