

**Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES PD
Town Hall – December 13, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ray McCown called the regular meeting of the council to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ray McCown, Neal Leon, Mark Young, Dave Ulrick and David Jones were present. Staff: Public Works - Mark Phillips, Reuel Klempel and Clerk-Treasurer Candi Fisher.

GUESTS: Visitors included Tracy Paine, Chief Jerry Neumann. Chris McCully, Jarrod Pfaff, Eddie Clocks, Cande Hasenorehl, Rick Wride and Steve Nelson from CenturyWest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Neal Leon **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, David Ulrick seconded and motion carried unanimously. The minutes were also approved for the Final Budget hearing on December 6th.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Jerry Neumann reported:

Officer Merry is doing well after knee replacement surgery. Will be upgraded to a cane in the next 5 days, he hopes. There will be light refreshments from 3:30 – 5:00. People have donated money to give him a commemorative pistol. The party will be at the city hall in Palouse.

Jerry presented the council with the new contract for 2018. It will be tabled until the new mayor and council is seated.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Paul Peringer came in earlier and gave the clerk a bill to be presented to the council for the sweeping of the town street. There was treated wheat that had fallen out of the garbage truck which someone dumped in their garbage. The council decided not to honor the bill, however, we appreciate his volunteering to sweep up the treated wheat. Neal stated that Paul was concerned about his dog eating it. He came into the office twice to have the public works crew clean it up. There was no motion to pay.

Phil Weagraff would like to put an ADA ramp on the southeast corner of the Community Church. There are a couple of options, but he wanted to know how to proceed. Several council members and Mayor McCown or had some suggestions. ADA rules were questioned and he was told to speak with the building inspector, Dan Gladwill.

Tracy Paine – There has been much complaint about the fence, which is on town property. Previously, workers had to pull out part of the fence to get to the manhole. Eddie Clocks stated Mayor McCown told him to put the fence where it is at this time. Mayor McCown stated that he did not say that ever, under any circumstances. 9th street comes down through north to south and it is an actual platted street. The street is 66 foot wide and goes from Main St to the Elberton road. Tracy asked if the town was going to pave all of the streets, and she feels that there was no street there until Larry Hunt moved in. She states the sewer manholes are 30 feet from the barn. She doesn't want to have to move the fence for an "imaginary" street. She would like to leave the fence, and build around each manhole. Ray McCown also is concerned about the drainage ditch which has been covered up. The ditch comes down and there is a culvert across to carry water to the creek. There is a problem with flooding, which the ditch should carry water out.

The storm drain did dump into the ditch, before the railroad bought the property. Larry Hunt broke the manhole cover and didn't put anything else in there. Eddie stated they improved the drainage on their property. Now they can drive on their property where they couldn't before.

Neal Leon asked why they need a fence on city property. Tracy stated that Larry Hunt asked them to move it and was cutting their fence and allowing her horses to run free, so they moved it because Larry wanted it moved.

Tracy offered to move the gates and not the rest of the fence. She stated we shouldn't worry about what is an old street on an old map when it can be used as a pasture. Tracy said the roads really aren't in existence. The fence is temporary. She also offered to move the fence to not include the manholes as a compromise.

Their barn on 9th street was brought up. Neal stated you cannot build a structure or have a fence on city property.

David Ulrick stated it is public property and we cannot have private people building on public property. Tracy and Eddie are willing to grant access at any time. Neal stated that if we were given access and the horses got out and got injured, then who is responsible. The town cannot be responsible for animals being contained. Reuel Klempel stated that those sewer lines are main sewer lines, and need to have access 24-7 and we shouldn't have to be afraid of the animals injuring town personnel. Reuel stated he doesn't trust the yak on the property and doesn't want to be injured.

Mayor McCown called a halt to the discussion, which continued for a little longer. Mark suggested to continue to the next meeting and they need to go out and check out the situation. Three people cannot get together to look at it.

Flashing speed limits, try to get it to a USDA loan, Steve thought. Looking for possibly three. Possibly pedestrian grants. CenturyWest will help with that.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Reuel gave the report:

Sewer installed on union and 7th. Two houses are connected and not backing up any more.

Concrete blocks and walls built around the screens and the drainage is all finished. Anything that pours over there goes back to the headworks of the 4 lift station.

Replace the heater in well #3.

Rick completed the drain at McCracken's house. One more water leak, 2" line to alley going to the hotel and it has been patched 6 times. We will try to get to it because it is needing to be fixed. Larry Palmer's going up to Jarrod's house needs to be patched. Should be a 6" line going there, according to Jarrod.

The DMR's are in this month. The only violation was that we were over 70,000 average flow last month. The flow is the only issue. It can't exceed 70,000 galls average per month unless we can get a different rating. We have no control over the flow. 80,000 gallons a day average. The rain events are directly related to the spikes. It is almost immediate. Reuel has the data recorded. We put the new meter in the influent and is reading accurately now.

OLD BUSINESS: Surplus fire truck is on the public website.

NEW BUSINESS:

Holiday lights – Candi has ordered replacement bulbs David Ulrick stated that it really wasn't the town's responsibility, but it has sometimes fallen to us in the past.

Ordinance No. 463-N 2018 Budget. Neal Leon **Moved** and David Ulrick seconded to pass the 2018 Budget. It passed unanimously.

Several people have inquired about the town picking up garbage outside city limits. Per the mayor's request, Candi spoke with Aaron at Empire Disposal to see if there was an agreement in place for the town to do so. He stated no, there is no agreement and it should be stopped immediately. Jarrod stated that they had permission and that Attorney Bishop told him that if the Town provided water, then they could pick up the garbage. There are three places, Aaron stated, that may be outside of our town limits. Only one has been verified. Aaron Lawhead of Empire Disposal asked that the city not violate their territory. Neal stated we need to stop. Jarrod thought we should check into it more. Discussion moved on. No action at this time.

Bev Divine – There is a balance due on her rental account at 605 W California of \$358.26 since 2015 from the previous renter. The account was defaulted on 4/1/15 and switched back to Bev's account on 4/11. The previous clerk-treasurer wrote a note at that time that the account cannot be reinstated until it is brought current per ordinance. She feels like she shouldn't have to pay because she said she wasn't notified of this charge. Ms. Divine stated she had not received a bill. The total amount was forgiven because the Council perceived an error on the part of the previous clerk-treasurer. Mark Young **Moved** and David Jones seconded to waive the full fee of \$358.26. The motion passed unanimously. The fee will be waived.

Fire District – Mark Young brought up the contract with the Garfield Fire Department and it was decided to leave as is with very little discussion. Candi stated that it will be important for both parties to stay within the Budget and not overspend as has been done in the past years. David Ulrick **Moved** to keep the contract as is, Neal Leon seconded, passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL: Approval of checks:

Neal Leon **MOVED** to approve and David Ulrick **seconded** the motion. It carried unanimously.

CLAIMS – #13023 - 13029

\$87,118.41

ADJOURNMENT: Neal Leon **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. David Jones **seconded** and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk-Treasurer