

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
June 22, 2022 - 7:00 PM
405 W California

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pfaff called the regular town council meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Pfaff, Council Members: Neal Leon, Craig Mitzimberg and Connie Schaut. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer: Cody Lord, Public Works: Shon Clark Absent: Tom Tevlin

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: Abel Rushing

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 8, 2022. Craig Mitzimberg **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT:

A written police report was submitted to the council.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Shon Clark

Water

Everything operating as normal.

Sewer

Everything operating as normal. The sewer plant is running well. The only violations currently are due to high flows. More frequent loads of biosolids from the plant are going to Bartech.

Garbage

Everything operating as normal.

Streets/Park

Public Works is getting ready to tear up Spokane Street where there are currently asphalt chips that weren't laid correctly, causing the road to break apart. The road will be taken back to gravel and maintained like the other gravel roads within town. They are waiting on M&M Electrical to pull the permit on the RV Park project. There are new cameras needed around town including the recycling area. Things like paint and garbage are starting to collect down there and privileges are being abused. There is one scrape metal container left to fill. Shon rented a tractor to mow the alleys and right of ways and will do it again here shortly to complete the project. Monty has almost completed his CDL training and will be ready to test soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 485-N Amending the 2022 Operating Budget

Mayor Pfaff said it is now time to conduct a budget amendment since grant expenditures are starting to add up for the grant funded I&I project and meter replacement project. Fund 001 revenues and expenditures need to be increased by \$60,000 to accommodate for the bank loan to complete the RV park. Fund 401 needs to reflect the Covid grant money from 2021 and then the second installment coming in 2022 for a total of \$81,000 in revenues. Expenditures in 401 need to be increased by \$162,000 for Covid Relief grant money to cover the water meter replacement project and the upcoming purchase of the ultrasonic flow meters. Additional expenditure increases in 401 in the amount of \$625,828 are needed to cover \$16,935 in asset management costs and \$608,893 in I&I reduction construction costs. Both costs are fully covered by grant funding. 401 will also need a \$4,000 increase in expenditures to cover the increasing cost of diesel for the garbage truck. Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve Ordinance 485-N, amending the 2022 operating budget. Neal Leon **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Pfaff said this fall they would likely need to take a closer look at the utility rates. More money is being spent on fuel and trips to Bartech to keep the plant operating smoothly. Garbage services will also likely increase next year since the county tipping fees will also rise. Mayor Pfaff added the town may need to prepare for a one-time Federal Audit due to the amount of grant money that has been spent in 2022. Currently it is looking like the expenditures might just exceed their \$750,000 threshold. The town will request the minimum accountability audit this cycle since the Federal Audit, if triggered, would encompass the full financial audit. The financial audit was conducted at the last audit session which takes longer and goes deeper into the finances of the town. Mayor Pfaff is just giving a heads up to the council as the cost of the audit would increase significantly since two audits would need to take place in 2023.

Mayor Pfaff said they will need to put some thought into what they want to do with the church and the board that is overseeing it. The town doesn't have the ability to sell the property for another year and a half. Craig Mitzimberg asked about turning it into a community building. Neal Leon said there are challenges, the building is not currently fully accessible since the main entry has stairs and the sanctuary has a sloping floor. Mayor Pfaff said the outside is starting to deteriorate and coming into winter, it is going to be very expensive to heat it with fuel prices the way they are. The bricks will eventually need re-pointed outside. Corey Cook or Chris Sapp may be able to look at the building and give an estimate to get this work done, there is also a guy working on the bank building that is about to do the same task.

The main question is what the building ends up being and how to accommodate this. The board was put in place to figure these details out and bring ideas to the council, but often they are looking to the council for ideas. Mayor Pfaff said he would rather see the building being used than just sitting. Neal agreed the longer it sits unused, the worse condition it will become. There are three members on the board right now, they are Annaliese Zook, Sally Burkhart and Donna Gwinn.

Connie Schaut asked how often the town monitors the cameras around town and Mayor Pfaff said all the cameras in town need to be updated. Cody and Marshal Handley are attempting to get bids for this now. Marshal Handley would like something he could patch into and view. Many things are being dropped on town property and hopefully the surveillance will help put an end to this.

FINANCIAL: Approval of checks

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

Payroll: Checks 15277-15282 EFT Dept of Retire, EFTPS	Total =\$9,957.11
Claims: EFT for Dept of Revenue	Total =\$2,344.14
Claims: Checks 15283-15291	Total =\$168,857.41
Total Claims and Payroll: \$181,158.66	

A resident of Garfield has sent council a letter asking for reduced utility payments for the next 6 months to avoid a shut off. They are seeking assistance through Community Action. Council said they would extend a reduced cost payment schedule of \$50.00 a month for the customer like they did with other customers through Covid but if the arrangement is not met or if at the end of 6 months the bill is not completely caught up, then the customer would be dealing with terminated services. Craig Mitzimberg **MOVED** to allow reduced payments for 6 months from the customer in need with the intent they would be fully caught up on past due charges within 6 months, and if at any time the obligation is not met to pay \$50.00 a month, then an automatic utility termination would occur. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

ADJOURN:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Craig Mitzimberg **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.** The council meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.

ATTEST:


Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer


Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor