

**Town of Garfield**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 25, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Jarrod Pfaff, Andrew Flodin, Daymon Marple, and Tim Southern. Staff – Public Works Superintendent David Ulrick; Police Chief Jerry Neumann, Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: Larry Hunt and Rob Watkins.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Andrew Flodin **MOVED** the minutes of August 11, 2010, be approved as written. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Police Chief Jerry Neumann briefly updated council and handed out the monthly Garfield Activity Log. He said there were some action items from the last council meeting he had not obtained.

Junk Vehicles - Mr. Roper's vehicles had been tagged, but he had been indisposed and they were going through the process. The truck near the park was moved earlier in the day.

Park Use/Regulations – Chief Neumann has talked with residents and the Mayor about ongoing issues at the park. He proposed moving forward on the model ordinance for park use presented at the last meeting. He would get with Stephen Bishop to draft the final language. The park rule would hold individuals accountable. If the rules were ignored the right to use the park could be suspended. Stephen Bishop noted the regulations cover due process of law. If a person is notified his privilege to be in the park is to be suspended, he or she has the right to appeal. If not appealed the suspension stands. Any appeals would come before the town council, similar to the junk vehicle ordinance process. Stephen recommended using the sample language from Seattle as it has been through a court case and was upheld. In that case the citizen prevailed because the city didn't follow its own ordinance. If they had done so, the ordinance would have held up. Chief Neumann would provide Stephen Bishop with another sample document from East Wenatchee.

Loose Dogs – the department has had a handful of complaints on dogs loose from a residence at the trailer park. The owner has been contacted and cited. If not corrected the dogs could be impounded and removed.

Vandalism case – several vehicles had tires slashed Friday night early Saturday morning – 3 or 4 vehicles involved. There are a handful of suspects, but no big leads right now.

County assist – the department recently assisted with a notice of conviction/attempt to locate just on the edge of town in the county.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** David Ulrick updated council on the following:

1. Asphalt Patching – He said the subsurface makes a difference when asphalt patching. They tried to get the subsurface as flat as possible. They used 26.5 tons in 2 days. Daymon Marple said he was very impressed with their work and that they had done a very nice job.
2. Water Service Repair – The water service at 401 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street had been changed. It had been leaking for quite a bit. It changed over to a 2" line by the Renstrom meter, 125 feet to get to the 2".
3. Chipper Blades – Disc Sander - Rotohammer – every 20 to 30 hours the chipper blades need to be sharpened. Dave recently sharpened them using his 6" disc sander and they turned out very well. To take the blades to Spokane for sharpening it will cost \$11 per edge plus tax, time, shipping, etc. Dave found a disc sander for about \$188 at Home Depot. He also noted the roto hammer advertised at \$179 was really \$219 plus \$13.50 shipping. At Home Depot they were \$249 and if something goes wrong they will take it back. The mayor told him to go ahead and order the disc sander and roto hammer from Home Depot. Dave said he would try the 12" disc sander at Ed-Ka to see how that works before he buys the disc sander.
4. Park Pooper Scooper Station – the pooper scooper station for the park had been received.
5. Old Sweeper/Sander Box – Dave was asked to haul off to the scrap recycler the surplus old sweeper and sander box that had not garner any bids when advertised.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Transportation Improvement Board Grant Applications:** Annie Pillers confirmed after working

further with TIB on the proposed grant applications for reconstruction of California Street and the sidewalk replacement for 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, it was clear these projects were not ready nor would rate well. She noted, however, that likely as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street overlay, the sidewalks adjacent to the route could be repaired. She reconfirmed there was no match for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street overlay and sidewalk or the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Street chip seal projects. Council consensus was to include the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street sidewalk repair in the application if grant eligible. Additionally, Annie noted TIB's focus to partner with other agencies for an economy of scale for projects. She mentioned the possibility of using Whitman County for the chip seal on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Pfaff said he had no problem using Whitman County for the chip and seal. Andrew Flodin expressed concern about recent workmanship on a parking lot that was paved by Whitman County in Colfax. Tim Southern **MOVED** to partner with Whitman County for chip sealing of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Street if the TIB grant is awarded. Daymon Marple seconded the motion.

**2. Resolution – 2010-19 – Post Retirement COBRA Health Insurance Premium:** Mayor Pfaff presented the resolution drafted by Stephen Bishop authorizing payment of post-retirement health insurance premiums for David Ulrick. Tim Southern voiced his support of the proposal and asked the mayor if the town could afford to pay the premiums. The mayor confirmed the town could afford the premiums. Daymon Marple **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2010-19 authorizing payment of David Ulrick's post-retirement medical premium until he attains the age of 65 or sooner qualifies for Medicare insurance coverage. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**3. Garbage Can Upgrade:** Mayor Pfaff presented council with the idea of upgrading the garbage truck to allow for carts that can be picked up automatically at the back end. The roller carts are about \$44 each with a purchase of 300 at \$13,200. The retrofit for the truck is \$7,000. He presented the idea of charging each customer \$15 for the new can. Daymon Marple asked if the plan was to purchase them all at one time or in stages. The mayor said he would like to buy them all by the first of the year. He said the retrofitter would have to have the truck for one week. The mayor asked Dave how many people consistently use more than 2 cans each week. Dave said there were not that many. The size roller carts the mayor was proposing were 65 gallon carts. Tim Southern suggested the \$15 fee be billed out over 3 months. It was further suggested the town set a date when the switch over occurs and if a person still has extra cans they would have to pay for a 2<sup>nd</sup> roller cart. Stephen Bishop confirmed the town would own the roller carts, even if a resident paid for a 2<sup>nd</sup> cart. Residents are only renting the carts. It was further clarified a person could still put an extra bag out for pick up but not have the town roller cart plus another can of their own. Tim Southern asked if the town had enough in reserves to make these purchases and the mayor confirmed there was enough in reserves. Mayor Pfaff reiterated that even with the lift on the back, garbage service will still take 2 people. It was noted likely garbage pick up will take longer with the automatic lift on the back. It will slow things down. Dave suggested if the automatic lift is going to be added that the bottom of the hopper be relined. Over the years the crew has patched it. Daymon Marple talked about contracting with Oakesdale and Palouse to do their garbage service. Council discussed holding a public meeting with the community to discuss the proposed changes in garbage service.

**4. RV Park Utility Rates:** Mayor Pfaff reported Annie Pillers had checked RV Park Utility rates with other communities. The mayor said he liked Palouse's RV Park rate structure. They charged 1 base water rate, plus overage, and 1 base sewer rate and if more than 30 rentals occurred in a month, it was another \$1 per day per rental. It was agreed the resident/manager would be part of the base rate. A rental for example of a road crew for 45 days would be billed at \$1 a day after 30 days. Stephen Bishop noted the Palouse RV Park has been a very successful venture as a municipal project. Mayor Pfaff asked Dave about town-owned land across from the sewer plant. There was some concern being across from the sewer plant would not be an ideal location. Dave said there was not much land across the road and that there was railroad land involved too. Annie Pillers asked if an ordinance would be needed to establish the RV Park utility rate. Stephen Bishop suggested an ordinance that allowed utility rates be established by resolution. He would prepare this for the next council meeting.

Andrew Flodin excused himself from any discussion of the following topic:

**5. PERS Membership:** Mayor Pfaff presented the idea of the town joining PERS in 2011. The town can now join for nothing. He talked about rolling the employee's current ING retirement accounts. He noted

the percentage match rate fluctuates over the years for the town and the employee. The employee can choose either Plan 2 or Plan 3. Tim Southern agreed it was worth joining PERS in the long run. He asked if it was protected from the state dipping into it. The clerk-treasurer was directed to get the necessary paperwork for the town to join.

**APPROVAL OF CHECKS:** Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Annie Pillers noted the final payment to M&L for the 5% retainage on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Waterline will likely be paid between now and the next council meeting.

Check Register #9604-9609 Payroll: \$5,350.11      #9610-#9614 Claims: \$8,542.46

TOTAL: \$13,892.57.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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**Jarrold Pfaff, Mayor**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer**