

Town of Garfield
PUBLIC HEARING AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Andrew Flodin, John Kuehner, Tim Southern, and Rob Watkins. Staff - Public Works Superintendent Dave Ulrick, Fire Chief Brian Conklin, Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: Larry Hunt.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2010 Revenue Sources: Mayor Pfaff opened the 2010 Revenue Sources Public Hearing at 7:00 pm. He noted the current general levy generates \$55,489. The proposed 2010 levy would generate approximately \$57,408 which represents a 1% increase plus a 2.46 percent increase for banked capacity. Annie Pillers noted this banked capacity is from previous years. She will check to see if the town is eligible for this in 2010. She thought the town had requested this in 2009. The total estimated increase without new construction or improvements was \$1,919. Council talked about the voter approved street levy of \$55,000. No changes were anticipated. Rob Watkins asked about the street expenditures and was the town spending more or less than the \$55,000. The Mayor said he would not know until December. He would like to spend about \$35,000 with \$20,000 put away. Tim Southern noted he would like to see the town get off special levies for streets. The Mayor agreed but said it would take a lot of planning and he had not found a way yet. The Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:03 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Andrew Flodin **MOVED** the minutes of June 24, 2009, be approved as written. John Kuehner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. **Reservoir Overflow Meter** – Dave Ulrick talked to both meter guys and neither one knew how to do what needs to be done. He put a call into Milltronics this afternoon. They have equipment that should work on it. But the trouble is that there is no equipment specifically for that type of application. They have equipment for larger things. Something may have to be designed for this special application that uses a pipe as a flume, and measures the depth of water in the flume from 0 to 6 inches, using an ultrasonic device. Dave will talk with technical support to see if have anything or if they will have to make something.

2. **2" Water Meter – Meat Market:** The new meter parts have not come in yet. They were supposed to be here a week ago. Dave will have to call again. He noted he only had to order new guts for it, the housing is okay.

3. **Weed Spraying:** Dave talked with Richard Leinweber on Saturday. He said they will not be getting another pesticide applicator license. Richard's state rep in Spokane that he goes through for his license told him if they don't use anything mechanical they don't have to have one. Dave said he thought if you bought chemicals you have to have that license. Mayor Pfaff asked about spraying weeds along the sidewalks and pavement. Dave said they sprayed about 3 weeks ago outside of town hall. They have not done any spraying since Stephen Bishop talked about needing a license.

4. **Gun Club Event:** Dave reported receiving an inquiring from a Todd Dow about an Apple Seed event at the gun club to promote getting kids involved. The event would be a 3 position rifle shoot. Todd is a police officer with the Pullman Police Department. The event is part of the National Rifle Association. This is done through volunteers. They have their own insurance and instructors. They are looking for a place to hold the event on August 15th and would need the Mayor to sign a permission slip as the town owns the land. John Kuehner was okay with the proposal since they

have their own insurance. Dave looked over the documents and they supply their own range people and have their own insurance. Todd would take care of the rest of it. Council was agreeable to the event being held and gave authorization for the Mayor to the sign the needed document.

5. Water Leak 3rd and Cleveland: Dave discussed the water leak at 3rd and Cleveland and that it may have been running for a couple of years. Evergreen Rural Water found it. Evidently the leak is at the base of the fire hydrant. Dave noted there are no valves at this site so they will have to be careful when digging. Because there is no valve, water to the entire hill will have to be turned off. As part of the repair, a valve will be installed. Dave hopes to do the repair in the next couple of weeks. Next week the recycle center is being paved so they are busy cleaning out and hauling off scrap metal. The plan is to haul the scrap metal next Tuesday. Dave had tried to get a box from the county last month for the scrap metal, but the county worker was out sick and they were short people. John Kuehner suggested giving people a couple days notice since the water had to be turned off and shooting for doing the repair the middle of the week. Dave said he would try for a Tuesday, likely the week after next. He said he hesitates to say a certain time, as things can change the schedule, but he will try for Tuesday, July 21st. He noted the smoke testing by Evergreen Rural Water was scheduled for July 28-30th. He didn't think it should take more than a day. He has to order the liquid smoke.

6. Sewer Plant Ash Scale: John Kuehner asked about the scale needed at the sewer plant for measuring ash. He asked if the scale needed to go 3 or 4 decimals. Dave said 4 milligrams. The Mayor indicated then 3. John suggested going to balances.com. They have 3 decimal place display models for \$50. John asked if small capacity was an issue. Dave said yes, if the Department of Ecology requires fiber filters. John noted a 50 gram capacity scale was \$150-\$250. He said 4 decimal place scales were \$800 to \$900. John said the scales can be calibrated or checked with a known weight. Dave indicated when wet, the product was 700 milligrams. The Mayor indicated that 50 grams would do it. Dave noted right now he dewateres the product, if they have to do it with water and everything, it will be close to a pound.

7. Old Park Restrooms/New Gazebo: Rob Watkins asked about the old bathrooms in the park. Dave confirmed they were torn down last week. Dave said he was not sure where the new building will go up but he would talk with Brian Conklin about where to locate things. Right now the crew has to turn on and off the water in the park. There is no box to put it in right now. Brian said they would be staking the building out and plan to cover the controls. He asked Dave when the shrubbery and trees would be removed. Dave confirmed they would be pulled this week. Brian noted there was a slab underneath the old restrooms they will use and attach the new gazebo to this. Brian talked about electrical needs for 100 amps. The fuse is a 30 amp circuit breaker. He said with copper wire you can have 100 amps. John Kuehner asked how materials would be paid for and Brian confirmed he would use town suppliers who would bill the town direct, rather than any reimbursement process.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Chief Brian Conklin followed up on his discussion of the fire station construction grant from a few weeks ago. He said he did not think the department would qualify, with the biggest problem being call volume. Records for last year showed 14 calls between the district and town and Brian confirmed with FEMA the department could apply as one entity. He noted the grant specifically excludes EMS calls. He noted the other problem is the department's amount of training and the small manpower pool, on top of the big ticket price for the building. The FEMA rep told Brian the department could apply, but not to get their hopes up. FEMA is expecting 1.5 million to 3 million dollars per request. But they are not expecting 10 man departments with little training, with 14 calls per year serving 700 people. He noted a match is not required but encouraged and that the grant will not cover land acquisition, pre-design or environmental work. He asked council if they wanted him to pursue this application. Brian talked about re-designing the project using NFPA standards, perhaps a glorified pole building with insulation. He said was in the process of looking for other grant

opportunities and indicated Joe Merry had a couple of leads on grant opportunities. The Mayor suggested a pre-designed, engineered building. Brian noted the grant application deadline of 5 pm on Friday. He said the preliminary work was in place and he had Kelly take pictures for an addendum. He was not sure if this same grant would occur next year as the purpose of the grant rotates. Last year it was for personal protective equipment and emergency preparedness for communities. John Kuehner asked how much work was left to submit this grant. Brian said it was not too bad; Bott had done most of it in the feasibility study. He would have to peel out the district numbers and peel away the EMS stats. He said it was an on-line application and he viewed it more like a preliminary application to determine if the department qualified. If so, then FEMA would come back with request for more information. He said if the department made it past this preliminary stage, then there would be lots of work at the next stage. The Mayor talked about spending time calling contractors now for next year. Brian agreed, stating the town would be better off if get a realistic plan available. Brian further noted this grant requires the showing of job creation – permanent jobs, which must be proved in the narrative. The Mayor said it would be better to redesign something that is doable and not applying for this grant this year. Brian talked about having an open house at the station. There was brief discussion about the existing building and the possibility of redesigning the building. Brian indicated even if the department took over the library space and community center space, it would not be what the department needed based upon the building layout and the 6 foot requirement needed between trucks, etc. Tim Southern suggested Brian look at WAC requirements for the public safety buildings, not NFPA. Brian said another option, although not popular, would be a second fire station. Brian indicated his preference at this time was to redesign the project and find and a better grant opportunity. Council was agreeable to this.

Mayor Pfaff complimented Brian and the fire department for their Sunday night's response time to a fire call. He said their response time was phenomenal. They had 3 trucks out within 5 minutes.

Brian noted he would be on vacation next week, but he would be back for the Tuesday night meeting/training.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. CDBG Recovery Grant – 2nd Street Water Project – Engineering/Consultant Agreement:

Mayor Pfaff confirmed the engineering/consultant agreement for the 2nd Street Water Project was ready for approval. The contract was for \$17,370. Rob Watkins **MOVED** to authorize the Mayor to sign the Professional Service/Consultant Agreement with Keltic Engineer, Inc. for the CDBG Recovery Grant 2nd Street Water Project. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Farm Tour 4th of July Weekend: It was felt the 4th of July Farm Tour was very successful. There were old carriages and cars on display and many folks stopped by downtown or at some of the businesses.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Interlocal Agreement – Resolution 2009-13: Mayor Pfaff noted the town had been trying to get this in place for awhile and now the interlocal paperwork is here. Tim Southern **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2009-13 authorizing the Mayor to execute an interlocal agreement for use of Whitman County's Small Works Rosters. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annie Pillers confirmed the JAB Grant confirmation came through for the police department.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

Annie Pillers mentioned a recent error she made with the Garfield Christian Church building permit, charging them for the value of the reroof, rather than the flat \$35 for a reroof. A refund check for this difference was included with the checks before council. Rob Watkins **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #9087-#9103. Claims: \$7,988.63, Payroll: \$5,133.87. TOTAL: \$13,122.50.

ADJOURNMENT: Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarroff Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer