

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Preliminary Draft
Town Hall – May 22, 2013

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

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, Daymon Marple, Sharon Schnebly, Tim Southern, and Mark Young. Staff – Public Works Superintendent Perry Brown 7:01 Police Officer Brian Dentler, and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: None.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: David Nails, Whitman County Solid Waste and Judi Dunn-Gray, Whitman County Recycling Coordinator addressed council.

David talked about upcoming changes and the new single stream recycling officially taking effect July 1st. Pullman was the big driver for this curbside only single stream recycling. It is only being offered in Pullman and Colfax. Pullman Disposal bought new carts and a side loader at the cost of roughly \$700,000. Colfax only has 11 curbside recycle users. The rest of their recycling is done through the drop off center. David said he has been talking with Robby about recycling options. He said he was willing to help the town. Cardboard could still be kept separate and runs \$100 a ton. The town could still mix single stream or bring in separately. David said going single stream deflates the price – below zero. David explained the county used to charge a percentage. The price now is their actual costs to process, bring it in and put it on the belt, the guy on the bailer bailing, the guy taking the bails off and loading the semis. All those costs are in the processing fee of \$30 a ton. Single stream bailed is \$15 to \$20 a ton. There is some discussion of getting Empire to bring in drop boxes for all the towns. Perry said the town doesn't want to sort any more.

David said the county is looking at buying boxes on a grant with one 40 to 48 yard box per town with no cost for Empire Disposal to haul it. Empire would haul them in and the county would bail and ship it. They could have all the money from the collection. \$80 is estimated as the cost per ton for single stream but David said he has never seen more than \$50 a ton. David confirmed if the town only hauled cardboard to them the processing fee would be the \$30 a ton. Perry asked if this was \$30 a ton bailed. It was confirmed the town's bailer is smaller and does not meet the county's size requirement. David confirmed glass could be included in single stream and that source separate is much better for the town's commodities. He noted material recovery facilities in Spokane would pay more if the commodities were not bailed. He indicated the wire strap is 50 cents a strap and takes 6 straps per bail. Council talked about the town continuing to recycle cardboard and aluminum separately.

David then discussed the county's free yard waste collection at their facility. They still have the small chipper they can pull around. The grant is over but they can provide the chipper, operator and truck. There is no cost for use of the chipper, just the time for the truck and operator. For Garfield the drive time is a minimum of 1-3/4 hours. David said if the town had a backhoe with thumb the town could load up one of their 40-48 yard boxes with bulk yard waste and the county would take it away. They would charge for the time to do so, not any dump cost. Perry said he could take 6 right now. David also noted the county offers both a spring and fall clean up at \$35 a ton and in the fall they do a tire amnesty too. They hope to have that again this year and do not restrict it to 12 tires per household. He further stated, based upon a new contract, their dump rate was going from \$103 to \$98 a ton and he that he was looking to see if they can lower it more.

Judi Dunn-Gray handed out a Pullman Disposal informational brochure on Curbside "Single Stream" Recycling. It addresses the yes and no's of what can go into the system. It allows plastics 1 through 7, bottles and jars. Perry noted Garfield only does plastics 1 and 2. Judi describe the product stewardship concept with recycling and cited E-Waste as such an example when taking computers or TVs to Pullman Disposal. They get paid by the state to manage the E-waste and ship it back to the manufacturer. The cost for hazard waste is \$100,000 on and is most often paint. This type of program, with the manufacturer being responsible, is supported in county's Solid Waste Management plan. Yes, the cost is passed on to the consumer, but there are always options. If a consumer uses latex paint, the can be air dried and

thrown away. Whitman County Recycling is doing school children programs and going to the libraries for presentations and programs. Judi is scheduled to come to the Garfield Library this summer and discuss red wiggly worms. Washington is teaching sustainability to the school kids. They are promoting composting using cafeteria waste and “edible” playground/gardens. Endicott started a recycle club and is trying to be a green school. Judi estimated a 33% reduction in a household’s garbage by simply recycling mixed paper. Judi will be back in the schools this fall and will be at the fair at the end of the summer. Perry asked Judi about disposal of the 3 gaylords of tennis shoes Dave collected when Judi had a program running. She suggested contacting the Hope Center in Moscow.

David and Judy left the meeting at 7:22 pm.

Larry Hunt noted the compost pile is nearly full right now. For an estimated \$200 he recommended getting one of the county’s 40 or 48 yard boxes and trying it out. Mayor Pfaff confirmed the town has not requested a burn permit as the compost facility permit is needed first. Larry Hunt noted the problem is with the brush, not the grass.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Larry Hunt **MOVED** the minutes of the regular council meeting of May 8, 2013, be approved as written. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Police Officer Brian Dentler updated council. Things are going very well right now. May Day was a big hit with good times for folks. There were no incidents and one minor issue at the bar. Additional junk vehicles were recently ticketed in town. Officer Joe Merry is handling those matters in Garfield. Officer Dentler left the meeting at 7:26 pm.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Superintendent Perry Brown reported:

1. Bobcat Skid steer S300 - The Bobcat technician was in town today. When Bill put in the electrical plug it was wired wrong. It is 90% repaired but there is still some work to be done with electrical solenoids having bent shafts. All but one is working. The right side is too bent on that. Our issue is fixed. One solenoid shaft is bent. Co-Ag paid for their parts. The technician said there are only a couple attachments we can’t run because of not having the high flow hydraulics. The other issue is that the skid steer is throwing a code constantly about every 3 hours indicating low voltage and they don’t know why. The alternator is fine. Perry noted any codes in the skid steer can’t be erased. One code showed at 102 hours the unit overheated but not to a critical state.

2. Boiler inspections – The boiler inspector was out earlier in the day and completed his inspections.

3. Street Repairs – potholes were patched before May Day. Right after the May Day Parade Perry swept downtown while it was empty, noting that’s a rare opportunity. He confirmed the crew will be saw-cutting patches and putting in mix. He noted the Perma Patch was pretty good. Although he and Robby had sucked out the holes before applying the Perma Patch, when the company sales rep did the test patch he didn’t even suck out the water and it is holding up well.

4. Park – The concrete floor was poured for the Gazebo and requires 5 days before getting back onto.

5. Garbage – Because of the holiday, garbage pick up would be on Tuesday of next week. The cones and garbage cans from May Day were cleaned up.

6. Water – The crew is reading meters this week. Perry discussed the water leak in the grass alleyway near Texas Neal’s former property. He talked with the new owner who is willing to leave for about 1 week so that the crew can have time to turn off the water and let the area dry out before they fix it. The owner was willing to do this and would consider doing so next Friday. Perry was proposing digging up the main, shutting off the corp and letting it dry out for 4 or 5 days. They would then trench in a brand new one inch poly line rather than just trying to repair the lines. The repairs have not been working. Perry would rent a walk-behind trencher. Council was agreeable with this proposal.

Perry discussed a recent conversation with the sales rep from HD Supply. They have 3 new Waterous meters they are willing to give the town a good deal on as they got them but don’t normally carry Waterous. They carry Mueller hydrants but the town’s specs require Waterous. Perry noted 3 hydrants in town that needed to be fixed. Mayor Pfaff asked about the current repair list of hydrants. Perry confirmed 4 on the list last time were fixed within an hour. Council was agreeable to Perry buying the 3 hydrants. Mayor Pfaff stated once the hydrants were in they needed to be installed.

7. Grants – the two AWC insurance grants applied for were received. One is for pea gravel and the other for traffic signs. Mayor Pfaff asked about street signs and posts. The existing grant was for traffic signs, not street signs. New STOP and YIELD signs were in this grant. The pea gravel would be used for the new exercise equipment in the park and put under the current playground equipment. Perry confirmed the town likely had about 100 street signs posts available. Mayor Pfaff thought there were probably more signs than that to be installed.

8. Composting – Consensus was to consider using the yard waste collection boxes that David Nails had mentioned. If there was no rental for the box itself, the town could try it out and have one delivered and when it is picked up leave another one. Perry estimated using one weekly, in 20 minutes they could clean the area up and fill the box.

9. Old Water Tower – Mayor Pfaff noted Mark with Johnson Seed was in to look at his lease. The town currently leases the property directly around the tower. In the past he had asked if the town would sell it to him. Mayor Pfaff proposed if Mark wanted to buy the tower the town should let him. Perry Brown noted it was built when there was a pea mill and it was built to industrial standards for fire flow protection only for the pea mill. It went straight to their sprinkler system. Council was agreeable to selling the land if the water tower was also sold in the purchase.

10. Sewer – The new sewer snake is working great. Perry will start the process to surplus the old one. Council was agreeable. A Craftsman push mower was purchased for the wastewater treatment plant. The other mower can't get into all the spots needing to be mowed.

11. Inflow/Infiltration – Mayor Pfaff asked to get bids on repairing the I&I problem at the Quonset Hut on 4th Street, noting it needed to be repaired this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Zoning Ordinance Update – Draft:** Mayor Pfaff provided council with a short version of the basic updates included in the proposed draft zoning ordinance, noting most of the changes were done in 2008, 2009, and 2010 and are now in ordinance form for adoption. The Ag 2 zone now has a 2 acre minimum parcel size. At one time Paul Hendrickson thought they would sell better at 4. Newly platted lots in town have a minimum 10,000 sf requirement, not the 5,000 sf size that allows for 50 x 100 lots. Most of the other changes are wording and definitions changes from the Planning Commission as accessory structure versus accessory building. He noted when Randi was trying to sell her property on California Street it was discovered there was no leeway in the zone for residential. It was changed to allow C1 mixed uses. The requirement is mostly set up to still be more on the retail side but if a person buys the restaurant they could have an apartment in the back but a shop in the front. Existing residences only are allowed to continue but a new residence could be a secondary use in the back. The Ag zones allow for more farmers market type of stuff. It states the product would be grown, processed and sold on site. Other general requirements include a minimum 1,000 sf of living space. Daymon Marple noted there was not much change to trailer park usage. Mayor Pfaff noted the draft ordinance was sent to the Planning Commission to look over and make sure all the changes over these years got included. Mark Young asked about definition #16 – home occupation and asked about “accessory use of service character. Mayor Pfaff noted this definition now included no more than 2 outside employees. It used to not have any. Tim Southern explained the accessory use of service character referenced the type of business in the home; a home-based business, provided not more than 2 employees.

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register #10924-10927 plus EFTPS	Payroll: \$6,683.80	
Check Register #10928-10932 plus DOR EFT	Claims: \$4,387.98	Total: \$11,701.78

ADJOURNMENT: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarroff Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer