

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Preliminary Draft
Town Hall – June 11th, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ray McCown called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

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

GUESTS: Marshall Doak, Debra Lantzy, and Jim Haskins

Debra Lantzy here to find out what is happening with the Planning and Zoning Commission and her Conditional Use Permit.

Mayor McCown informs Debra we need your petition presented before we can do anything else. Tim Southern explains the letter that was denied was a different matter than the Conditional Use Permit Debra is talking about. There is some confusion as to the next step and whether or not the Planning and Zoning should proceed with the Conditional Use Permit application before the petition with 50% of the registered voters in Garfield saying they are in favor of the business in town, is presented. Cody will check with Stephen Bishop to see if we move forward with the Conditional Use Permit or if the council needs to respond to the recommendation set forth by the Planning and Zoning Committee at the April 9th meeting. Debra explains she is a little confused on what number she is trying to hit for her petition. Cody explains that the number of registered voters for Garfield was provided by the County Elections office and was provided to Debra. Clarification on what active registered voters versus inactive voters would need to be clarified through the elections office.

Debra says she has over 50 people who have already signed her petition but what she is finding is that people are not necessarily against the petition, they are more afraid of what their neighbors will think. Tim explains this is what happens in small towns. Daymon Marple says we just need to inform the Planning and Zoning Commission that we either approve or disapprove of the use of a Conditional Use Permit to deal with this situation. Tim explains we have no control over how the State chooses to approach the matter in terms of the letter that was sent and denied by the Town of Garfield. Cody confirms he will send out an email to Stephen with the Council attached so everyone can get on the same page as to the next step in the process and so there is no confusion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 28th, 2014. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Jerry Neumann

Just a few nuisance disturbance calls have been filed. There was a report of an adolescent pouring a mixture of oil and gas onto a porch. There is also the standard ongoing nuisance violation with junk vehicles but other than that nothing else unusual.

Mayor McCown has asked about the house on South Hill stating the neighbor can't go out in her yard since the yard smells so badly from the previous tenant's animals. Officer Neumann thought this was on its way to being resolved. Daymon asked can't the Health Department do something about this? Mayor McCown thinks we ought to have Stephen Bishop write a letter to put the pressure on the residents or bank, whoever is in control of the property. Officer Merry could end up abating the house and requiring that the property be cleaned up in order to abide by our town codes. Mayor McCown thinks maybe we should get the building inspector involved in it again, McCown adds that a lot of the build out section on the house has still not been removed from the property.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Robby Johnson and Brad Hasenoehrl have furnished a written report for the council meeting.

Public Works Report
June 11th, 2014

Water

- Consumer Confidence Report with Dept. of Health completed and filed on time.
- Large leak at Guiney's property has been fixed.
- Fire Station leak to be fixed 6/17. 3rd street will need to be shut down for this repair.
- Leak at Busch Dist. Building tentatively scheduled for Weds. 6/18.
- Pumps and water system operating normally and consumption is increasing.

Sewer

- Sewer plant continues to operate normally.
- Influent well repair quote from Strom electric is in and sent to Keltic engineering for further review. Exploring other methods for repair to see what would be the most effective for the least amount of money.
- Bio-solids results are in and will be sent to Barr-tech for approval. Bio-solids transfer will take place after they receive and approve our material.
- Have not received N.O.V from the Dept. Of Ecology.

Garbage

- Outside recycle center cleanup has begun.
- Recyclables ready to be hauled.
- Scrap iron trailer delivered and ready to be loaded, hopefully Friday.
- Dumpster modification continues.

Parks

- Sprinklers at town hall and park are now on.

Robby and Brad will be attending WWTP exam review Thursday and Friday 6/19-6/20 in Spokane. Possibly be gone Wednesday 6/18 afternoon for a weed management tour in Pullman for pesticide CEU's.

Mayor McCown said that Robby continues to fix dumpsters. Daymon adds that he thinks the park is looking very nice.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Palouse Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Mr. Doak is here to represent the Palouse Regional Transportation Organization (RTPO) which is fully state funded organization that fulfills RCW regional planning. They currently look over 4 counties. The old inter-local agreement which had been enacted ten years ago expired so they found out last January that they needed to renew the interlocal agreements throughout the county. It is a way for rural areas to plan their transportation needs collectively. The program most recently worked on is for the school district for walking plans, this helps schools identify where kids are crossing the highways and major roads and creating safe plans to school. These plans help in securing TIB grants and can be partnered with them for additional funding.

Mr. Doak explains they receive certain funds that are not road related such as constructions funds that are available for paths, trails and crossings. The City of Pullman is receiving money for a crossing north of Grand. Towns can use this money in conjunction with TIB money then they will be able to accomplish more. Next call for bids will be in 2 or 3 years. They try and obligate funds for a four year cycle. The walking plans are probably the most noteworthy at this time.

In the future it will probably be a situation where each organization gets a vote. When the RTPO meets in Whitman County it is in Colfax and usually between 25 and 30 people attend these meetings. The RTPO needed a lead planning agency which will be SEWEDA to carry out the staff functions. The new board will figure out if this is to stay the same or if it will change in the future. The RTPO is looking for answers and suggestions from organizations. The cost would only be the cost to travel to these meetings. The last board wanted a 90 day written notice to withdraw and there would have to be some sort of notification process to withdraw.

Tim Southern says it sounds like a reasonable thing, but would like to know if your organization has been around 10 years why is this the first year he has heard about you guys. Tim questions what it will do for the Town of Garfield if we join. Mr. Doak explains if you didn't know about us then there is some disconnect. You should have received some newsletters. Tim asks did we sign up 10 years ago and I just didn't know we were a member. The benefits are that we are a planning organization and we help communities with their planning processes. These plans keep your community eligible for different funds. Mr. Doak explains Federal money and transportation planning is very complex.

Mayor McCown confirms since this is a voluntary organization there are no dues and no financial burden to the towns and Mr. Doak confirms. In three or four weeks the RTPO will ask you for your representative. Daymon Marple asks would we be a voting member. Mr. Doak says the cities and counties are named under the RCW and the board is the voting member. Mark Young asks how the board is selected. There is a representative from each county and also engineers make up the board. There is a number of cities that are there that haven't shown in the past but more and more are starting to show. Mark asks how are these members selected and where do they come from? How does someone like Garfield get on the board? Mr. Doak doesn't recall any certain cities named on the board and the quorum is a member from each county, however these details should be tightened up in the future.

Mark explains that the Town of Garfield had an interest in having a shuttle service for people of the community and wonders could some of this money suit our interest in having a rural van service. Mr. Doak explains that is part of their responsibility to help facilitate gathering information to find funding, the RTPO was just hired as a consultant to update the master transit plan. They sketched a 30 mile radius trying to figure out how many people would have an interest in shuttling into Pullman. Daymon Marple explains a group from Garfield tried this and eventually the county commissioner took over the project. They ended up with an \$80,000.00 grant for a feasibility study and then nothing happened with Coast to Coast. They sucked out \$80,000.00 and then never gave us anything to show for it. Mr. Doak states they shouldn't have been part of your process unless they have funds involved in the planning of that program.

Tim confirms with Mr. Doak that they are looking to represent small towns. There is a strong desire to have small town relationships be reset, the money pots are extremely small and there are a lot of connections to make in order to get projects done. Mayor McCown would like to table the resolution a couple weeks and discuss at a future time. Mr. Doak would be happy to answer any more questions the city attorney has sent on if there are any. After reviewing the questions it is determined all the questions were already answered.

The council thinks that having a secondary organization to help with planning to secure some additional funds for the sidewalks and other projects in town may be a good idea. If their plans can add merit to our projects that the town would like to work on then it could be a good method to receiving additional funds. Tim Southern **MOVED** to accept resolution 2014-3 acknowledging the Palouse Regional Transportation Planning and Organization (Palouse RTPO) and authorizing membership therein. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor McCown said it is highly likely we

wouldn't attend all the meetings they schedule but maybe if the town representative couldn't make it they could pass it off to someone else from town to attend. Mayor McCown said lets see what they send back and then we can designate someone as a representative. Cody explains to the council that Stephen Bishop has already reviewed the resolution and found it suitable to sign as long as the council was alright with the presentation.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cemetery Water Fees

Mayor McCown is on the cemetery board and explains they just came in and paid the water bill from last year. The meter down there seems to be a problem, a new one has been installed and it is still having issues with metering. The last meter reading determined it is still not working. Mayor McCown proposes that the cemetery pays \$200.00 month. Tim says the town is having such a problem figuring out where all the water is going, the cemetery doesn't use any water in the winter and fall, however in the summer for 5 months they use a lot of water. Tim doesn't believe that the town should give them a flat fee; instead he feels the public works department needs to get the meter to work. This is the 3rd year in a row that it is not working right. The thought is to have the cemetery pay \$200.00 month until we get the meter problem fixed. Daymon adds that the cemetery looks really nice.

The compost pile is taking one box a week, in three weeks we have filled three boxes. Tim neighbor is cutting his tree down and hauling all the branches out there creating a lot of debris to move. He will also be hauling the downed willow tree out there as well. Tim explains someone told him he was able to burn on his property. Tim wants to make it clear we can't tell people they can burn unless they have followed the proper channels to do so, filling out a burn application and getting approval from the Fire Chief. Tim explains we have an ordinance that says no to burning, unless you have approval from the Fire Chief. The property owner is trying to clean up the place but he needs to follow the rules. The fire almost got away from him and he almost lost his tree.

Mayor McCown talked with David Nails at the county and asked if we could have one box to pitch all the recyclables into. Residents could then dump all recyclables into one dumpster and they will come haul it and charge us the same as they do for the clean green box they empty for us, so an estimated \$40.00 hour. It would cost us about \$100.00 to haul each box. Mark says he would support something like this. Mayor McCown thinks it will work out great and it will probably hold about 6 months of recycling. All recycling items would go into the same box and the dump would process through their single stream. The can has a solid lid on it so the contents won't get wet inside. Residents would dump into a smaller bin and then public works would load into the larger container with the bobcat. Mark is concerned if we start getting garbage then our guys will have to clean it which won't be a good situation.

McGregor's brought in 2 or 3 truck loads of cardboard. The last haul of our recyclables to Spokane was worth \$87.00 for the whole load. It was a day we retrieved the garbage truck so we needed to take the truck and trailer up there anyways. Daymon thinks maybe we could have boxes so that people know what items they are to stick in each collection box, maybe pea boxes that we can then load into the big container. Tim questions do we want to make sure we have the boxes in place before the big box arrives. Council is in agreement that this method of recycling should move forward.

FINANCIAL:

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

Check Register # 11423-11428
Check Register # DOR EFT
Check Register #11429-11447

Payroll: \$7,955.51
Payroll: \$1,151.94
Claims: \$17,329.43 Total: \$26,436.88

ADJOURNMENT: Daymon Marple **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. David Jones seconded

the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ray McCown, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Cody Lord, Clerk/Treasurer