

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 22, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Rob Watkins **MOVED** the minutes of July 8, 2009, be approved as written. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Reservoir Overflow Meter – Dave reported the right part is coming for the tank. They figured out what an inverted reading was. The mayor asked if it has that been overflowing. Dave said yes and when it has, it has been overflowing for maybe 15 minutes to an hour at 800 gpm. He noted it overflows at 6.4 feet and 6.2 feet they have caught it. He clarified it reads backwards. 8 feet is two feet below overflow, 10 feet is 4 feet below overflow. They crew has been running it manually. They try to catch it at 8 feet so they don't get involved and forget it. He noted a shut off sensor was recommended so that when it gets to overflow stage, it shuts off rather than measuring any overflow. The mayor thought that would be fine. Andrew Flodin said it would be like a float.

Dave indicated he had no luck getting information on the current equipment. He has spoken with several people. He said the part is coming that is supposed to be the right one this time. The mayor said to either get the overflow metered or get it to not overflow. Dave said it would be fixed so it doesn't overflow; noting an automatic shut off for both wells is easier. He noted if the equipment has to be programmed Dan Danielson can't find any archived information on it. Dave estimated a new system would cost approximately \$6,500. Dan recommended the Koyo system which is more user friendly and less hassle to program. Larry Parker had also given the same quote of \$6,500. The mayor said he was not opposed to this but he was not ready to change it right now. Dave further noted the supplier had not realized the system gave inverted readings, but confirmed it does. Andrew Flodin said it did not make sense to get inverted readings. The mayor confirmed with Dave the problem was more or less fixed. Dave said yes, that it should take just one piece of equipment to tie into it. He said it should last and the next time it goes bad, just redo the whole thing and budget for it.

2. 2" Water Meter – Meat Market: Dave confirmed the new meter parts came in today along with the other meters too. He will try to get it put in tomorrow. He noted Woody gave the town a cover for the pipe the town had bought.

3. Well Decommissioning: Dave noted Marty with Fogle Pump had been out and after looking at the project, he thought it may be cheaper than what they had bid.

4. 2nd Street Water Line Project: Dave met with the engineers yesterday and talked about 2nd Street water line replacement project. The mayor said, if after spending another \$120,000 on 2nd Street, the hydrant is crooked, it will be ripped up. The mayor talked about using the 1,000 feet of pipe from the Hendrickson Project for the 2nd Street project. Annie Pillers noted in recent conversations with the CDBG grant representative, it did not appear the town could use this pipe for this project due to recovery grant money bid requirements. The council talked about the option of surplus the pipe and selling it, maybe to the contractor.

5. South Hill Water Leak: Dave explained they had planned to do the repair yesterday but the backhoe had a flat tire after working around the recycle center. Dave estimated the repair could be done the week of August 11th. He noted next week they will be doing the smoke testing and the following week Perry would be on vacation. The mayor noted fixing a water leak should be a priority

when setting the work schedule. Dave thought the leak at the fire hydrant at Cleveland started 2 years and when they first called in Evergreen, they couldn't find it. The mayor talked about unaccounted for water, noting 10.7 million gallons were unaccounted for this year, with 2.7 million gallons unaccounted for in June. Dave indicated there has been a lot of overflow from the tank this year, he estimated 7 million. The mayor indicated JE Love needed to get a meter put in this year. Dave said it had not been metered for 20 years. The mayor noted that didn't make it right. Dave said the meter would be installed this summer. He noted Larry's place is not metered either.

6. Smoke Testing Notification: Council agreed a mailing to community about the upcoming smoke test was needed. It was also suggested a note but put on the water bills. Dave Ulrick offered to make some sandwich board signs that could be used to post town notices.

7. Recycle Center Paving: Council agreed the new asphalt paving job looked good. Rob Watkins asked about the huge unused asphalt pile left over and if it could have been used to fill potholes. He said now it cannot be used. Dave confirmed there were at least 2 spots that needed to be patched, but that the crew had no good way to compact the asphalt unless they used the front tire of the pick up or the backhoe. He confirmed the town does not have an asphalt roller.

8. Grader Use: Rob Watkins asked if the grader blade was used over there at the recycle center and the mayor asked if the crew had bladed South Hill. Dave confirmed he had the grader out several times this year. Rob asked if there were chains for the grader for winter and using it for snow removal downtown. Dave noted it was much harder getting around corners with the grader.

9. Personnel Handbook: Dave relayed a question from Perry regarding time off for EMS/Fire calls, noting there was nothing in the manual about this. The mayor and council agreed to leave this as is, with a verbal agreement on the matter, noting this was not an issue.

10. Work Schedule: Dave indicated his dad had been in the hospital for 3 weeks and he was now home, but his health was questionable. Dave said he may have to take time off unexpectedly. The mayor said no problem, to go if he needed town and the town will work around it.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Jerry Neumann provided council with the monthly activity log. June was busy, but so far July has been quieter. The department is actively looking for someone who tore up the grass at the school and the shooting range, driving on the grass. The department is taking anonymous tips, if anyone has any information.

Chief Neumann said the grant is progressing with getting some numbers narrowed down on the equipment. He has been trying to get another vendor for the purchase of equipment to enhance the cell phone capability that will hook up to the Verizon network. He said the rifle and computers are pretty low right now and he has been getting prices on comparables.

Mayor Pfaff asked how it was going having the door unlocked during the day. Chief Neumann thought it was going fine. The mayor noted it has been locked recently when he has come by and the officers were in the office.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Sewer Camera Work: Mayor Pfaff discussed the recent state loan that did not occur for the sewer camera work proposed. He estimated with the loan the project would have been about \$10,000. Dave Ulrick estimated the town had about 4.5 miles of sewer lines with a little over half or maybe three-quarters of the pipe, plastic. He thought roughly about 10,000 feet would probably cover it for camera work. The mayor asked the council how much it wanted to spend. Larry Hunt asked if it was possible that the town would find some of the problems with the smoke test next week and that

that would alleviate some of the camera work needed. The council agreed and tabled the matter until after the smoke test next week.

2. Utility Account Delinquencies: Rob Watkins asked how utility account delinquencies were going with the changes implemented at the end of last year. Annie confirmed accounts don't get beyond two months delinquency, without a shut off and most people pay prior to shut off. She said between diligent review of accounts and the legal owner being responsible, it seems to be better.

3. Park Gazebo: Brian Conklin noted he is working up the design for materials, etc. Right now the crew manually turns off and on the water at the circuit breakers.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance no. 371N – adopting the property tax increase for collection in 2010: Mayor Pfaff talked about the proposed property tax increase for 2010 – the general 1% plus the banked capacity (2.46%). Annie Pillers confirmed speaking with Assessor Joe Reynolds and that he verified the banked capacity was available for 2010. Larry Hunt relayed a recent conversation he and Ryan Barker had with Annie, clarifying how the property tax increase affects property owners and that she had done a good job of explaining it. Since then, Larry has spoken with community members on this matter. Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adopt Ordinance No. 371N adopting the property taxes increase for collection in 2010. Rob Watkins seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Ordinance no. 372N – setting the regular and special levy amounts for Budget Year 2010: Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to adopt Ordinance No. 372N setting the regular and special levy amounts for Budget Year 2010. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Tree Trimming: Mayor Pfaff talked about the need to do some tree trimming, particularly along West Main Street. It was noted Jiggs Anderson expressed concern about his liability if his equipment damaged trees. Larry Hunt offered use of his truck to throw the limbs in and for hauling the debris to the compost site. He said he thought Randy Kriebel had just picked up a surplus 1 ton service truck with bucket and he might donate his time to assist. Larry estimated it would take 3 people and he would like to get it done before harvest. He also noted he had a chain saw available.

2nd QUARTER 2009 ADJUSTMENT REGISTER/VOIDED CHECK REGISTER/APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Annie Pillers reviewed the 2nd quarter adjustment register noting the reallocation of the final 2008 property tax received in January 2009 according to the 2008 property tax receipts for 2008, the 2008 BARS revenue account number correction for the AWC Public Safety Grant monies, and the .03 bank adjustment for a utility payment check discrepancy between the written amount and the number written. Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to approve the 2nd Quarter 2009 Adjustment Register, the 2nd Quarter Voided Check Register, and the following bills presented to council for payment . Rob Watkins seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
Check Register #9104-#9115. Claims: \$13,357.82, Payroll: \$4,902.67. TOTAL: \$18,260.49.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Brian Conklin reported a new member joining the fire department, Chuck Petris. He also reported the department has had good turn outs on everything they've done so far. Last Tuesday night's meeting 7 firefighters showed up. 6 responded 3 days ago for a daytime call and last night they had 8 or 9 respond.

ADJOURNMENT: Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Rob Watkins seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrod Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer