

**Town of Garfield**  
**PUBLIC HEARING AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Final Draft**  
**November 23, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, John Kuehner, and Tim Southern. Staff – Public Works Superintendent David Ulrick, Police Chief Jerry Neumann, Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: Andrew Flodin and Rob Watkins.

**2010 FINAL BUDGET HEARING:** Mayor Pfaff opened the Public Hearing for the 2010 Final Budget at 7:00 pm. Mayor Pfaff noted there could still be some changes before it was adopted. Tim Southern asked about the water rates. Mayor Pfaff explained that starting with a loss was not factored in at the time the water rates were figured. He stated clearly he wanted to wait another year to look at the numbers before making any decision. He further noted if the loss was only \$3,000, he would want to watch it for another year then too. Tim Southern asked with the percentage increase every other year, shouldn't it catch up. The mayor said it would get close, but not get ahead. Larry Hunt indicated the town was still putting into the reserve funds every year. Tim Southern stated the town could chose to change what goes into the reserve to even things out, from \$20,000 down to \$18,000. Larry Hunt said he agreed the town needed to sit on it for another full budget year and not increase anything. John Kuehner agreed, stating the figures can fluctuate every year, and to give it another year to see what happens. The mayor said sewer and garbage looked good, and were paying for themselves. He noted there were no surprises in the budget and that he was done moving line items around. The Street Fund was back to normal, with gravel and cold mix. Tim Southern said the budget looks decent. There was no further comment.

Mayor Pfaff closed the Public Hearing at 7:12 pm and opened the regular council meeting. Larry Hunt **MOVED** to accept the 2010 Final Budget as presented. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Tim Southern **MOVED** the minutes of November 9, 2009, be approved as written. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** David Ulrick updated the council.

1. **3<sup>rd</sup> Street Sewer Repair:** The sewer repair on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street has been completed.

2. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Inspection:** The state inspection of the Wastewater Treatment Plant was done last week.

3. **Ed-Ka Culvert:** The cost for 36 inch culvert was estimated at \$4,000. The project was approximately a 127 foot span between 2 sections of culvert. The culvert is \$28 a foot, plus \$56 for the bands. If the town buys a Y already made it would cost \$1,000. The Mayor said the question was whether Dave and Perry would do the work or whether it would go out to bid. Larry Hunt asked Dave if there was any reason they couldn't do the project. Dave confirmed they could do the project. Larry Hunt said he would prefer to see it done in-house to save money. He asked if the culvert would be done this year or next year. Mayor Pfaff said maybe this year with a budget amendment. It was noted this project was needed for flood control. There was a question about land ownership and right of way (ROW). Mayor Pfaff would contact Stephen Bishop about the ROW issue. Larry Hunt **MOVED** pending any problems noted by the attorney, that the town install a new culvert and cover the ditch. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Larry Hunt also asked about cleaning out the culvert at Styers. Dave said yes, they would be doing that within the next couple of weeks.

4. Manhole Corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and Adams: Larry Hunt asked if the manhole near TJ Mitzimberg's shop would be done before winter. He noted right now it's an open 4 foot hole. He would hate to see a problem if it gets left as is and covered with snow. Dave said he took all the measurements before he left but the problem now is concrete. Normally the crew catches a concrete truck coming through with left over concrete to make the manhole. It was estimated they would need 20 to 30 bags to do the job.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Neumann presented council with the quotes for equipment under the Justice Assistance Grant. Quotes for the laptop computers were received from Dell \$1,075.50 per unit; PCMailGov \$919.00 per unit plus one fee of \$49 for McAfee with unknown fee for Office License; Hewlett-Packard \$917.99 per unit; Lenovo \$866.60 per unit but no Office or Antivirus listed. Quotes for the AR-15 were received from Double Star \$935 each; Territorial Supply \$1,023.86 each. No quotes received from AR-15 Store, Dave's Guns or ProGuns. Tim Southern **MOVED** to accept the low bid from Double Star for the AR-15 rifles and the low bid from Hewlett Packard for the laptop computers. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Micheal Rose joined the meeting at 7:32 PM.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Washington State Archives Local Records Grant:** Larry Hunt **MOVED** to accept the Washington State Archives Local Records Grant and authorized the mayor to sign a letter of acceptance. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Dog Licenses:** Mayor Pfaff noted in the clerk's review of the code book, it was determined a rabies certificate is required to get a license and a certificate for spayed or neutered is required for the discounted dog license, however it appears this has not been the practice. Mayor Pfaff felt it was important to have the certificate and thought the town should start requiring such. Council consensus was that the certificates were important and that the code should be followed as written. The clerk would start an informational campaign to educate the community about this requirement.

**2. Mayor/Council Compensation 2009 and 2010:** Mayor Pfaff noted the council individually needed to decide if they wanted to take their salaries for 2009 and 2010. The Mayor stated he was not taking his salary for 2009 or 2010. He talked about the projected loss in Current Expense for 2009. He said in the past the council salaries provided some cushion. Larry Hunt stated that he, by no means, wanted to influence anyone and that the decision whether to take the salary or not is on an individual basis. He did not want to push anyone else. The Mayor and council agreed with this. Larry Hunt chose not to take his salary for 2009 or 2010. Tim Southern chose not to receive his salary for 2009 or 2010. John Kuehner chose not to take his salary for 2009, noting his term was ending at the end of 2009.

**3. Resolution 2009-20: 2009 Firefighter Salary Schedule:** Council discussed the 2009 point system for the fire department. Mayor Pfaff noted based upon calls and trainings, the Fire Chief had determined the rate of \$12.94 per firefighter per hour/point. The total would be \$2,300 for 2009. Tim Southern explained next year the Fire Chief plans to do like most volunteer departments, a point system. If you respond to a call you get \$10 (a determined figure) for that. The Chief will do the same point system for a call or training. Tim Southern thought it would likely be less cost to the town. Mayor Pfaff noted the Chief's point figure would be taken from the highest year of calls, using the \$2,300 budgeted amount. There could be the very odd chance that if there was a high attendance year or a high call year, it could go over. The \$2,300 would be the cap. Tim Southern further noted the Chief would likely do this for a year or two to see how it works. John Kuehner indicated he couldn't go over the \$2,300 unless the council approved it any way. John Kuehner **MOVED** to pass

Resolution 2009-20 adopting the 2009 Firefighter Salary Schedule. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**4. Fire Department Reimbursement from Insurance Company:** Micheal Rose asked if there was ever an instance where the fire department goes out to a fire for an insurance company and gets reimbursed for the hours spent putting out a fire. Tim Southern said no, noting the fire department is a public service based upon taxes only. The department could only charge for running EMS transports if they were doing that. Chief Jerry Neumann said at one time there was a DUI accident reimbursement for fire departments but he wasn't sure of the status now.

**APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Larry Hunt **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.  
Check Register #9253-#92. Claims: \$17,706.34 Payroll: \$4,986.15 TOTAL: \$22,692.49

**ADJOURNMENT:** Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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**Jarrod Pfaff, Mayor**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer**