

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING and
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FINAL
Town Hall – June 22, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ray McCown called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor McCown opened the Public Meeting to review the Six Year Street Plan at 7:01 pm.

Mayor McCown asked if there were any comments on the Six Year Street plan stating the main changes are they moved Spokane and 2nd Street up the list. Mayor McCown said does anyone have any comment on the 6 year Street Plan. Sonja Hall asked is Spokane not getting paved between 7 and 8th and Mayor McCown said not until the mileage is passed. Dave Ulrick clarified that is it Spokane Street between 8th and 10th.

David Jones **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2016-03 the 6 Year Street Plan. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:04 pm and the regular council meeting reconvened.

GUESTS: Scott Bowman, Debbie and Jeff Gilbertson, Sandra Cavallo, Cher Curtis, Cathie May, Patsy Tate, Darrell and Wanda Grossman, Tim and Tami Southern, Don Brown, Sue Ulrick, Richard and Mickey Leinweber, Mary Miller, Darlene Perkins, Sonja Hall, Rebecca Strange, Joe Merrill,

Joe Merrill is here to talk about the water leak at this trailer on California Street and the high bill he received. He had a tenant who called and said there was a water leak, to turn the water off, Joe went down about a month later and there was water running out of the side of the trailer so he called Brad and asked him again to shut it off. About a month later it was still on and running out of the side of the trailer. Currently Joe has someone working on it. Joe called town hall this spring to have it turned on again and was informed he needed to pay for the overage. Cody explained to the council the requests for shut off went through the public works department and should have come through town hall.

Mayor McCown said the overage is approximately \$200. Daymon Marple said he remembers Chief Neumann commenting on it. Chief Neumann said he kept an eye on the property but never saw anyone tampering with it. Mark Young said he would prefer to wait to have Brad come down and talk with the council about it. Mayor McCown said normally if it goes through the meter it has to be paid for and also the request to shut off service should have gone through the clerk's office. Mark asked Joe how he got ahold of the town and Joe said he called Brad the first time and then again when he discovered the water was still on. The third request was called into Cody and Joe stated he wanted the water turned off and locked out. Joe said unfortunately he is now having issues with the flooring. Mayor McCown said they probably won't make a decision until the next meeting after they have had a chance to discuss it with Brad.

Sonja Hall would like to talk about using volunteers for maintenance in town and wonders how to properly make this request. She would also like to talk about the date Lincoln Street will be repaired, and also state that she no longer has an interest in leasing the restaurant equipment. She would like to request the town re-stripe the downtown area and put in some loading zones stating that she has to constantly ask to have people move from in front of the cabinet shop. Mayor McCown said the lines that are there now were done with a grant about 15 years ago. Sonja would like to volunteer for helping on this project. Mayor McCown said he will donate to the paint fund. Sonja asks what the application process is for signing up to volunteer and Mayor McCown responded they will be working on that. Dave Ulrich asked if everyone knows the area that Sonja would like to have stripped and Mark said why don't they have someone bring in some

pictures so everyone is properly informed before deciding how to move forward.

Sonja is also concerned about no standardized process for maintenance request in town. Mayor McCown said we don't need that in Garfield. Sonja would like to know when the storm drains got jetted, it has been on a list for 3 years and never been done. Sonja also said she would like to relinquish her interest in the equipment that the town was attempting to lease to her, and notified the town that the blue bunny freezer doesn't belong to the town. Dave said this is the reason that some items get tabled so that some research can happen. Mayor McCown said that the equipment has been in the restaurant longer than 10 years so it now belongs to the town. Sonja would like to know why the town owns the restaurant building. Daymon Marple explains that the building was purchased on a grant through the Public Development Association and now that organization is no longer operating so they have turned over the deed to the town. Sonja asked can the city legally lease it. Daymon said the PDA has turned the deed over to the town so therefore the town has the right to do with it as they please.

Darrell Grossman announced that he has a water leak up by his place and would like to have it repaired. He said he will be out of town until next week and it would be a great time to do it. Mayor McCown said there are 4 leaks in town that need to be worked on.

Sonja said one of her items didn't get addressed. She would like a date for something to be done on Lincoln Street and wonders if she should start sending her automobile bills to the town. Mayor McCown said there would be no reason for that and they will get to Lincoln Street when they have the time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 8th, 2016. Dave Ulrick seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Chief Neumann addressed various ordinance issues since the last meeting and had a meeting with the trailer park. There was an agreement last year to bring things into compliance at the trailer park this spring and now they are at the first part of summer and still not in compliance. They addressed the trailer frame with the boat out of water and certain other things that need to be dealt with at the trailer park. Also there has been a loose pit bull running at the court. Carol Lawson asked why the department didn't pick him up and stated her son isn't the owner of the dog. Other various vehicles have been tagged there.

Eddie Zubiata is a resident of the park and has a follow-up letter to talk about. He says that a lot of items they have referred to in the past have come into compliance and thru this week and next week they will be following through and making sure they are in compliance with the town's ordinances. Chief Neumann said if a resident has a vehicle that they just don't know what to do with it, contact the department and they have resources to be able to dispose of that vehicle. Even if there is no title or registration they can take care of that. The department has also been dealing with trespassing issues and those will be resolved in the next couple days. Debbie Gilbertson asked Chief Neumann if he could request Officer Handley slow down thru town, stating the other day he took off around the corner really quickly, right afterward her husband and her noticed there was a little girl in the road.

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

Water

- Everything running fine.

Sewer

- Plant continues to run along and they are currently trying to run the solids out of it.

Garbage

- Garbage truck running fine and it has new tires on it.
- They are having an issue with overflowing cans and when the garbage truck grabs the can it squeezes things out the top.

Streets

- Skid steer has new tires on it. Daymon asks if it makes it any better to maneuver and Mark said it makes a huge difference.

Park

- They have been mowing at the park like normal.
- They installed a new controller on the sprinkler system that should now be going off at 3 to 5 am. There is one bank that is not operating correctly.

Patsy Tate commented that maybe they are going just a little too fast while collecting garbage. She said her can was not even three quarters full but when it was dumped they left behind about half the contents. She thinks maybe if they were to slow down a bit it would help. Mark explained the schematics of the garbage truck and how it is difficult to see all the way to the right from a left hand drive truck. Mark asked can they eyeball it when they swing the can back to see if it still has garbage in it. Mark said they can somewhat he also explains if they make a mess around town they will get out and try to take care of it.

Rebecca Strange asked where the town is at with violations and Mayor McCown said they are not talking about the treatment plant tonight. Mayor McCown said they are working on it and they are also interviewing people. Scott Bowman said she is asking for the number of violations. Eddie states the community got the same answer over six months ago. Mayor McCown said they are working on it the very best they can and are currently interviewing people. Eddie said the last time he was here there was only one candidate and he wonders how many they are interviewing now. Mayor McCown said they will not talk about personnel issues. Rebecca Jones said it is a matter of public concern.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. David Tysz WWTP Contract.

Mayor McCown asked if everyone had seen it saying that the only changes are what AWC suggested changing. Mayor McCown said it is his opinion that David will not be with the town long as the contract operator but he currently is the only option the town has got to retain a Level II Operator. Mark asked are you suggesting that the council go ahead and sign this and Mayor McCown answered yes it will lessen the town's insurance risk. Mayor McCown said Dave is running almost month to month and was hired by the previous mayor. Daymon reads the contract out loud and explains either party may expire the contract with 60 days' notice.

Mark asks does that mean the town can't enter into another contract with an operator and it was determined that no the town could enter into another contract and notify him at any time. Dave said for what David has been charging the town, it is almost a favor. Mayor McCown said they just interviewed a person and it was \$600 just to use their license. Daymon stats that is far better than \$50,000 a month in penalties and if it were up to him he would fire David right now. This contract doesn't require him to put in any hours into the plant and Dave said yes it requires 10 hours. Daymon said the town is getting nothing out of him so it is basically \$350 to use his license. Daymon would prefer the contract said 30 days' notice is needed to end the contract. Daymon said make it be known if it was up to him, he would be out of here. Ellie is not happy. Mark said Daymon is not alone but the town needs to hold onto him until they have another option. Dave reiterated that this is basically the same contract but covers the town on insurance. Dave Ulrick **MOVED** to adopt the new contract with David Tysz as the Level II Operator in the charge of monitoring the sewer plant. David Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried. Those in favor Mark Young and those opposed Daymon Marple.

Mary Miller said she would like some clarification that the time frame of the sewer issues and the initial contract for the sewer plant operator were both from the previous administration and Mayor McCown said that is correct. She also said that it is this group of people who are getting things going. Rebecca said that DOE said they want the plant in compliance with a Level II Operator at the plant 20 to 25 hours a week. Mark asked would you prefer that the town fire David and get fined for not having any operator, the town is in a hard spot and needs a license to let Mark Phillips do what he is doing. Rebecca asked is there a

candidate being considered. Mayor McCown said they have been all over the State of Washington looking for people and they are trying to negotiate things now. Sandra Cavallo said Pullman was running a Level III Operator position at \$45,000 a year, that not everyone is making \$90,000 a year. Mayor McCown states the town put an add out 3 weeks ago and in 3 publications and only one applicant applied.

Sandra said you are sending the community mixed messages because you said you are seeking an applicant however you don't want to hire another person because the mayor will have to get rid of someone. Mark said if they do find the right person they may be forced to do just that, they will look at anyone that is interested and qualified and then they will have to make a hard choice about how to move forward. Daymon said the guys went up and took a class and they were told most of the Class II Operators are coming up on retirement and there is a shortfall of operators in the state that it is kind of a crisis situation.

Dave said he would like to talk about the forklift under the old business. They need a 5,000 to 8,000 lb. forklift with the maximum of an 8 foot mast. Daymon clarified that they will be requesting that it be a used unit. Mayor McCown said to give the specifications to Cody to write an ad to put it out to bid. Tim Southern asked how much money they are going to pay and from which fund will they be paying for it. Mayor McCown said it will come from the Utility Equipment Reserve Fund and Daymon said there is about \$63,000 in that fund.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Volunteer Policy

Mayor McCown said he looked over the proposed volunteer agreement and it looks like everything was covered except identifying if they wanted to provide L&I to the volunteers. Daymon reads the contract to the council and says it appear to be pretty comprehensive. Mark suggested getting it to Bishop Law Office and make sure they are good with it before moving forward and make sure it has the correct terminology. Daymon Marple **MOVED** to adopt the proposed volunteer agreement plan. Mark said he could not vote on it without knowing the attorneys have approved of its contents. Cody suggested that the council set a policy to go along with the application for things like who to turn the application into and who will be supervising the volunteers. Mark asked if Cody could draft that up and Cody responded it is a policy matter so the council will need to come up with the language they would like to add as policy. The council collectively decided to table the items until the next meeting after Bishop's Law Office had a chance to review it.

2. Lyman's Dust Control

Neal Leon stated the last time the dust coat was put on it didn't hold or penetrate that well. Possibly they used a product called BST which is supposed to solidify the surface and the ground needs to be slightly wet in order for the product to work correctly. Daymon asked was there a water source when applied before and possibly the town will need to water to help lock it in. Dave said the guys should get it bid out so they can get started on it. Cody said Brad had it bid quite some time ago by 3 companies. Daymon suggests calling to confirm the product they will be using on the next application.

3. Mowing Grass in Ditches in Town

In the past Mayor McCown hired Randy Kriebel to mow along the streets and in the ditches and has asked him to do it again for \$200.00. Mark Young **MOVED** to hire Randy Kriebel to mow the sides of the roads and ditches. Dave Ulrick Seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Trailer Park Compliance Update from Eddie Zubiata and Carol Lawson

Eddie is here to talk about the numerous vehicles Officer Handley posted at the trailer park. Eddie said

that two were in compliance, they had proper registration, they have been moved and the value is over \$2,000.00. Eddie would like to request the council give him a little while longer to come into compliance with the vacated trailer that they are wanting to cut up and scrap. Daymon said he was the one who brought up the concern with the trailer park and making sure they are coming into compliance with the extension they were granted during the winter this last year. Daymon stats the council heard the same excuses of the steel price weren't good and they were waiting for those to come back up before scraping the trailer. Daymon's feelings are they just need to get the trailer out of there that the town council has given them adequate time to take care of it. Eddie asked for an additional month to get the trailer out of there and Mayor McCown responded they will give him 2 additional weeks. Daymon clarified by the next council meeting on July 13th they need to have the trailer out of there.

5. Billing Dispute Property Water Loss 207 E California Street

This matter was previously discussed in the guest section of the meeting.

Mayor McCown said that Brad took another load of refrigerators to the dump and David Nails, the guy in charge of the dump, said no more refrigerant units from the Town of Garfield. Residents are still able to take their own to the landfill but the town can no longer take them. Mayor McCown suggests putting up a sign that says no more refrigerant units or anything that has coolant in it. Mark suggests also posting that violators will be prosecuted. Dave said most places that deliver appliances will take the old ones for you. David Jones **MOVED** to no longer take appliances with refrigerant coolant in them at the recycle shed. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Tami Southern asked about the dust control up by Johnson Seed saying the time of year is coming when the farm traffic becomes heavy and the dust is really bad. She is hoping it will be applied before too long so that it is set in by the time harvest season comes. Mark thinks we should use a water truck with the product to make sure it packs down.

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register #12327-12330 PLUS EFT EFTPS	Payroll: \$6,773.81
Check Register #12331-12343	Claims: \$4,328.38
	Total: \$11,102.19

ADJOURNMENT: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. David Ulrick seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer