

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Town Hall – March 12th, 2014

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

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

GUESTS: Eric Hasenoehrl and Kevin Elliott, Cher Curtis arrived at 7:08.

Eric Hasenoehrl with Keltic engineering is here to talk about the WWTP and drop off the packet with bids for work to be performed. Keltic Engineering created a list of what needed to be done to get bids in to address the WWTP emergency. Eric asked the group to look at 11 x 17 fold up to help them identify the structural failure. The distributor trickles water over the fixed film media where organism then eat the material as it passes through. It is speculated there is a valve that sends water up the pipe to the distributor and it froze at some time.

Keltic has identified some contractors suitable for the work from the Whitman County Rooster for workers, 3 bids are necessary to identify who will complete the work. The contractor will need to take the footer out replace a chunk of concrete and then replace the footer. Keltic identified 8 potential companies on the list. Of these only 4 of them could bid on the work and 1 dropped out due to time constraints. It was presented to the contractors that this is an emergency and repairs must be done right away. The first bid was around \$48,000, the second one was \$27,000 and the final one was \$9,658.00.

The repair work at the plant will require lifting a cumbersome piece of metal. ML Albright has been to the plant before so they are familiar with the facility. ML Albright will have to tear it apart to see what is truly going on. The price may move up from there but it shouldn't be assumed that it will double. In addition to the bid there are some engineering fees that will go with it. Eric said if you are comfortable with this number then we can move forward. If the bid needs to change for any reason ML Albright will inform Keltic Engineering who will then inform the Mayor. Eric feels good about using ML Albright as they do good work. They have been here twice to fix our flappers. Mayor McCown said for that price I think we should get it going. Tim Southern **MOVED** to hire ML Albright as the contractor to fix the WWTP, given that all expenses don't exceed the \$20,000.00 threshold. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Eric said he talked to ML Albright and they can send guys up on Friday. On Monday they will start lifting the pipe and looking at the concrete below to assess the issue. Eric said its not difficult work just cumbersome. Eric will get a contract written up to proceed and have all appropriate parties sign it.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tim Southern **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 26th, 2014. David Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Neumann here to represent the Police Department.

Clean up is occurring on the 3rd street property. The entire back area of the property has been cleaned, and you currently can't smell anything although this could change as the weather gets warmer. Chief Neumann hasn't heard anything from the bank regarding their intentions on the property and whether the home is salvageable or if the home will need to be scraped.

Daymon Marple, Chief Neumann and another councilman from Palouse met with the Commissioner on what it would take to move forward with an ORV ordinance so that people can start using their ORV's around town. In the past people have been able to do a small amount of activities around town with their ORVs, but it would be nice if it was more regulated and allowed for various additional activities. The City of

Palouse council approved to have the language of the ordinance codified and have the attorney complete their process. Hopefully there will be some kind of gain in the local economy for allowing it. Chief Neumann gave the council a copy of the ORV ordinance. If the council was interested in moving forward on this Garfield could use similar language, but Garfield would need to have their own ordinance. Mayor McCown thanked Chief Neumann for his input and said we will probably discuss if further at this time.

Daymon Marple said that the County Commissioner is not in favor of it. He would like the rules uniform throughout the entire county. He doesn't see any economic advantage to the western side of the county as apposed to us who are closer to the Idaho border. Tim Southern asked why it is that if the state says it's okay, we have to put something forward. Chief Neumann said we are only going to govern what happens within our town limits. Basically there are no corridors that connect all the roads so it is a little disconnected at this time. Tim said he is still wondering if I buy tabs for my motorcycle I can ride it anywhere that I want right, so why is there a need to do something different?

Daymon Marple said he is worried about the probability of an ORV on a dirt road and the big rigs coming down these roads. The state law says you don't have to have insurance but you do have to wear a helmet. The comment was made if someone is going to get hurt on a two wheeler then they can also get hurt in a car or other motorized vehicle. Sharon Schnebly said she is concerned about people's safety that she is worried about them cruising up and down the sidewalks. Sharon said I think we need to have good regulations and a strict speed limit as well. If the town limit is 25 then it will be 25 for the ORV's. The other thing that concerns Sharon is the amount of traffic it might create and will it create more noise for the Town of Garfield. Chief Neumann said you will need to be licensed and at least 16 years old, it will not be little kids running around the neighborhood in ORVs. If more services were available in Garfield then it could become lucrative for you. Mayor McCown said we have discussed enough at this time, take the ORV ordinance example home, read it and we will come back to it in a couple weeks.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Robby Johnson Public Works Superintendent

- Water is operating normal.
- Sewer plant is running as effectively as it can right now. DMR training will occur on Friday with Ecology. Ellie Key will be here on April 1st to tour the sewer plant. Brad Hasenoehrl added when Ellie comes we will have to tell her the age of our bugs at the treatment plant. The scale that we have right now will not be able to give us that information, so we may have to get a scale before she comes. Also the chlorine meter we have doesn't read low enough. We need to be testing for .000 and currently it only goes .00. Tim said talking with Andy there is a lot of stuff that we might have done in the past, but with the turnover we are still learning so Ecology will tell us what we need to do to change in the future. The permit has been approved each time so there should be no issues with it this time. Mayor McCown said lets get working on the Bio cell and start making everything work better.
- The garbage truck should be complete soon. Western Systems had issues with their parts supplier which is the current hold up. They said they should have it next week. The old garbage truck continues to keep spitting out garbage here and there. Spare dumpsters have been picked up and are being modified. The new flyer has been distributed to the council for review. Robby will probably move it to the 24th of March for residents to be notified of the changes to the garbage route. This will give us time to run the route twice before the new truck is ready to be used. The scrap iron pile is empty. Our surveillance cameras will be installed next week.
- Robby and Brad spent two days at pesticide training and will know the results in a couple weeks.

Mayor McCown asked when the restrooms at the park will be opened. Robby said it is usually late April but before May Day festival. Mayor McCown asked to have them opened by the 15th of April.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Marijuana Application from Washington State Liquor Control Board. This matter is still in the hands of the Planning Committee until the March 17th meeting when they will make a recommendation to the council. Sharon said lets ask for the 20 day extension to host the Public Meeting and have another council meeting. Sharon said her understanding of the zoning code is that a conditional use permit will be needed to grant this type of activity. The pending marijuana application is for an area zoned Ag-1. At this point we should ask for the 20 day extension to gain more knowledge from the community. Tim said even if we check no we have to explain to the Liquor Control Board why we are saying no, however it is still possible that we will not be stopping the application from being accepted. If we don't answer the letter at all then they will go ahead and issue the permit. Tim said his feelings are we should just go ahead and check yes for allowance. Mayor McCown said let's just check the 20 extension at this point and go that route.
2. Notification for Garbage Collection Changes. Sharon feels the document is wordy. She would like to know if they don't comply with this letter then what is the next step. How are we going to handle this? Brad Hasenoehrl said spray paint the spot where they want the garbage can and then post a notice on the can to move it to this location. For the first month we have to be pretty lenient and then after that we will have to start enforcing people to move them. Tim said make a post card that can be taped to their cart telling them to move it, allow a couple times and then if they still continue not to follow the recommendation stop picking up their garbage. Only a handful of people will have to have their carts moved.
3. Mayor McCown said he wants to discuss the recyclables. How does everyone feel about the current recycle program? Mayor McCown said he loves having it and uses it frequently. David Jones said maybe there could be an option like have a collection site. Mayor McCown said what he envisions is a pea box built with a cover on it and a door for Public Works to access the contents. This would allow town residents to securely drop their newspapers and aluminum cans off. The current situation with glass is that even the big recyclers can't get rid of it, and it is costing money. If it has any brown glass mixed in with the white glass then the recycler will throw out the whole lot. The last few boxes we just hauled to the landfill.

Tim said I think it is costing us too much money, if you want to have a back up option for the residents then that is just a bonus, and if not just leave the cardboard collection as is. Send out a letter explaining it takes too much man power and costing too much money to deal with. Sharon said she likes the idea of taking recyclables to a collection site. Sharon asked is there any place around here that would be willing to drop a container to have the recycles separated and haul the container away once it was filled. Robby said since we don't use Empire they wouldn't help us with that situation, and no other recyclers are close enough.

Cher Curtis clarified, so you wouldn't pick up the recyclables at the residents' houses any longer. Her feeling is that most of the recyclables will just end up in the garbage. People might take the cans down to a collection site so there is no harm in setting up the boxes to see if we can still encourage recycling. Mayor McCown asked do you still pick up the recyclables at the assisted living and Robby said yes. Mark Young thinks if you are not going to pick up curbside then he feels we should give the residents of Garfield an opportunity to drop it off. Mark said it wouldn't take much to expand to the bins and still provide a service. Mayor McCown said often times he takes his to Moscow because they offer a wider variety of acceptable recyclable goods. Mayor McCown asked everyone, so do we all agree we are moving in this direction? Tim said lets add the recycling changes to the garbage letter and let the residents of Garfield know we will be making these changes. Everyone agrees to move in that direction.

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register # 11310-11315
EFT Dept. Of Revenue
Check Register # 11316-11333

Payroll: \$8,224.34
Claims: \$1,074.10
Claims: \$15,124.58 Total: \$24,423.02

ADJOURNMENT: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer