

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Preliminary Draft
May 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Andrew Flodin, John Kuehner, and Tim Southern. Staff - Public Works Superintendent Dave Ulrick, Police Chief Jerry Neumann, Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: Larry Hunt and Rob Watkins.
Guests: Aidan Conklin and Brian Conklin.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Brian Conklin addressed council, indicating his son has to apologize to the council and Dave Ulrick. Today he found the SE street drain at 5th and Union plugged with dirt and gravel after his son had filled it in. His son spent 1-1/2 hours today shoveling it out. Aidan spoke to council and said he was sorry.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Annie Pillers noted one change to the minutes: Perry fixed a leak at Chad Palmer, not Hawkins. Andrew Flodin **MOVED** the minutes of April 22, 2009, be approved with the noted change. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Reservoir Overflow Meter – Dave reported that Larry was here this past week. He will be getting a proposal to Dave. He suggested putting in 2 floats for low and high levels. Dave said the telemetry should work with the equipment. They discovered the low battery alarm is actually the low level alarm. The reading has been as low as 33.1 but should not go below 37. Larry thinks the sensor in the tank may not be sensitive enough for its application. Tim Southern agreed with the idea of installing two floats and Dave confirmed Larry is talking about this. The other consideration is a sensor for overflow that shuts everything down. Currently everything shuts off now at 39 and starts up below that. Well No 3 is shut off right now because when the reading bounces below 35.5 both wells turn on, run about 10 seconds, one turns off and then the other turns off. It has been unreliable with both wells on. John Kuehner asked who was Larry. Dave confirmed he is the new technician out of Idaho. The initial technician retired and the disk for the program can't be found. It may take some time to reprogram the system. Dave is trying to contact the former technician. John Kuehner did not think the system was that old and said it sounded like they didn't put the right meter in when the tank was installed if it is not working now. He asked about the warranty. Dave said the system was installed in 2003 and about 6 to 8 months ago it started acting up. He further confirmed the low level alarm on the panel is not working and may have been hooked up wrong. Larry checked for broken or pulled or loose wires as Dave had previously done. He did find some loose wires but they didn't seem to make any difference. Larry is putting together his suggestions of what needs to be done. Tim Southern said it seemed simple, like what you would do for a septic tank but reverse – when the flow is high it shuts off. Dave noted the system would need 3 floats to function properly.

2. 2"Water Meter School & Meat Market – The parts are in for the meat market meter but Tom has been busy with animals for the show in Spokane. One he's not busy the parts will be replaced. Dave noted just cleaning the meter helped quite a bit. There is a divider plate that is scarred and needs replacing. The school water meter will be replaced after school is out this summer. It's hard to turn the water off with school in session.

3. May Days – Public works has been busy getting ready for May Day.

4. Street Sweeper – The street sweeper worked okay this season. There are issues with it,

including a bad bearing that is located way inside, that would require taking half the machine apart to get to the bearing. It will need to be replaced sometime but Dave is not sure if the sweeper is worth the cost of repairing it. The town will need to replace it at some point.

5. Vehicle Replacement - Dave talked about replacing the existing ¾ ton pick up at some point with another ¾ pick up with a small utility box like Perry has on his truck. The current rig has 150,000 miles on it. Dave quit pulling the recycle trailer with it. Upon a return trip from Moscow, Dave changed the oil and filings came out. The truck has lots of hours on it. He's not too concerned now, but he's looking at something to replace it and will let council know when he finds something.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Neumann provided council with the monthly activity log and the time log for the last 1-1/2 months. He said they had been dealing with some little thefts. He confirmed the contract with the Humane Society was finalized with a signature copy to go before the Palouse council at end of the month. He noted the original contract allowed for up to 12 dogs at \$600 a year, and didn't spell out any over usage. The new contract, which includes Garfield, allows up to 16 dogs a year, with a \$75 fee per dog over 16. Jerry said this shouldn't be a problem. He said they are close to 10 dogs this last year, and so far, counting a little of 2008. The annual contract is \$900 a year and will be absorbed through Palouse and provided as a service.

Chief Neumann discussed the Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) Justice Assistance Grant. It's part of the Recovery and Reinvestment program and both Palouse and Garfield have been listed as potential recipients of the economic grant. It's a non-competitive \$9999 grant. The town has to meet some eligible activities – law enforcement program; prosecution and court; prevention and education; corrections and community corrections; drug treatment; planning, evaluation & technology improvements; victims of crime. Reading through this, Jerry said if Garfield was to do this, he thinks the law enforcement program such as the contracted services to continue with Palouse, would qualify, but he needs to do some checking. He said it could be used to offset the economic hardship over the last year. It's part of a long-term relationship through cost savings, and lowers the town's budget. The mayor asked if the town gets the full \$10,000 and that was confirmed. Palouse is going for the motorcycle program, noting Columbia Harley Davidson discontinued their lease program. This program provides a gas savings, the use of the bike, and different activities. John Kuehner asked about some type of training – bike rodeo, kids, etc. Chief Neumann said they could do a bike rodeo for \$100. Chief Neumann further noted the grant can be used to buy equipment – lap tops, wireless in car, mobile data terminals, etc. Chief Neumann said some of the information for the grant application would come from Annie and he could have input on the narrative and contract language. He further noted as a non-competitive grant, there need to be reassurances of where the monies are going. He thought it would be easy for small departments to show where the money needs are. The application is due in the middle of June. Council consensus to Chief Neumann was to move forward on application.

Chief Neumann announced that the President proclaimed May 10 – 16 Police Week. May 15th is Peace Officer Memorial Day. As part of the President's proclamation he was asking that the town flags be at half-mast for that day.

Chief Neumann confirmed the department was all set for May Day and didn't foresee any problems.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Capital Improvements/Capital Facilities List: Mayor Pfaff reported this updated capital projects/capital facilities list was in response to the town's Public Works Trust Fund recent loan application for the I&I problems with the sewer system. He noted this gives a plan for replacing capital facilities. John Kuehner said it looked like a pretty good list. John Kuehner **MOVED** to adopt the Capital Projects/Capital Facilities as presented to council. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion

and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS/1st QUARTER 2009 FINANCIALS/ADJUSTMENT REGISTER:

Tim Southern **MOVED** to approve the 1st 2009 Quarter Adjustment Register, 1st Quarter 2009 financials and the following bills presented to council for payment. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #9023-#9045. Claims: \$14,933.64, Payroll: \$5,283.66. TOTAL: \$20,217.30.

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Southern **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrold Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer