

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, John Kuehner and Tim Southern. Staff - Public Works Assistant Perry Brown, Police Chief Jerry Neumann, Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Public: Mike Boller-S&M Mini-Storage, Brian Conklin, and Becca Miller MacPhee-Alternatives to Violence. Absent: Andrew Flodin and Rob Watkins.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

1. Alternatives to Violence on the Palouse (ATVP): Becca Miller MacPhee addressed the council regarding the services of ATVP, including a rape crisis center and a 24-hour crisis hotline. She noted ATVP serves not only rape victims, but also victims of domestic violence. They have programs designed to keep kids safe and to prevent domestic violence. They can help with victims of any crime. They work in collaboration with the police, and can be advocate when a victim is reporting a crime, as well as provide legal advocacy and medical advocacy. Becca noted April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Although based in Pullman, she wanted the community to know ATVP was available for rest of the county too. She said she was glad to meet with any groups and could tailor her presentations accordingly. She noted she will be meeting soon with the Gar-Pal High School juniors and seniors, discussing healthy relationships.

2. S&M Mini-Storage Fence/Sidewalk: Mike Boller addressed council regarding:

A. Water box. According to the minutes last time, it said the town will take care of this. Perry noted Dave said he wants to put something in level to take care of vehicles driving over it. He asked Mike how soon, noting the town wanted to wait to do this project until all the concrete trucks are gone. He said there is a concrete box he will set. This box can survive cars and pick ups driving over it, but not a concrete truck. It's easy to do - some gravel, a base, and concrete lid. It was confirmed the town would install the concrete meter box once the concrete trucks finished.

B. Temporary electricity during construction. Mike Boller said he had talked to Dave about getting temporary power during construction for hand drills, rotohammer, battery power, etc. and paying the town a \$250 lump sum. Dave was not in favor of the idea at the time, but Mike wanted to know what the council thought. He said the neighbor agreed he would provide power also. The town council was agreeable to letting S&M use temporary power. Perry said the town has a generator they could use or he could string a heavy duty cord across the alley. Mike said he would be ready for the power on Monday. Perry would leave the cord out for Mike to access.

C. Fence. Mike said he understood the police chief would prefer no slats. Chief Neumann confirmed this. He wanted to be able to see in. Mike asked what was the purpose of a 6 foot fence? Mayor Pfaff indicated to avoid handing stuff over the road. Mike said he would not be constructing the 2nd building right away. Mike talked about construction of a 4 foot fence. Larry Hunt felt a 6 foot fence would look awkward without the 2nd building. He was okay with a 4 foot fence. Tim Southern said he would be okay with a fence if the second building gets built. Perry Brown said the town could put up no-parking and no loading zone signs. John Kuehner was okay with a 4 foot fence if no parking signs installed. He said he would like to see some shrubs in the future. Mike noted his partner was not inclined to put in shrubs. Mike noted the current water connection had 5 faucets and that could be cut down to just one. Perry pointed out this would be on Mike's side of the meter. Mike asked about the color of the fence wire. He was proposing a white or green fence. Mayor Pfaff liked the idea of a green fence. Larry Hunt agreed security would be better without the slats, especially with kids coming around and cars not being able to see around. Mike confirmed he was not planning on putting a fence on all sides. The alley side and Main Street side were the access points. Mayor Pfaff confirmed the fence is for no access on the highway. Mike noted the building would be a light gray and medium gray color. Mike asked about the distance back from the alley

way. His intention was to start the fence approximately 15 feet back from the stake in the alley. Council was agreeable to this placement. Council consensus was for a 4 foot, green fence, 15ft back from the stake placed in the alley.

PUBLIC WORKS: Perry Brown reported:

1. Reservoir Overflow Meter: The reservoir overflow guy had an emergency and did not come last week. He contacted Perry today and he may come mid next week. Perry noted the telemetry is not right, but it is not overflowing. The meter readings are right. Perry will be talking with him about a meter system, light system and shut-off system.

2. I&I Leak Detection Bid: Mayor Pfaff talked about I&I leak detection options including using Evergreen Rural Water to do a free smoke test and also going out to bid on getting the system checked by camera. He met with the Public Works Trust Board on leak detection options and they have \$20,000 of their money available at 0% for 6 years. A rough cost estimate for camera work is \$2 a foot. 5,000 feet would be \$10,000. John Kuehner asked if the smoke test would find most of leaks. Perry Brown said the smoke test would find the gutter issues. For groundwater coming up, it will need a camera. Perry said within two hours of a downpour there are I&I problems. He, therefore, believes it's from roof gutters, not groundwater. Larry Hunt recommended putting the project out for bid for 5,000 feet and see what it is and scale back from there. Perry Brown recommended doing the smoke test first, noting if the smoke test is first, the camera work may not be needed. Larry Hunt asked about doing the camera work later in fall if wet enough. The Mayor said by waiting that long, the town misses the entire year to fix anything. Tim Southern asked if the town was still going to buy its own camera. Mayor Pfaff did not feel the crew would have enough time to scan the entire town and laterals. Tim Southern asked why buy a camera and also go out to bid. John Kuehner asked if the town goes out to bid, then we would not get the camera? Mayor Pfaff recommended still getting the camera. Both Mayor Pfaff and Larry Hunt felt the camera would be useful for many other things. Mayor Pfaff said the Department of Health (DOH) had not given an official timeframe but understood the town would be addressing the issue. Perry Brown said if DOH knows the town is working on something, they are usually fine with that. Mayor Pfaff recommended getting bids on 5,000 feet of line. The initial areas Dave identified for camera work equaled roughly 3,000 feet. Mayor Pfaff asked Perry Brown to come up with an additional 2,000 feet.

3. 2" Water Meter School and Meat Market: The meter for the school is here. Perry will try to install it next week, coordinating with Richard for next Wednesday, depending upon the amount of clean up. The water meter parts were ordered for the meat market and should be in any day. They also ordered a spare 2" meter which is in now. Perry noted there was a leak along the 2" water line for Chad Palmer. He is hoping to fix it tomorrow. The Mayor asked how long was this 2" line. Perry said it was one block long. The Mayor asked about replacing the entire block. Perry noted he could not do this himself and that he did not have 300 feet of 2" in line in stock. For now he will dig up the leaking area and patch it, but while doing so he will look at the condition of the line. The Mayor talked about having a supply of 2" pipe. Perry thought this might be too expensive to do.

4. Winter closeout/Spring prep: Perry has been getting the street sweeper ready to go. He will be tearing the snow plow down tomorrow and getting the dump truck ready. Then he will be able to put the green truck back in the shop.

5. Public Works Part-Time Help: While Dave is off, Perry has scheduled Mike Bridge to work Monday and Tuesday of next week, and maybe Wednesday, if needed for clean up. He will also work the following Monday.

6. Clean Up Items: Larry Hunt asked about limbs and branches being picked up for clean up. Perry confirmed they will take limbs and branches, but they pick them up later in the week.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Chief Jerry Neumann provided council with the bi-monthly activity time log. He noted the activity log is typed once a month. The other log is a log of time. He reported the one year anniversary of the police contract is May. Tim Southern asked about the dogs at-large issued noted in the log and if arrangements had been made with the shelter. Chief Neumann said he is still working this out. He wants the shelter to incorporate Garfield into the Palouse contract – an extension of the police contract with no additional costs. Jerry will set up a meeting with Mayor Pfaff and Mayor Echanove to discuss the current police services renewal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Mayor asked about approval of the minutes. Larry Hunt indicated he felt the minutes did not properly reflect the amount of discussion held during the meeting, specifically when the council discussed the fence deal with Mr. Boller. He didn't feel like there was enough discussion in the minutes. He said Mike was asking all kinds of questions and he told Mike to contact Annie to get the minutes. She gave him a copy of the minutes. Larry was then out of town. Larry said there needed to be more detail in the minutes to avoid any controversy. The Mayor noted he gets a preliminary copy that the council could get too. Larry said changes can also be done through approval at the next meeting too. Annie noted the importance of providing timely minutes to the public and the newspaper, noting the Boomerang deadline is usually the Monday following council. Depending on the work schedule, she tries to have the preliminary draft ready on Thursday for the Mayor to review for distribution on Friday. It was agreed, council would try, if possible, to review them timely and understood changes could be made during approval at the next meeting. Annie confirmed the minutes that go out prior to council are clearly draft only. Larry felt since the matter had been addressed with Mr. Boller tonight, there was no change required to the minutes. Larry Hunt **MOVED** the minutes of March 25, 2009, be approved as written. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

BID OPENING:

1. Well Decommissioning: Mayor Pfaff noted only one bid had been received. He further noted additional paperwork was still needed from this contractor for the small works roster. He suggested rejecting the bid and reopening the project for one week. John Kuehner **MOVED** to reject any and all bids received at this time. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Recycling Center Paving: Mayor Pfaff opened the following bids: Herco Paving Alternate 1 \$8,812.65 / Alternate 2 \$9,685.83; Spokane Rock Products Alternate 1 \$7,700 / Alternate 2 \$9,500; and Arrow Concrete & Asphalt Specialties, Inc. Alternate 1 \$8,285 / Alternate 2 \$10,425. It was explained Alternate 1 is for a 50' x 50' paved area. Alternate 2 is for a 50' x 70' paved area. The grant amount is for \$9,500. Tim Southern **MOVED** to accept the apparent low bid of Spokane Rock for Alternate #2 at \$9,500. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Roger Roper California Street Property Clean Up: Larry Hunt confirmed the Roger Roper California Street property had been cleaned up earlier in the day. Council thanked Larry for cleaning up this property.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution 2009-09: Designating interest from certain funds to the General (Current Expense) Fund. Mayor Pfaff talked about recent changes with the bank regarding investment earnings due to an FDIC levied assessment for banks with public funds. The bank had significant public funds at the time the assessment was levied and their assessment increased. They recently talked with the town about switching to a lower interest earnings account that would not count towards future assessments. The Mayor noted this resolution takes the interest earnings from reserve funds and puts it into the Current Expense fund. Tim Southern asked about the state investment option.

Mayor Pfaff felt based upon the stock market, he would not consider that option at this time. He noted the town's CD comes due about October and will earn full interest. He further noted the town will explore investment options with other financial institutions. Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2009-09, designating interest from certain funds to the General (Current Expense) Fund. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Smoke Test – I&I: Tim Southern **MOVED** that the town work with Evergreen Rural Water this summer to do I&I Smoke Testing. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

John Kuehner **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #8988-#9008. Claims: \$9,876.31, Payroll: \$5,129.32. TOTAL: \$15,005.63.

ADJOURNMENT: Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrold Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer