

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Preliminary Draft
Town Hall – April 22, 2015

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

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ray McCown, David Jones, Sharon Schnebly, Daymon Marple and Tim Southern. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer Cody Lord, Public Works Superintendent Robby Johnson. Absent: Mark Young

GUESTS: Peggy Ray and Ami Volz (Alternatives to Violence on the Palouse)

Ami works for alternative to violence in Pullman. They are a non-profit agency that helps victims of violence and sexual assault. Because April is sexual assault awareness month they are touring the local towns to bring awareness. The agency worked with 100 assaults in the last year with more than 650 hours of advocacy. The agency will go to the hospital and police department with victims if needed. She would like town councils and community leaders to challenge the community norms and hopefully by getting out and talking with communities they can help make the matter easier to talk about.

Most of the agencies efforts are focused in Pullman and Moscow. Currently they are not doing anything with the Garfield/Palouse school. Mayor McCown said he feels the best method for dealing with these matters would be through the police department. Ami confirms that they give them referrals for those in crisis. Tim Southern also thinks that maybe a good idea would be to attend the school board meeting on the last Thursday of the month. Mayor McCown said this is a great idea to be involved at the younger age group since there seems to be some issues concerning an individual in that age range in town. Ami said the agency has also been to the local libraries talking about friendships and proper relationships. Officer Joe Merry will give her some introduction to the school board. Mayor McCown thanked Ami for taking the time to come and talk with the town and expressed the town will do whatever would be helpful in the future. Sharon Schnebly reaffirmed that the town is definitely supportive of their agency and what they provide to citizens.

Peggy Ray here to talk about the restaurant and said so far things are in really good shape, the restaurant committee accepted the carpet bid and Peggy Ray has gotten all the money to pay for it. Dave started leveling the floor today preparing for the installation. The lights are installed and look very nice. Peggy Ray has ordered the heater for the sink in the serving area, and also the hand washing sink for the kitchen and she has already arranged for a volunteer to make this happen. The sanding and painting of the shelves in the cooler will happen soon. There is some Formica that will need to be patched. Peggy Ray asked if the water got turned on. Robby said they were going to do it but something more pressing came up. Mayor McCown said it will be done soon when we can have a few more eyes there to make sure there are no leaks.

Peggy Ray thinks that they are going to make May Day with the bulk of the upgrades and repairs done. She will arrange to have coffee and donuts there. There will be chairs around the restaurant to watch the parade. Hopefully the following Thursday will be the second community dinner hosted at the restaurant. The first community dinner last Thursday they fed 30 people and another 10 dinners were taken to community members. They had 5 volunteers and a total of \$118.00 dollars was taken in. Currently the program has a grant for \$2,500.00 which will pay for the dinners for the next year. They are also taking donations at the door to keep it going for another year after the grant money runs out. They had people come in from the outskirts that they don't get to usually see. Currently the luncheons are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of each month until fall, at which time they will reevaluate. Sharon asks how will you be advertising it. Peggy Ray says they will send a flyer once it is ready and it will go to everyone in town and the rural route.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting April 8th, 2015. David Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Officer Joe Merry present for the police department.

There is a new police officer that has been hired from the Mount Vernon area; he is 25 years old with about a year of experience. Being from a small town, he is adjusted to the small town environment. Chief Neumann and Officer Merry will train him. He has a good history with a fair amount of traffic stops and a low amount of citations written. He is a great guy and a good find with good work history. Beginning next week the department will start on the junk vehicle and nuisance violations and also dog issues since these are the bulk of the items in the Town of Garfield. Officer Merry explains they just wait for the crimes to happen in between the preventive and proactive items. Sharon says that Officer Snead was looking into a couple vehicle violations from the last council meeting. Officer Merry said he would need to follow up with Officer Snead to see where he was at with them. Sharon explained one issue is at 7th and California where multiple vehicles have tires on the sidewalk and then at 7th and Union there is a red car up there that has been parked on city right of way for quite some time. Mayor McCown also said the resident on 3rd street seems to be moving in a bit of junk.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Robby Johnson present for the Public Works Department.

Water

- Pump on well # 3 is still not operating 100%. The pump will need to be sent off to get rebuilt and will cost around \$300.00 to \$400.00. The water usage is still pretty low so now would be a good time to get it done.
- A new leak has appeared in the alley between Bishops Law Office and the Meat Shop.

Sewer

- There were multiple sewer issues last week. The one on Wesley was repaired and patched. Another one was on 5th Street alley. Mayor McCown said a section of it was the worst mess he has seen on the main in town.

Garbage

- All town clean-up was completed with no issues.

Park

- The water will be turned on soon and the ground fertilized.
- Palouse Hills Lawn and Shrub completed the spring spraying.

Tim Southern would like to discuss the sprayer that Robby was hoping to purchase. He said Northwest Auto Parts sells sprayers and has some good units. They have one manufactured by ECHO; it is a 20 gallon tank that would fit on the back of the Gator. The unit would be capable of doing the yard and the street, and a wand can be added with easy adjustments. Mayor McCown said the only worry would be the booms sticking out could catch the trees. Tim said they would be looking at \$499.00 and he liked it for the simple fact of versatility. The other nice thing is that they have all the parts to fix it locally. Mayor McCown said why don't we hold off on purchasing it since he is not going to be using it this year. He would be fine with the purchase as long as they are going to use the equipment. He would like to see the weeds on California and across from Tate's house on the road sprayed out. Daymon Marple said Robby can operate under someone's licenses and Daymon can oversee him when he is ready to do it. Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to purchase the sprayer from Northwest Auto Parts for \$499.00. David Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Robby and Brad have been moving in gravel from Cochran's facility. Robby would like to focus on the pot holes on California Street before May Day. The street roller will be worked on tomorrow to prepare for street repairs. The spring meter reads have started. Robby will call Hatter Creek again to have them get their trailer out of here. Mayor McCown said we don't have to worry too much about it because the county will have us another box here soon that we can start loading. Tim has talked to people around the area and the Cub Cadet seems to be a pretty popular and well liked machine. Tim Southern **MOVED** to purchase the Cub Cadet mower from Pat's Saw and Lawn. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Sharon comments on the compost pile and says it looks great. Mayor McCown said a compost box went

out yesterday and that is the 5th one so far this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Restaurant Update
Peggy Ray provided the update in the guest section.
2. Dept. Of Ecology Update
The Department of Ecology has approved the SO₂ and de-chlorination chamber plans that Keltic had submitted. We are cleared to make the improvements in the future.
3. Surveillance
Marcus Munn with Cascade Computing will be installing the surveillance in the coming week. The owner of the residence by the compost yard has agreed to let us install a camera on the side of his barn in exchange the town is willing to provide him with 1 month traded utility fees a year. Sharon asks who will be able to access the footage from the cameras and wonders if we will be able to capture static pictures. She also wonders about the time lapse settings on the system. She asked if Marcus could provide the town with the exact details of recording. Sharon clarifies if we aren't recording audio then we don't have to post signs of video recordings taking place.

Mayor McCown says we need a pole over at restrooms so that we can get high enough to get good footage. Unfortunately we won't be able to get a good shot of the entrance to the restrooms but we will have footage of the parking lot. Mayor McCown said we could use the pole in the park with the lights on it. Eventually the park will need to be rewired. The two poles at the park belong to the town, Mayor McCown put them in last time he was Mayor. Mayor McCown already talked with Steve Brink and he said the lights are so old they would give permission to get rid of them we would just need to notify them. The lights could then be put on a timer to save energy. All that is needed right now is a pole to put the cameras on and Mayor McCown will get in contact with Steve tomorrow to see if they sell them. Daymon said he went down to Kendrick and there is a company that makes poles but he unsure if you could buy them individually. Tim asks how high it needs to be. Mayor McCown thinks it should be about 35 feet. The town would then need to hire an electrician and run conduit up the pole. Sharon is concerned about someone being able to cut the line to the cameras if the wire is run up the pole and Tim explains the wire will be inside conduit so it won't be easy to cut. Sharon also wonders about the power box and how accessible that is and Mayor McCown confirms the box is paddle locked. Daymon Marple **MOVED** to buy a pole that is suitable to place the surveillance cameras on. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

FINANCIAL:

Tim talks about the quarterly financial statements and says there are a couple things in the water, sewer and garbage funds that need further review. It appears more water tests are being conducted so may have to budget higher in this line item next year. Tim would also like the extra ordinary purchases in fund 401 to be paid directly from the reserve accounts so it is easier to track normal expenditures. Tim thinks we can pay right from the reserve accounts. Cody will check what the rules are for spending directly out of the reserve accounts. Mayor McCown thinks we should be making transfers as they are needed and not necessarily all the time. Daymon says for the most part it looks like we are right about the 25% expenditures on most funds.

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

Check Register # 11825-11830 Plus EFTPS
Check Register # 11831-11834 Plus EFT DOR

Payroll: \$8,952.66
Claims: \$2,475.93 Total: \$11,428.59

ADJOURNMENT: David Jones **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer