

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Preliminary Draft
Town Hall – May 14th, 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 and Tim Southern. Staff Clerk/Treasurer Cody Lord. Absent: Daymon Marple

GUESTS: Loran Robinette, Cher Curtis, Cathie May, Debra Lantzy, Charles Lantzy, Mike and Mary Haver and Patsy Tate.

Cher talks about how the red house across from her is leaving their garbage can by the street instead of taking the can back to their house. Mayor McCown said shall we change the rules to make people take their cans back after 12 hours. Maybe give them 12 hours to put it out before collection and 12 hours to take it back in after collection. Cathie May would like to know if the new route is set in stone. She now has to take her can to the highway and she thinks in the winter time this will be a challenge. Mayor McCown says right now south hill is the biggest problem they are dealing with. The guys are learning the new truck and after two or three weeks we will go out and talk with people and see what adjustments can be made.

Charles Lantzy said he is a little sad the town has stopped curbside recycling. Mayor McCown tells the group that Cody has been in contact with a recycling outfit out of Spokane and they will be down to make a presentation to us. It is currently a money losing situation to us. Mayor McCown asked for a month to get organized with recycling and then we will put out some new details. The town was paid \$87.00 for the last recycle trip, which ended up costing more money than we made due to labor and fuel to get the materials to the recycle yard. The other option at this time is to load all the recycles, take it to Colfax and dump it for free. All items would still be recycled.

Loran Robinette is here to ask for more time to pay his utilities. He explains that some unforeseen personal matters have made it so that he is not able to make payment on time this month. Tim Southern explains that as a group they are sorry he has to deal with difficulties but the council has to stick to the rules and enforcing them so they don't have to deal with this issue all the time. Loran understands and will do what he can to make his payment on time. Loran also wants to talk with the council about the possibility of having goats on his property to fulfill a dietary restriction he must accommodate. Loran reads to the council the details of the hoofed animal code. He is questioning where it says he has to have 15,000 square feet of pasture. He explains to the council the location of his home and tells them the footprint is just under an acre at about 44,600 square feet and of that about 10,100 square feet of the property is pasture. Tim explains he would have to take this matter to the board of adjustment. It would then have to be approved through a variance. Sharon also says in order to go against what is written in the Town of Garfield code book you would have to apply for a variance.

Debra Lantzy is here to express that she and the Washington State Liquor control board want to give Garfield another chance to take back the rejection of her business. She explains that to the Liquor Board this is a rejection of business to be conducted in Garfield. She explains the Washington State Liquor Control Board wanted me to talk with the council and see if the council would be willing to change their mind. She clarifies that there will be no additional traffic because she will be delivering to retailers and producers.

Mayor McCown said the only way I would vote the other way is if you take a petition door to door and if 50% or more of the registered voters in Garfield are in favor of letting a business like yours commence here. Mayor McCown explains all the meetings he attended, it was overwhelming the amount of participants that said no. Mark Young talks about how the meetings were to address the marijuana issue in total and the town was against it. He doesn't think the sentiment of the town has changed. Debra said there are already 3 medical marijuana growers in town and she is trying to do this the ethical and legal way.

The Liquor Control Board can still say yes without the town's approval but she wouldn't feel good about it

as she would like to have the town's support. Debra says all she is asking for is a year. All she is asking for is her chance to prove that she can operate ethically. Tim said he would be willing to vote on it again. Sharon Schnebly says that she is in favor of going through the conditional use process and putting parameters on the permit. Debra explains the WSLCB will send another notice and they would like your approval. Mayor McCown said again the only way I can support it is if you go door to door. Tim tells Debra if we had a full council we might have it approved tonight. Debra likes it in Garfield and would love to support the town.

Charles Lantzy describes how he has grown up in Eastern Washington. Several towns have all but disappeared or shrunk to very small populations, all these towns are drying up. I see these towns slowly dwindling. He says this is a shot for the town to pony up and get something going. It is even evident here in Garfield where we tried to get a restaurant and we are still having a hard time attracting someone to open that space. Keith talks about how restrictions were put on the family's ability to do what they wanted with the restaurant and because they were not willing to serve alcohol, the deal fell apart. Sharon corrected Keith and said we don't have that right to tell an operation if they can or can't sell liquor or alcohol, that this is simply a misunderstanding of the details of that agreement. Tim also reiterates the restaurant deal falling through has nothing to do with serving alcohol.

The conversation is ended by Debra assuring everyone she will get the petition started and she hopes to gather the necessary signatures.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 23rd, 2014. David Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Joe Merry

Officer Joe Merry has an update from Dan Gladwill on the buildings that were illegally built. Eddie has an engineering report and has filed for a building permit so there is a little more leniency at this time and Dan will be following up on this property closely. There are two vehicles out there which are being repaired. They will be tagged soon if not taken care of and a follow up on this item will happen about the 1st of June. Concerning the junk vehicle on North 4th, the property owner is beginning to clean up items around the property. There are two questionable vehicles that are being repaired and should be running soon. Again follow up on this should happen about mid June.

There are a couple of on-going vehicle investigations in both towns that have been forwarded onto the prosecutor's office. Officer Merry is waiting for clarification from Stephen Bishop on what constitutes a trailer. The way the current ordinance is written has presented a bit of a problem. By then hopefully the trailer will be gone. At least this issue will be clarified for any future issues.

Officer Merry talks about how a resident's dog attacked a man walking his dog. When Officer Merry arrived at the scene the dog lunged at Officer Merry and tried to bite him, so for the first time in 15 years he was forced to put the animal down. The other dog at the residence has been removed. A warning went out that two \$500.00 tickets would be issued if the other dog was not removed from the property.

Mark Young asked about the house on 3rd street. Dan Gladwill is working with the bank on the structure itself. One more work crew will have to come and clean the property and then it will no longer be a town violation issue. Officer Merry will also send them a list of things they need to do to come into compliance. Dan will take some kind of enforcement action on the structure with the lean holder.

Cher Curtis asked Officer Merry if Kay ever talked with him about the intruder at her property. Officer Merry responded she didn't but a couple others told him about it. Patsy Tate explains that she is the neighbor across the street from the aggressive dog and she assures everyone that the response Officer Merry provided was definitely necessary for this situation. If they get another dog Patsy assures the council she will write a letter if there is any barking issues or signs of aggression at all.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Robby Johnson and Brad Hasenoehrl have furnished a written report for the council meeting.

Sharon expresses some concern about Robby or Brad not being here to give their Public Works report especially on a night when the Dept. of Ecology letter should be further explained. Mayor McCown said I am hoping if we can get by another month or two with this report since Robby and Brad are busy with school activities, then we will get back to one of them coming in on council nights and updating us.

Below are the items on the report furnished by Robby and Brad:

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT 5/14/14

Water

- Chlorine Pump at well # 3 is installed and operational. Got it at a discount of around \$450.00.

Sewer

- Plant is continuing to operate normally and more effectively everyday.
- Influent flow meter was replaced and is operating fine now.
- Influent float system continues to be a problem. Grease and bubbles cause the system to malfunction and the pumps stick on. A new system is recommend, price and description to follow.
- Ecology Follow-up Report was sent to everyone.
- DMR's will be filed by tomorrow on time.

Garbage

- New truck went out Monday, works exceptionally well.
- Slight problem with the hydraulic line. It is fixed and now operational.
- Over half the dumpsters are completed retro-fit and have been delivered.
- Load of recyclables will be going to Spokane tomorrow or Friday
- Spoke to Mr. Wells at the school about 2-4 yard dumpsters, he agreed with the town ordinance that he will be willing to pay for half of the dumpsters.

Streets

- Pot holes are being filled.
- Street sweeping has begun and will be finalized tomorrow before May Day.

Parks

- Water at the park is operational and restrooms are opened and cleaned.
- Larry Hunt has done the spring spray.
- The dog waste bucket has been emptied and dog waste collection bags have been ordered and should be here before May Day.

Collection Site

- Cannon Hill has been here and completed the cleanup and haul off.
- About a dozen loads of dirt were hauled from the ball field and dumped at the collection site for fill.
- Some rock has been place out there as well to firm up the soil.

Mark comments about the recycling changes. It is his understanding from the previous council meeting there would be a spot to leave cans and papers. Mayor McCown says it has taken a little longer than anticipated and it is a work in progress. There is a bailer for aluminum and tin cans, they have to move those back and there will be boxes inside the doors behind the cardboard recycling. In the meantime we are trying to get a commitment from this outfit from Spokane which will furnish the bins to put recyclables in. Mark asks will residents have to sort it themselves, or will the Public Works guys be in charge of sorting the items. Mayor McCown confirmed the residents will not have to sort it, it will all go into big boxes and take it to the county and the county will sort it. Mayor McCown explains we won't be losing money any longer but we won't be making much either.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ecology

Mayor McCown asks did everyone read this report. I think we need to get Dave and the other guy from Palouse, Andy O'Neal and go over this report and see what everything means. Tim Southern thinks we ought to keep doing what we are doing, especially since the bio-cell is up and running. We don't have the necessary funds to do a lot of the things they are asking for. If we keep working then they will hopefully continue to see our efforts.

Mark said in order to protect ourselves I would like to see a plan down on paper, some short term and long term plan so it shows our objectives. They want something back from us that says this is how we are going to resolve these issues and this is how we intend to deal with them. Sharon said we are already rectifying some of these things. The Dept. of Ecology will look more favorably on us if we have a solid plan going forward.

Mayor McCown said there are a lot of things that he doesn't fully understand and he would like clarification on them. Sharon said Robby and Brad should be able to spend more time at the plant now. Mayor McCown explains they have the plant working now but it will take some time to make it work absolutely correct. Mark suggests we figure out how to specifically deal with these items within this report. He would like to take her up on her offer to contact her personally and really get her assistance in getting us back on track. Sharon says we will definitely have to be more proactive this go around. Down the road, once we get the Notice of Violation from the Dept. Of Ecology, we will schedule a meeting with Andy. Hopefully we will have the full written report soon.

2. Yard Waste Site

The yard waste collection site is cleaned up and the county will bring another box and we will load it every week to prevent a buildup like we had in the past. Mayor McCown confirms the chipping of the pile was free. The guys tried to take the compost up to the neighbor but the ground was too soft and they just about got stuck so taking the pile next door didn't work out. We may have to load it into another box for removal.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. May Day

Officer Merry supplied Robby and Brad a list of barricades needed for the celebration. The vehicles in front of the hotel will have to be moved in the morning. The May Day celebration is in

the park again which will have food and about half a dozen vendors scheduled to show up. It looks like everything is on schedule and it should be a good gathering.

2. California Apartment Dumpster Location.

Ryan Barker, the owner of the hotel apartments would like to address where he can put his dumpsters. Mayor McCown explains he is asking to put his dumpsters back out on the street. He says they are Ryan’s dumpsters and it is up to him to find the property to put it on. Maybe the guy across the street will rent him some space. Right now they are directly under the window of one of the apartments. There is no room on his property. The dumpsters were on Tom’s alley run and there was garbage spilling out all the time so Tom and Windy got tired of it and said it can’t be placed there any longer. Tim says we don’t want it in the alley anyways because we can’t load it from there. He thinks they have to be on town sidewalk, the street or someone else’s property. Tim says next to the street where the truck can grab it makes it easy to load for Robby and Brad. Sharon doesn’t like the idea of them being on the street and is definitely not in favor of it being there all the time. Mayor McCown thinks Ryan needs to find a place for it but he doesn’t want to see dumpsters parked on the street. The council agrees it is up to Ryan to find a suitable place to put the dumpsters if they are not on his property.

Patsy Tate asked will the new truck be dumped each week, and not be sitting around smelling each week. How much larger is the capacity of the new truck. Tim thinks it is about 3 times the capacity of the old truck. All town clean up can be moved in one trip to the dump. Cher Curtis asks does it pickup for both sides, and it is confirmed it only picks up on the right hand side.

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register # 11385-11389
Check Register #11390-11410

Payroll: \$9,308.78
Claims: \$30,415.81 Total: \$39,724.59

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

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer