

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – Final Draft
Town Hall – July 19, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, Daymon Marple, and Tim Southern. Staff – Public Works Superintendent Perry Brown, and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers.

ABSENT: Sharon Schnebly and Mark Young.

GUESTS: Chuck Petras.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Daymon Marple **MOVED** the minutes of the July 11, 2012, Regular Council meeting be approved as corrected showing regular meeting, not public hearing. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Perry Brown updated council:

Pavement Roller Purchase – Mayor Pfaff noted last year the town had talked about needing a pavement roller. The current roller is not the safest to run with no breaks, the starter is at 600 hours and the seals need to be fixed. There is a used roller that has a hydrostatic drive and brakes. It's approximately 6,800 pounds, much heavier than the current one and is available for \$6,000. Tim Southern suggested the town considering buying it. Perry agreed to set up an appointment to look at it, drive it, and make sure it works as they say. He thought it might need some repair work to the spray bar. Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** the town purchase the used pavement roller at a cost of \$6,000 if it meets the specifications and satisfaction of the public works superintendent. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2" Water Meters – the current price for 2" water meters is \$732. Perry noted he needed one for sure but would really like 3. He needs one for the Heusser property to replace the existing one that is broken. He would like one for the 2" fire fill at the station to help with accounting for water loss/usage in town, and he needs one for Idaho Street. Perry confirmed the 2" meter at Heusser has been in there for years in an old manhole with a manhole lid that requires he crawl into the vault. The price quote he received was for a remote read. The price quote is good for 30 days. He has no 2" meters on the shelf. Mayor Pfaff was okay with this purchase (approximately \$2,200) as he had budgeted \$6,000. Council was agreeable with a purchase of 4-2" meters. Perry noted Greg Kolar would be installing a 1" meter rather than a ¾" meter with Greg picking up the cost difference of approximately \$80, plus the \$1,000 hook up.

Operations/Maintenance – Perry confirmed for the soil testing at the compost pile, Anatek said he could dig it with the backhoe as long as each sample was put into one quart baggies and delivered to the Spokane lab within 6 hours. The price would be \$30 for fecal per bag (x 3) and \$55 for nitro per bag. The price would go up to \$90 for fecal and \$110 per nitro per bag if not received in 6 hours. The rough price would be \$255 plus tax. Perry noted he had done some gravel work up at Tim Fox's. He also reported that Phil Weagraff would be helping him Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week with water leak repairs. Council talked about getting a back-up camera on the garbage truck as it was a safety issue, particularly with temporary workers who are not familiar with the garbage collection process. Sharon Schnebly suggested hardwiring the unit as in her experience, the wireless systems would not go through metal. She will provided Perry information on camera units.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution 2012-10 – Salary Schedule Resolution: Mayor Pfaff noted he had reviewed the 2012 AWC Salary Survey for towns with populations roughly between 400 and 700. The high end was \$45,000, middle \$40,000 to \$43,000 and low at \$31,000. The current position pays \$37,000. Mayor Pfaff recommended a range, dependent upon experience. Tim Southern suggested \$40,000 to \$44,000. Mayor Pfaff recommended the ranges be apart for the assistant and superintendent and suggested the range start at \$37,000. Council discussed a range of \$37,000 to \$41,000. Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2012-10 setting the salary of the public works assistant. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fire Truck Purchase: Mayor Pfaff updated council regarding his conversation with Mike Bagott regarding pumpers. He said in order to be classified as a pumper it needs to pump 750 gpm minimum. This truck would be 500 gpm. Without 2 pumpers, the insurance rating would go from a 7 to an 8. Mike

Bagott told him it's totally random when the survey and rating bureau comes again. Mayor Pfaff spoke with the insurance agent Steve Witthuhn in Palouse. He estimated the increase in premium at \$100 to \$200 a year based upon a home value of \$150,000 to \$250 assessed value if going from a rating of 7 to 8. Mayor Pfaff said he had also talked with Stephen Bishop who indicated there was a fine line for the town as according to its charter, the town is tasked with fire service which means a pumper. Stephen recommended not getting rid of the town's pumper. Mayor Pfaff did not recommend spending the \$17,000 for this truck as there is only \$22,000 in the fund and the town will need money for a fire station. If spend the \$17,000 now, then be out for the next 5 to 7 years. If go for \$10,000 on this one, possibly have some money next year.

Mayor Pfaff noted when the joint board was proposed there was no equipment cost sharing. He said if the town says no to this cost sharing, then no joint board. And if do cost sharing, there's no guarantee will do a joint board. Tim Southern said the town doesn't have a need for a tender, but as far as the district is concerned they are smart getting one, but this one is a bad choice. Chuck Petras indicated that Chris McCully had found a truck in Spokane that can be turned into a tender. Chuck clarified the truck he looked at was in southern Oregon and with tax would be approximately \$50,000. The one Chris McCully found in Spokane was \$27,500 and was a dust control truck. Tim Southern said the town would only need to buy a tender if they really wanted a true joint board. If not, then the district should buy their own tender, as the town doesn't need to do so. Mayor Pfaff further noted Stephen Bishop said right now they are two separate departments. The town would have to explain to the auditor how they spent town money for another department. Sharon Schnebly said that the town didn't need to buy it. If the joint board came to fruition, then cross that bridge then. Larry Hunt noted when they first started talking about replacing a truck with this tender he was not aware of this information – fire insurance, a separate charter for the city, etc. Daymon Marple agreed the truck would be great for rural fighting and the district can use a decent new truck.

Mayor Pfaff asked Chuck Petras his opinion. He relayed a Delta call Sunday morning for a possible structure fire and only 4 people showed up. The department could have a half a dozen pumpers but not the manpower. He understood the town needs to have a tender if the hydrants freeze and there was no way to pump water. He said if the joint board provided adequate fire protection then he would be all for it. Fire service is not a subscription service. A tender provides a guaranteed source of bulk water, but it's still an ag truck which would be adequate for field fires, but not structure fires. Chuck further noted he understood the council represents the town boundaries and the citizens. Chuck said looking at the current interlocal agreement, there is no requirement that the district actually provide service within the town. They share equipment and space. Chuck said he is looking at equipment and funding options through AVISTA, grants, federal list. Mayor Pfaff said that would still be a year out. There is no instant solution. Mayor Pfaff asked Larry his thoughts. He said during the initial meeting he was all for sharing a tender on the basis the town could afford it but now with new information from Stephen, that's all out the window and it's not feasible for the town. Tim Southern said if the right size pump, hose and everything else was found, he was not sure he would want to get rid of the town's truck anyway. Larry noted the town would not get anything for its truck anyway. It was agreed if there was already a joint board the town could do the cost sharing. Daymon Marple noted the town has a fiduciary responsibility to its townspeople and would need the joint board to do this. Chuck Petras talked about a contract where the town would contract with the district to provide service to the town and conversely the district would contract with the town to provide service to the district, versus a mutual aid agreement. Mayor Pfaff agreed the town can't do the fire truck because legally they are separate, but if combined joint board the town could do so. It was agreed the town would send a letter to the commissioners explaining the town's situation and limitations.

ADJOURNMENT: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrod Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer