

Town of Garfield
PUBLIC HEARING AND TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Town Hall – March 13, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, Daymon Marple, Sharon Schnebly, Tim Southern and Mark Young.
Staff – Public Works Superintendent Perry Brown, Police Chief Jerry Neumann, and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Guests: Sarah Kelley, Aidan Lukens, and Patricia Lukens.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Pfaff opened the public hearing on the Patrick and Sarah Kelley and Patricia Lukens vehicle abatement hearing at 7:03 pm. Officer Joe Merry outlined the process to date: In August of 2012 Officer Merry contacted Pat and Sarah Kelley regarding junk vehicles. He started with a soft sell to get some type of movement on the issue, setting up a time to talk about the vehicles, trying to resolve the issues, and providing them time to repair them or get them out of town. Over the next few months he contacted Patrick or Sarah to get them inspected, otherwise he would need to start a formal investigation. By 12/12/2012 he had not heard from them. Upon re-inspection of the vehicles they were in the same shape. He contacted them and provided a phone number, availability of dates in December and notified them if they did not get a hold of him by the end of the month he would begin a formal investigation. By that afternoon vehicles were licensed and met ½ of requirement #5 related to junk vehicles, but needed they also needed to be insured too. On 1/19/2013 Officer Merry began his formal investigation, giving the parties 10 days to respond. On either the 8th or 9th day of a Monday holiday weekend, Officer Merry went by the house and talked with Pat Lukens as a registered owner. He told her if they don't request a hearing a ticket would be issued, requiring \$250 each from each person. The parties then contacted city hall to request the hearing 2 days ahead of time.

Sarah said she would be out of town Friday or Saturday. She said the battery was stolen out of the Chevy. The Chevy is now concealed in the garage. They are working to get rid of the Blue 1998 Dodge.

Officer Merry noted the town council's options included:

1. Determine if you agree, they are junk vehicles or if they are not junk vehicles. He noted even though one was in the garage now, the finding is from 8/8/2012. He said it was not based upon now but what happened then.
2. If there's a finding of junk vehicles by vote, then they can talk about a timeframe, and how much more time is need. The parties can give the town additional factors and set up a game plan.

Sarah said they have run into a lot of problems. Pat was laid off at the beginning of this time. The starter was out in Dodge. They have the money now. Pat will be home Friday night and will put it in Saturday or Sunday and get it working. The Cavalier will be going out of town this weekend. Officer Merry noted if they install a starter on the Dodge pick up the department could do a vehicle inspection to determine if it's road worthy, the transmission moves forward and backwards. He said once the starter is running, it's not a junk vehicle and the other one is in the garage. He noted one way to keep it in town, is to have it concealed. Sarah said she can't afford to keep it and noted it should be done by end of this weekend. Officer Merry noted they need a date fixed and then would need to re-inspect it. Sarah said if it was only the starter it should be running fine Monday morning. The car is not an issue if in the garage. Officer Merry suggested giving them additional time, 2 weeks to get the starter done and if not done, not repaired and not road worthy then issue a citation. Council suggested one week.

Officer Merry presented the following Findings of Fact:

1. According to Town of Garfield Municipal Code Section 12.14.020(D) the 1998 Blue Dodge Ram Pick Up License #B30404A is a junk vehicle.
2. According to Town of Garfield Municipal Code Section 12.14.020(D) the 2000 Tan Chevy Cavalier License #WW03581 is a junk vehicle.
3. The 200 Tan Chevy Cavalier is currently housed wholly within the Lukens garage in town

and is not visible to the public and as long as not visible, can remain there. However, it is still meets all the criteria for a junk vehicle.

Mayor Pfaff closed the public hearing at and opened the regular council meeting at 7:13 pm.

Mark Young **MOVED** to adopt the Findings of Facts as presented with the recommendation that Patrick and Sarah Kelly and Pat Lukens be issued \$250 tickets if the vehicles was not moved by 6:00 PM 3/20/2013. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Officer Merry, Aidan, Lukens, Sarah Kelley and Patricia Lukens then left the meeting.

Larry Hunt suggested to Chief Neumann that the department speed-up the process for taking care of junk vehicles. Council talked about 2 to 4 months for the process. They talked about a maximum of no longer than 4 months to determine if the vehicles meet the criteria of a junk vehicle and are a violation of town ordinance and to determine if any additional time will be allowed to the registered owners to repair or remove the vehicles.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Larry Hunt **MOVED** the minutes of the regular council meeting of February 13, 2013, be approved as written. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Jerry Neumann updated council on their recent activities and a follow up on a report of loose turkeys. There was discussion of a property with loose animals, junk piles, junk vehicles and building code issues. Chief Neumann agreed to follow up on this matter, suggesting the police department and building department meet on site. Chief Neumann confirmed following up from their L and I audit, the department had completed their state mandated training and had a new manual.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Superintendent Perry Brown:

1. WWTP – the plant is up and running. David Ulrick will be assisting Perry with pulling out a bearing.

Mayor Pfaff authorized the repair of the 2nd electrical pump so the town would have a back up pump if needed. The cost of repair was estimated at approximately \$1,500. The generator failed when the power went out recently but it just needed a dried, crack fuel lined replaced.

2. Water Treatment Operator Training – Robby Johnson will be attending a water distribution certification training review class Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week in Spokane.

3. Sweeper Maintenance – the crew is working on the sweeper and a piece will be welded tomorrow.

Mayor Pfaff asked if it could be used for manholes. Perry confirmed yes, but they needed to do some rewiring. Right now it will suck if they use a long tube.

4. Picnic Tables – new 6 foot poly type picnic tables can be purchased at Northern Tools for about \$235 apiece. The old heavy wooden tables are falling apart. Council talked about possible theft of the newer lighter tables. One suggesting was using a heavy long chain and spiking them to the ground. Another suggestion was to brand the tables with the Town of Garfield. Council consensus was to buy 4 new picnic tables as proposed.

5. Streets – the recent testing of cold mix for pothole repairs was holding up nicely. It's a bag mix.

6. Old Park Gazebo – Larry Hunt said he had been asked about the old city park gazebo and removing it. Council was under the understanding that it was going to be repaired/remodel. Ray McCown and David Ulrick were heading up that project.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **PDA Appointments:** Daymon Marple was waiting to hear if John Love wanted to stay on the PDA.

2. **Resolution 2013-05 – Joint Fire Board Agreement:** Tim Southern **MOVED** Resolution 2013-05 adopting the Joint Fire Board (JFB) Agreement as submitted and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. **2013 Budget:** It was agreed there were no changes needed at this time regarding the 2013 budget and the Joint Fire Board budget.

4. **Resolution 2013-06 – 2013 Salary Schedule:** Mayor Pfaff noted this resolution addressed the JFB Fire Chief and JFB Secretary salaries. The town will not be paying 40% of the secretary's wage. This resolution changes the salary schedule to allow this new dollar value. Mark Young noted the joint fire

board decided to raise the secretary's salary to \$150.00 based upon having much more of a workload with the JFB. Mark Young **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2013-06 setting the 2013 salary schedule for the Fire Chief and the JFB Secretary. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Parks Department/Weed Control: Council discussed weed control for the town. Perry Brown noted he now has a sprayer. Mayor Pfaff noted last time that was tried it didn't work so well. Palouse Hills service includes weed control and fertilizing. Larry Hunt noted the price would remain the same as last year. He said the trees would need to be fertilized in the next couple of weeks. Tim Southern **MOVED** that Palouse Hills Lawn and Shrub be contracted to perform weed control and fertilizing for the town. Mark Young seconded the motion and the motion carried. Abstention – Larry Hunt.

6. Library Internet Provider – Antenna Placement: Council was updated on new internet service for the library and the need for an antenna to be placed on top of the library/community center building. There is a new service provider for the library who will be providing them free service. As part of that he needs to install a 20 to 30 foot antenna on the building. The library is requesting that the town authorize this installation. The company is a long standing computer service and will be able to also serve other customers with the antenna. The owner is the son-in-law of Dean Rogers. Stephen Bishop would be asked to draw up an agreement between the town and the provider that outlined what could be done and address any liability issues. Tim Southern **MOVED** to authorize the mayor to sign the legal agreement prepared by town counsel and once completed, allow this service provider to install an antenna on the community center building. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

7. Ladow Court / Fire Department Entry Signs: Council was agreeable to allowing LaDow Court and the Fire Department to have access and use the entry signs into town for advertising.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Roger Hager – 2nd between California and Main: Daymon Marple talked about the condition of the roadway and sidewalk across from the hotel building on 2nd Street. Right now there is gravel between the roadway and sidewalk. Cars currently park up onto the sidewalk and the property owner is concerned about cars hitting his building. He was requesting the town put concrete railroad ties in that area so cars cannot cross over the sidewalk. If the town can't do this, he was requesting that he be allowed to do so. The ties are 8 feet long and would be placed parallel to the sidewalk. Council was not comfortable with a private party installing these ties themselves but was agreeable to public works putting them in if the property owner donated them to the town.

2. 5th Street Maintenance: Daymon Marple addressed the poor condition of 5th street at the top of the hill. He said the town crew did snow removal this winter and the gravel was moved out. He requested gravel for the top of that road. Council was agreeable to getting gravel placed on the top of 5th Street.

FINANCIAL:

1. Approval of Checks: Tim Southern **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for approval. Larry Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #10828-10831 Plus EFTPS	Payroll: \$ 6,832.79
Check Register #10832-10835	Claims: \$ 921.07
Check Register #10836-10841	Payroll: \$7,731.02
Check Register #10842-10858 Plus DOR EFT	Claims: \$44,413.86 Total: \$59,898.74

ADJOURNMENT: Larry Hunt **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrod Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer