

**Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 10, 2021 - 7:00 PM
405 W California
Public Phone in Option: 1-605-937-6914 PIN: 300 834 347#**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pfaff called the regular town council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Pfaff, Council Members: Neal Leon, Jessie Parkins, Mike Olsen, Cande Hasenoehrl and Tom Tevlin. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer: Cody Lord, Public Works: Mark Phillips Absent:

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: Marti Masten, Connie Schaut, and Anthony Lowley

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting October 27, 2021. Jesse Parkins **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT: Marshal Handley

The courts have finally sorted out the ticket and fee issue. They will be using the existing code, but will have a fixed rate for 1st, 2nd and 3rd offenses for any infractions. A local resident was arrested on a \$50,000 bond. A resident on Adams Street was served a chronic nuisance letter and Marshal Handley will be seeking the town attorney's help with this matter. Cande asked Marshal Handley if he will begin towing vehicles this week and he responded no he would not.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Mark Phillips

Water

Everything operating as normal.

Sewer

Everything operating as normal. There is now a roof over the top of the UV system at the sewer plant.

Garbage

Everything operating as normal.

Streets/Parks

Everything operating as normal. The park has been winterized and locked for the season.

Mayor Pfaff said that the water meter bid has been cancelled since it did not include what type of meters in the bidding process. The three companies that have submitted their bids are invited to rebid the project.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Pfaff said the main thing that needs to be thought about before the proposed final budget is the Cost-of-Living Adjustment. The town has set the range for COLA to be somewhere between 0% and 3%. Currently, the State of Washington is at 6.8% CPI due to the prices raising drastically everywhere. Mayor Pfaff said he likes to address the COLAs first and then think about individual raises. Last year the COLA given was 1.2%. Neal Leon said he would split the difference and go 1.5%. Mike Olsen said he would like to see a 3% COLA; he believes supporting employees that do a good job and that there is a cost in retraining and replacing employees. Jesse Parkins believes 2% would be good. Tom Tevlin says he would suggest giving raises based on performance. Mayor Pfaff suggested that if the council had a better suggestion for pay raises and COLAs that they should put it on the table since it is a policy matter for the council to direct.

Neal said just because the town can afford to give pay raises, he doesn't believe that the employees should be given everything. Cande said that Mayor Pfaff is the employee supervisor, and he knows best their capabilities, and he should be the one telling council what he believes is appropriate. Mayor Pfaff said he needs a starting point. Tom Tevlin suggested a compromise of 2%. Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to use 2% COLA for the preliminary budget numbers. Jesse Parkins **seconded the motion and the motion carried**. Mike Olsen was a Nay vote.

Mayor Pfaff said currently it looks as though the street levy is passing.

Council needs to decide on the final council dates for November and December due to the holidays. Mayor Pfaff suggested November 22nd, December 8th for the Final Budget Hearing and the final 2021 meeting on December 15th. Council was in support of these dates. Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to approve the November and December council meeting dates be held on November 22, December 8th, and December 15th. Tom Tevlin **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously**.

NEW BUSINESS:

Whitman County has provided a new Interlocal Agreement for Criminal Justice Service for the next five years. 2021 and 2022 will be \$2,420, 2023 and 2024 will be \$2,571.25 and 2025 will be \$2,722.50. Jesse Parkins **MOVED** to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Criminal Justice services with Whitman County. Mike Olsen **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously**.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Cande said the fire whistle is still not working and it appears Ziplly will have to be the company to work on it to get it working again. Cody was asked to call Ziplly and see if an appointment can be set to have them come and repair. Multiple companies are in town installing fiber direct to homes. The Port of Whitman owns the fiber line and all companies transmitting over the lines have the same capabilities, the only difference with Ziplly is that they had the construction contract to bury the line in town.

Mayor Pfaff said he had a look at the current budget position, and everything is looking good, and the town may end the year with a bit of a surplus.

FINANCIAL: Approval of checks

Tom Tevlin **MOVED** to approve payment of bills. Neal Leon **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Payroll: Checks 14969-14977 PLUS EFT DOR

Total =\$13,490.00

Claims: Checks 14978-14996

Total =\$30,172.28

Total Claims and Payroll: \$43,662.28

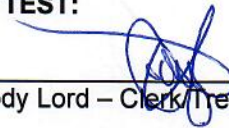
ADJOURN:

Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Jesse Parkins **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.** The council meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.



Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor

ATTEST:



Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer