

**Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 8, 2023 - 7:00 PM**

405 W California

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pfaff called the Public Hearing portion of the town council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Regular Meeting was opened at 7:00 pm.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: Loran Robinette

Resident Loran Robinette attended the council to ask for assistance to get his utility bill caught up. He explained to the council that he and his family have been dealing with personal issues that have prevented him from paying his bill on time. Mayor Pfaff said the rules in the past have been that the outstanding balance will be divided by 6 months and will be included on top of the regular scheduled monthly utility charges, which would begin the next month, April 2023. If at anytime the monthly obligation is not taken care of, the services will be immediately terminated and not reinstated until payment is made in full. The council was in support of granting the 6 months catch up if the conditions are met each month and Loran Robinette agreed to the terms.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting February 22, 2023. Roni Mundell **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT: Marshal Handley is not present for the meeting, but a written report was provided to the council.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Water

Everything is operating as normal. Inland Potable is coming soon to service the water tank if they can get to it.

Sewer

The sewer plant is operating as normal.

Garbage

Everything is operating as normal.

Streets/Park

Shon met with an engineer from JUB Engineering to look around at the town's facilities. Shon explained the number one priority is getting to the bottom of the I&I issues. Mayor Pfaff said they will need to talk about posting the Request for Qualifications soon to potentially look at hiring a new engineering service. Century West was down to pull their meters and currently the town's meters are only staying powered up for about 2.5 days, more research is needed to keep them powered up longer.

Mayor Pfaff said that Century West will complete their end of the I&I project, including sharing the data they are collecting and taking care of the manhole over by 2nd and Union, which should close out the funds that have already been approved. Once the RFQ is posted in the paper, the council can invite the engineers in for an interview to see which is the best fit for the future I&I work and the Facilities Plan completion. Rockford had hired JUB for their I&I issues and said JUB completed the project with great results. JUB also worked on Rosalia's I&I project.

OLD BUSINESS:

The public works F-150 truck was listed in the official paper again for surplus and several new bids had been received. There are as follows:

Josh Pfaff \$350.00

Travis Judson \$501.00

Jim Perkins \$505.00

Jim Perkins wins the sealed bid for the F-150 for \$505 and will be notified.

Mayor Pfaff said he would like to go over the bids for the RV Park. Craig Mitzimberg gave each company a rough estimate of square footage, which was marked by ribbon, and would need to be included in the bid. The bids should include sprinklers, hydro-seeding, edging, fabric and bark. Gravel would be a separate expense. Craig thought maybe there would be some .09 grant money available to help with the costs. Connie Schaut asked about the reputation of all of the bidders and each company has been serving the area for quite awhile and all seem to do good work. Aqua Lawn does their own hydro-seeding and will guarantee it as well. Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the bid for RV Park sprinkler, edging and hydro-seeding from Aqua Lawn for \$30,222. Tom Tevlin **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Council discussed also having Aqua Lawn look at the park and see what price they would charge to make some alterations while they are already out here. Shon said there is another sprinkler line by the basketball court but he needs to hook the locator to the wire and trace the line. He will have this checked out by the next meeting and let the council know what he finds.

Mayor Pfaff said Resolution 2023-01 is on the table and is just the document addressing the per diem rate that was discussed at the last meeting. It would now allow per diem costs to be \$10 for breakfast, \$15 for lunch, and \$25 for dinner while attending training seminars or meetings. Neal Leon **MOVED** to pass Resolution 2023-01, revising the per diem meal rate while attending town functions. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Eric Hanson from Bishop Law Office has sent a letter to residents Mike Bridge and Noah Hutton. There was a prior handshake agreement for the Hasenoehrl's to use the Bridge property beyond Jefferson Street as access to Hasenoehrl's garage. Noah believed when he purchased his house that he would have full access to this road. Mike has placed a gate at the end of Jefferson which is the beginning of his property. As of now there are support posts that are about 3 feet over the utility right of way. Mayor Pfaff visited with Eric about this matter and it was determined not to be a town issue. The utility easement is not open to traffic. Until the town opens the easement/right of way to traffic, there is no formal way for the town to enforce. Neal said he went over and walked off the area and he thinks the power poles are about 6 feet into the alleyway, leaving about 10 feet still for clearance. There is no water or sewer in this area, only Avista power poles.

Mayor Pfaff said if the homeowners want to continue to dispute the matter, they will have to take it up as a civil matter in court. The town does not and will not maintain this section of easement at this time. Connie asked if there were other alleys like this in town and it was determined that there are a couple of them that have been problematic in the past. Tom Tevlin said he is in favor of letting the neighbors dispute the matter and out of general practice the town should not be getting involved in boundary disputes, otherwise they will have to be handling more situations like this into the future. If the town is not exercising its rights to the easement, then the ground falls to the neighboring owners of each abutting property.

NEW BUSINESS:

Neal asked if they had retrieved prices for picnic tables yet and Mayor Pfaff said the rough estimate is going to be about \$10,000 for all the tables. If the town purchases the cheaper plastic ones, they will be about \$500 each. Shon is also looking into purchasing supplies and building each themselves. At the next meeting, they should have a better idea of the cost of picnic tables.

Tom Tevlin **MOVED** to approve payment of bills. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Payroll: Checks 15592-15598 Plus EFT AWC, EFTPS, DRS	Total =\$16,835.09
Claims: Check 15591, 15599-15612 EFT Dept of Rev., SBNW	Total =\$18,408.18

Total Claims and Payroll: \$35,243.27

ADJOURN:

Tom Tevlin **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Craig Mitzimberg **seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.** The council meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.


Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor

ATTEST:


Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer