

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Town Hall – September 11, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Larry Hunt, Daymon Marple, Sharon Schnebly, and Tim Southern. Staff – Public Works Superintendant Perry Brown 7:02, Police Chief Jerry Neumann and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers and Clerk Trainee Cody Lord. Absent: Mark Young.

GUESTS: Eric Hasenoehrl with Keltic Engineering and Paul Rossow with the Department of Ecology (DOE) Air Quality Program.

DOE Burn Permits – Paul Rossow with DOE introduced himself and his role working with the 12 different counties in the region on air quality and burn permits. Because Whitman County is not acting under the Growth Management Act or as an Urban Growth Area the county, nor Garfield is not restricted from burning. He noted the past experience with the Garfield compost facility fire and the smoke generated from that. Last summer the Mayor had talked with DOE about getting a burn permit but no permit request was submitted. Mayor Pfaff updated Mr. Rossow that the town is now working with Whitman County for collection and removal of part of the compost materials. He noted that about ½ the compost items are truly compostable and the other half is trees and stumps. The plan would be to use Whitman County for 5 or 6 or 7 of the collection bins; then burn another portion. Mr. Rossow confirmed burn permits are good through 12/31 and 6/30. There is no cost and they can be renewed. Once the initial burn permit application is approved, it's easier to get subsequent burn permits; keep the paperwork and resubmit. The town would still fall under the Ag burn day guidelines. Mr. Rossow said normally Ag burn days wait for a SW wind but in this case with residences located nearby, the town might seek a non-typical wind to burn, i.e. a North wind. As part of the permit, someone would inspect the pile. The DOE would not want everything to be burned and in the permit the town would need to show how it's attempting to reduce the overall burning with other alternatives such as chipping. Although people could individually burn in town, that creates more smoke than one larger burn. The Town of St. John gets a burn permit.

WWTP Facilities Plan:

Eric Hasenoehrl addressed council and said he had been working with Annie on Transportation Improvement Stuff and that had gone well. He was now working with Perry on the WWTP. Mayor Pfaff said the town needed more output out of the plant with more capacity. He noted the existing plant loan would be paid off in 2020 and suggested having a plan on what to do then, getting another loan to improve capacity. He mentioned needing another 30% out of the plant. He said when the original loan was done they did not include extra capacity at the plant. Council talked about the flows, output and capacity. It was agreed the solution is to stop the inflow and infiltration (I&I) problem or increase the plant's capacity. Piping is very expensive to put in so perhaps try to increase the plant size and leave piping in town as is. David Ulrich said the plant was designed to handle a larger capacity and could already take the increased volume as is. Mayor Pfaff asked Eric if the permit could be changed based upon the plant's full design. Eric indicated he would need the data to prove that and be able to demonstrate that it could. It was agreed to pull out the engineering specs for the plant. Eric requested one year's worth of Discharge Monitoring Reports to confirm this. He noted for Ecology, permit flow numbers are not as important as the water quality.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tim Southern **MOVED** the minutes of the regular council meeting of August 28, 2013, be approved as written. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Police Chief Jerry Neumann said the contract with Garfield was approved by the Palouse council last night. It's at Bishop's Office to be signed. Mayor Pfaff noted the Garfield Council had already approved the contract for 4 years with increases of 2%, 4%, 2% and 0% and authorized the Mayor to sign it. The nuisance property case is still active. The property owners have been making progress, a vehicle is gone and they are working on the cat issues.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Public Works Superintendent Perry Brown provided the following report:

1. L&I Light Duty - Finally back to work this past week on light duty for a week or two, and going to physical therapy right now. Knee surgery is planned for September 24th, so will be out for 4 days from that and then light duty again using crutches.
2. L&I Inspection Items - Last week helped Robby get items on the L&I list done. They gave the town an extension due to the L&I injury. They are down to one thing left on the important list and then can get to the caution list and the final list of items to be done when they can be done.
3. Vehicle Maintenance – There is a slight issue with the Bobcat. The computer won't talk to the starter button and it may require the Bobcat representative come up and check it out. Larry Hunt agreed and said the representative could plug in his diagnostic computer and tell if there's a problem.
4. Water Leaks - There are 2 or 3 water leaks that will be fixed soon. One is at Pat Pfaff's. She had her sprinkler system marked today. There is a small one at Grossman. The one at Janet Hedlund's will require the entire line be replaced.
5. Shop: Today they picked up 800 gallons of stove oil from Quake's Brakes for heating the shop.
6. WWTP: Perry will work on the Discharge Monitoring Reports and get them done next week. He plans to have a lot of them done by his surgery on the 24th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance for Acreage for Horses: The Nodine's have not submitted the letters from their neighbors yet. Tim Southern and Sharon Schnebly indicated they would leave the ordinance as is and not make any changes for one situation only. Daymon Marple suggested if they bring back some letters then the council could talk with them. Council would wait on this issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Utility Account: Annie Pillers report an account that had recently discovered a large leak with the overage amount at over \$500. They were asking for a payment plan as they could not pay it all in one month. They were agreeable to the late fee but couldn't handle the full \$500 payment at once. They suggested either two or three months for pay off. Larry Hunt **MOVED** to authorize a 3-month payment schedule for the water leak overage. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

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 #11048-#11054

Payroll: \$7,181.54

Check Register #11055-#11082

Claims: \$75,500.79 Total: \$82,682.33

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Southern **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrod Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer