

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Final
Town Hall – July 9th, 2014

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

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ray McCown, Mark Young, David Jones, Sharon Schnebly, Daymon Marple and Tim Southern. Staff: Public Works Superintendant Robby Johnson and Clerk/Treasurer Cody Lord. Absent:

GUESTS: Cher Curtis, Stephen Bishop, Melody Jones, Marci Logsdon

Melody Jones wanted to ask about the drinking fountain in the park and if any progress has been made. Mayor McCown said we checked into it but the cost was pretty high. Sharon Schnebly said that some of them were very expensive. The concrete one we looked at was about \$2,500.00. We didn't approach it because we are worried about how it will be treated without supervision around. Mayor McCown instructed Cody to look through some catalogs and see what we can find that is reasonable. Melody commends Zoe for doing a lot of research before she went out into Garfield to have her petition signed. They went around to different towns and looked into what other towns have. Melody explains looking through the eyes of the kids of this community it would be a good thing to have. Daymon questions whether there are garbage cans at the park. Mayor McCown said there are now two plastic ones over there. Cathie May thinks there should be one placed down by the playground where all the kids drop their wrappers. Robby can move one of the receptacles over closer to the swings.

Stephen Bishop is here to talk about his brother's house which is for sale here in town. He explains Cody called him to pass along a question from the new buyers of the property. Cody called my office inquiring whether raptors would fall under the same category as fowl in the town's code book. The new potential land owners would like to raise and keep raptors if allowed on this property. This zone does allow household pets which is more likely what a raptor would fall under. Stephen suggested they talk with the neighbors to make sure they are all right with it. Stephen explains the reason he is bringing it up is because there is a sibling relationship so he doesn't want people to think there is a conflict with the information that is given. He is here to pass along his thoughts and express that another person in town had raptors and it turned out to be a wonderful experience because the school kids got to be involved with his birds.

Marci Logsdon is the new potential owner of the house and she is here to also fill the council and community in on the specifics of their pets. Her birds are small in size only about a pound each. They would need to have a team of four birds. They would be managed on perches indoors at night and would have a netted turnout they could use during the day. They wouldn't be free ranging and they are very quiet. Marci said she was able to approach most of her direct neighbors and the neighbors were excited about the opportunity. She and her husband are part of the WSU raptor club. Crop abatement will be primarily what the birds are used for; right around harvest they will use the falcons to keep other birds away from the crop. Since the property in question belongs to Stephen's brother he would like the minutes to reflect he is here so that there is no conflict with him offering his advice from the town's perspective based on the code book. Based on the current language and the history with other falconers in town he feels there shouldn't be an issue with them having falcons at this house.

Officer Joe Merry asks will the outside perches be secured. Marci explains the perches will be enclosed with netting and the birds will only be left out during daylight hours. The Washington State Fish and Wildlife will have to come and inspect the facility before they birds can be housed there. The council is in agreement that Marci and her husband can have falcons at this residence. Mayor McCown said they have approval to move forward.

Cher Curtis is present to talk about the large water leak that she had this winter. She had a water bill for about \$325.00 before she was able to catch the leak. It was a garden meter so it went un-noticeable for a good length of time. Cher is hoping the council will approve a partial write off for the water leak. The council explains to her that all other patrons who have had water leaks have had to pay for their leaks with

the exception of Guiney's property simply because his water wasn't metered. Cher said she understood as long as everyone else who has leaks pays for theirs then she is fine paying for hers and explained that once she knew she had a problem the public works guys were down right away to help take care of the problem. Mark Young said in the last two years we have had requests and we just haven't given a break to anyone. Once we do one we have to do it for others so the council has always said no. Cher is fine with the council decision, but she wants to make sure everyone is also getting treated the same way. Mark Young talks about how they gave leniency once in the past and then they ended up getting burned in the end. Tim Southern explains because we were burned in the past we have just decided as a whole we would follow our ordinances.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting and Public Hearing Meeting of June 25th, 2014. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Officer Joe Merry

There has been an increase in juvenile activity in town which is to be expected with school out. There are complaints like loud music and loud voices. Anyone affected by this is encouraged to call the matter in. Their police department is assisting the Moscow Police Department with a felony investigation. Officer Merry did have to attend some 4th of July issues but all and all it went pretty good. Mark Young asks has there been an increased interest in traffic enforcement in crossing the double yellow line downtown. Recently there has been a lot of activity down by the hotel. Officer Merry said he will address this if he receives a complaint on the matter.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Robby Johnson

Water

- Trouble with well # 3 starting to heat up, the wiring on this pump is from the 40's. The first bid came in at \$3,700.00 to fix the wiring. There is a lot of old wiring that was just left. In the electrical box there are signs of extreme heat. The window is open to provide some air circulation, however the exhaust fan is burnt out. Robby and Brad will install a window fan during the meantime to help cool it off in there. To fix the issue they will have Avista shut down the building and re-due everything, they will be able to easily drop off the transformer while the repair work is completed. Strom has provided us with the first bid. Robby likes to use them because they are good and always take good care of us. Mayor McCown said have Cody call everyone on the council and let them know the price estimates to get it fixed. David Jones asked which one is well # 3 and it is determined to be the one on South Hill. Mark asks about the need to get multiple bids. Tim explains anything over \$7,500.00 and we should be getting multiple bids, we have already paid Strom over \$10,000.00 for the year, it is so we can accommodate the Auditors requirements for bidding.

Sewer

- Biosolids have been hauled off to Bar-Tech. Dept of Ecology is coming tomorrow with the Notice of Violation and going over everything with us.
- Robby and Brad had a meeting with Keltic today and they talked about the Chlorine and SO2
- The scale needed for the WWTP is in.
- Education on the plant has started.
- Ellie Key and Diana Washington will be here.
- The estimated price on the Chlorine pump and SO2 is \$1,600.00. This system will be much safer and easier to use.

Parks and Streets

The annual street oiling will take place next week. Lyman Dust Control's bid came in at \$3,200.00 or \$2,970.00 for the lingo road builder which is a biodegradable product. PST came in at \$4,600.00. Daymon made the comment the biodegradable material doesn't last the season so he thinks we should stay away from that product. Sharon questioned which streets are getting covered. Robby says this is for the majority of the gravel roads. A few roads have been added and some have been removed since they don't have as much traffic. Mayor McCown said he asked Robby to drop the road by the Agri buildings. Tim commented in the past we have done this road since there is a lot of heavy truck traffic on this road. Lyman is winning the bid and they are at \$3,200.00 plus tax.

Daymon Marple **MOVED** to approve Lyman to oil the streets for the 2014 season as long as the value of the bid was between \$3,200.00 and \$4,000.00. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Busch's water leak has been fixed. Robby said they will start filling in the hole on 3rd street in a couple weeks. Mayor McCown asked them to throw a little more gravel in there so vehicles don't have to slow so much to cross over it. Robby said the sprinklers at the park are operational and the control panel needs to be replaced. Tim says if the panel is broken, then get it fixed. Tim also volunteers to come and look at the system with Robby. Robby thinks it may be the control box.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tim said that he has some old business. Tim talks about the hiring of his neighbor to do some lawn mowing in town, he wants hired help to be done the correct way. He needs to come to the town and get permission from the council before work can be done. Tim explains that the council controls the budget so he wants everyone to come to the council and get approval the way the system was designed to work. Mayor McCown said in the future he will do it that way.

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register # 11454-11458

Payroll: \$7,830.57

Check Register #11459-11477 VOIDED CK# 11474

Claims: \$18,909.04 Total: \$26,739.61

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Southern **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer