

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FINAL
Town Hall – September 27, 2017

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

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ray McCown, Dave Ulrick, Neal Leon, Daymon Marple, Mark Young and David Jones present. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer Candi Fisher, Public Works Reuel Klempel and Mark Phillips, Rick Wride and Chief Jerry Neumann.

GUESTS: Visitors were Stephen Nelson of CenturyWest, Sonja Hall, Chris McCully, Jarrod Pfaff, Kristie Kirkpatrick, Peggy Ray, Nancy Hathaway, Donna Gwinn and Trish Clayton.

- 1) **Stephen Nelson from CenturyWest** – Department of Ecology grant is in the second draft. DOE has responded and encouraged us to put in for all grants at once. There is also a program out there to look for a garbage truck and solar powered speed limit signs. Regional Transportation Planning Organization (Palouse RTPO) might be able to help. They can't do speed limit signs but can do pedestrian safety signs. Stephen will call WSDOT to see if they will participate. Daymon stated they have discussed this last year, with TIB, putting signs on 4th and 3rd streets, but we didn't get a grant. Stephen will speak with Gloria again as well.
- 2) **Nancy Hathaway** – USPS – She would like diagonal parking lines repainted on the street so people will park correctly. People pull in parallel to the post office and also turn left across the double yellow line. She asked the police to please be aware of that. Someone needs to find volunteers to do the painting and the town will buy the paint. Daymon asked for a letter from a post office superior requesting lines and showing the need for them. David Ulrick stated the town should pay for the paint if the volunteers would do it. The small machines using spray cans is too expensive. Use a template and buy a gallon of paint if the group can find a volunteer to do it. Their group is responsible for the volunteers, i.e. (Sonja, Nancy, Trish). The Town Council will have to approve anything done in this area.
- 3) **Kristie Kirkpatrick** of Whitman Co. Library in Colfax – She has been with library 30 years. She had handouts to show the activities in Garfield. They serve all of Whitman Co. except within the city limits of Pullman. They are a Jr. taxing district. 14 locations throughout the county. District depends on each of the towns to supply the locations for the library. The Town pays \$10,800 in taxes for our branch and it costs about \$40,000 for our branch to keep it running. Rural taxpayers make up the difference. Paint, new blinds and air conditioner contributed by friends of Library were contributed this year. Garfield residents borrowed 5200 items last year. Free computers, a WiFi Hotspot at 100mb connection, ebooks and public programs are offered. Microsoft coursework and certification is available. 768 kids, 395 adults, 46 teens. They are keeping technology up to date with teachers as well as students at the school. Friends of libraries will help with grants to update libraries as needed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: David Jones **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on September 13, 2017 as corrected. Daymon Marple seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Jerry Neumann was present for the meeting.

- 1) Vehicles are being moved and sold.
- 2) One dog was removed and signed over to the Humane Society.
- 3) There have been some dog issues at trailer court.
- 4) Looking for a person who has violated probation and wanted.
- 5) Contract – 2-3% cola increase per year. 2014 – 2018 – Overall increase of 7025.00 over three

Years.

- 6) Mark Young stated that he is very appreciative of the police force and thinks the contract proposal is more than fair. It will be held over to the next meeting and will be discussed later.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Reuel Klempel spoke on behalf of the Public Works Department

Water – Dept. of Health did a sanitary survey since the last meeting and came up with a list of things to correct. Everything but one has been corrected and pictures sent to DOH. The one thing is that a timer has been put on the telemetry system to shut it off and restart it so that the level in the towers can't get too low. They found another leak in the system on 8th which will be repaired next week. We are down to three leaks which will all be remedied in the near future.

Sewer – Reuel, Mark and Candi met with Scott and Apollo Solutions and walked through the facilities to see what they can come up in the way of energy savings solutions.

Mark Young asked whether someone has spoken to the owner who needs to move his fence. Yes, the mayor has talked to Mr. Klocks and he will move the fence as soon as it is measured and staked off.

Streets – Main and 3rd patch was completed, Jefferson was paved, did a patch at WWTP. Mark showed Council the picture of the signs he would like to put by the In-Convenience store. The council approved of the design.

Garbage – Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

2018 budget – Committee met, talked about goals, town operating levy vs street levy or both. It was thought to establish an acceptable street levy, with money set aside for the street expenses only. Reduce unused spending in budget line. Close out the lines unused and move into general budget. Other ideas the Budget Committee has discussed to cut down on expenses in 2018 include turning every other street light off, no dust abatement on streets, increasing the \$10.00 late fee on utility accounts to \$20.00, add an NSF charge on all returned checks and make sure all residents pay their utility bills in a timely manner as per ordinance. Utility stand by fee vs the \$20.00 turn on/turn off fee was also reviewed. .

Fire contract – between town and fire district - change mode of delivery, to give a lump sum to the district at the beginning of the year so that money will be available to the fire dept in January.

Fire contract – Whitman County Mutual Agreement was reviewed. Mark Young moved David Jones seconded to adopt. Passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Chief Chris McCully– flushed fire hydrants last week– they found 8 hydrants with issues. End of 3rd street on south hill, does not turn on. 3rd and Spokane shook the ground, 6th and union by park, shakes the ground and won't shoot across road. Sunflowers growing there, hydrant hidden. 8th and union leaks, 9th and California shoots water out top instead of side – needs new hydrant. One by tavern has a rounded off top by Co-Ag, need a post by it. 3rd street hydrant removed. 3rd street and south hill. Last one at the end of street. Couldn't get it to open. Hydrants checked twice a year. One by Jonesey's ran for 10-15 minutes before the water cleared. 6th and main leaks around sides and top. 7th and Spokane still leaks as well. No hydrant out by sewer plant.

Fire truck – City fire truck is parked at Chris' shop. If it is going to be sold as surplus, then he would like to get it out. Candi checked with AWC Insurance to see if we need to have a truck with a certain pump size. We are waiting for insurance to get back to us. In the meantime, it needs to be winterized.

Peggy and Donna came and spoke about the Methodist church closing and what it might be used for in the future. Both ladies spoke about using it as an arts center or museum and continuing with the day care center. Daymon expressed concerns about expense, especially in the winter, and if the day care did not continue. Daymon moved and Neal Leon seconded to have the attorney check into it.

We received a renewal request for the Komfort Kush Marijuana growing operation to continue. Daymon moved, Neal Leon seconded to approve marijuana license. Two opposed. Three pro. The measure passed. We have received our first small revenue from the operation’s taxes through the state.

Gun Club – ground was given to city for recreational use. Now it has been privatized. David Ulrick thought Gun Club has a lease on the grounds. The clerk-treasurer will find the lease. Tabled until the next meeting.

FINANCIAL:

Approval of Checks: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. Neal Leon seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register: #12934 – 12938 & EFT	Payroll	\$ 9,567.80
Check Register: #12939 – 12950	Claims	<u>\$49,181.02</u>
		\$58,748.82

ADJOURNMENT: David Jones **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Candi Fisher, Clerk/Treasurer