

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Town Hall – May 8, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, Tim Southern, and Mark Young. Staff – Public Works Assistant Robby Johnson, and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: Daymon Marple and Sharon Schnebly. Guests: Connie Kriebel and Sue Kriebel.

GUESTS:

May Day 2013 – Connie Kriebel and Sue Kriebel with the Garfield Community Association addressed council regarding upcoming May Days. The set up will be similar to last year with most events downtown. There will be some kid games on the Dick Kriebel property. The intent is to close off California Street and at the bank and post office, including 3rd Street. Connie was not sure who to talk with at the fire department about the street being closed to the library. Connie could not remember if the street near Dick's was blocked last year but she might want to do so. Vendors will be setting up at 9 am. Items will be raffled off every half hour. The Potlatch Fiddlers are coming and will perform from noon to 2 pm. Everything should be done by 3 pm. Council recommended Connie contact Officer Joe Merry to confirm which streets to be closed. Council said they would be fine with the street closures. Connie and Sue then left the meeting at 7:10 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Annie Pillers noted a correction to the 4/23/13 minutes adding Sharon Schnebly and Tim Southern as attending. Mark Young **MOVED** the minutes of the regular council meeting of April 24, 2013, be approved as corrected. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Assistant Robby Johnson reported:

1. Farm Hydrant –the farm hydrant outside of town hall is up and running
2. Extra Help - Dave Ulrick helped with garbage on Monday
3. Park - the restrooms are open but the sign is not up yet. It will be soon. The sprinklers are not on because there is no power until the shelter repair is finished. Robby is staying busy with mowing.
4. Streets – the cold mix asphalt that was demonstrated in town in February has been ordered and should be in by Friday. Robby will make sure the potholes along the parade route are fixed before May Days.
5. Recycling –The surveillance camera is here and will be up and running soon. Robby discussed the current recycling operations and some possible ideas for consideration. The Whitman County Transfer station will be going to single stream recycling effective July 1st. They want everything loose, un-bagged, and in one pile. The town's issue with that is unloading, unless using the garbage truck. In order to store enough recyclables to fill the garbage truck, it would make a bigger mess at the recycle center. Tim Southern asked about adding racks to a dump trailer. Mayor Pfaff asked how often the recycling would have to be hauled if single-stream. Robby confirmed cardboard, mixed paper and glass are sorted out. Whitman County will take those free of charge. He said there is some money in aluminum and he would recommend crushing it and taking it to Spokane. The rest could go single stream to the landfill. Robby thought he could haul once a month to the county and estimated it would take a fair size trailer. He recommended aluminum, newspaper and cardboard go to Pacific Steel. Robby noted the recyclables don't weigh much and could be unloaded from the town trailer by hand. Discussion then focused specifically on how to effectively haul the recyclables. Suggestions included using the Bobcat to dump everything on the concrete floor at then scoop it up into the garbage truck, using eco blocks to protect the sides of the building; and running to the dump every 2nd Monday with the current trailer hooked up behind a town vehicle and following the garbage truck over to then unload together. Robby had contacted TJ about repairing the existing trailer but was not sure of the cost. It was not clear how much weight the existing trailer could hold but this would be checked. Mayor Pfaff did not want to spend a lot of money on fixing the existing trailer if a new one could be purchased for only a little more money. Robby also noted he had contacted Empire Disposal about them bringing over a 48 foot container and hauling off when full. Robby did not have their price yet.

6. Town signs – the framework around the entry sign on the east end of town will be painted. Tammy Howard has a sign to install there.

7. Equipment – Robby is waiting to hear back from the Co-Ag representative about a skid steer attachment they have. Pape Machinery said Co-Ag was interested in selling this attachment, but Robby has not yet heard from anyone.

8. Fire Hydrant leaking – there is a fire hydrant near Ted Anderson that is leaking. It’s not bubbling, but leaking. Mayor Pfaff said it should be changed out and noted Chris (fire chief) has a long list of hydrants that need repaired/replaced. He estimated the cost at \$2,600 plus the riser. Some are old enough they cannot be repaired.

9. WWTP – the pump is back from Strom’s. It will be installed where needed.

10. Water – Robby has been approved to take his water operator-in-training test. He cannot apply for water operator 1 until after one year.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Utility Bill Request: Annie Pillers relayed a recent situation where there was a death and the daughter who does not live in the area was unaware of the utility bill and a late fee was charged when not paid. The daughter was asking if the late fee could be waived under these circumstances since she did not even have the bill to pay. Council discussed the pros and cons of making this exception and setting a precedent. Larry Hunt was okay making this exception and noted that he was comfortable dealing with these situations on a case-by-case basis. Mark Young agreed in a unique situation like this, an exception could be made. Mark Young **MOVED** to waive the \$10 late fee in this instance. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Resolution 2013-10: Annie Pillers explained a new requirement from the state auditor is establishing an initial value and the estimated useful life in years for capital assets. Previously council adopted the \$5,000 figure but not the estimated useful life. This came to light while preparing the annual report. There was discussion and questions about the necessity of this and what the impact would be. It was confirmed as a municipality, the town does not depreciate equipment. Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2013-10 setting an estimated 20 year useful life for capital assets initially valued at \$5,000. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL:

1. Approval of Checks: Larry Hunt **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for approval. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #10901-10905	Payroll: \$ 7,791.35	
Check Register #10906-10923	Claims: \$20,366.80	Total: \$28,158.15

ADJOURNMENT: Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrold Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer