

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 24, 2023 - 7:00 PM
405 W California St.

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 6:54 pm.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: Rich Utzman and Michelle Bly with TD&H Engineering, Abel Rushing.

Rich and Michelle were in attendance to present to council the reasons why they felt they should be selected as the engineers to work with the town and help solve the I&I issues. TD&H is somewhat local in Lewiston but has other offices in the area. They work with Oakesdale and Palouse so they are in the area quite often. They enjoy working with small towns because there is a little bit of everything, water, sewer, and streets. TIB grants are a strong suit and they have recently secured a couple of them for surrounding communities. Michelle loves working on the funding side of projects and Rich is the Principal Engineer and works with structural and civil engineering tasks.

Council asked how they would suggest going about solving the I&I issues. TD&H would conduct some tests and then start working with the Public Works team to start addressing what they are seeing and is of concern. There would be a lot of sifting through old data to see what historically has happened and start mapping the system to identify what is in the ground. They would then bring the highest priorities back to council and start working to secure funding to fix the issue areas. Mayor Pfaff asked during a heavy rain flow event, how flexible is the camera crew to mobilize. Michelle said they are not very flexible, but they could plan for weather events and schedule when they know the flows will be high.

Tom Tevlin commented that the town has been battling this issue since the 1980's and there always seems to be a plan but no conclusion, he wonders if this is common among other communities. Craig questioned if they would be looking for several smaller issues or is it possible that there a couple of larger issues that will be the primary reason for the elevated flows. Michelle said sometimes it is a lot of smaller issues that cause the flows and sometimes it will be one large one, you just never know for sure. Their office has not had a lot of experience with I&I, but they have done a few projects. Some of their team members from Spokane would have more in-depth experience on the I&I projects. Rich and Michelle thanked council for their time and consideration and exited the meeting at 7:10.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting May 10, 2023. Roni Mundell **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT:

No one present.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Water

Everything is operating as normal.

Sewer

The gear box for the biocell motor has failed. The bearings are rusty and seized so they have ordered a new gear box and motor. The biocell is the primary treatment at the plant so it needs to be repaired quickly. Likely an ammonia violation will result due to the biocell being down. Neal thought there was an extra motor purchased at some point for the biocell and Shon confirmed that Reuel had purchased one off ebay, but it doesn't work.

Garbage

Everything is operating as normal. Compost and scrap metal bins are being filled about once a week right now.

Streets/Park

The RV Park is being worked on and coming along nicely. Total for rock at the RV park will be close to \$5,000 and likely another 5 loads are needed. Flags have been placed out for Memorial Day and a volunteer is needed to put out the WSU flags for future events.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 2023-04 Excess Levy Collection in 2024 General Election

The original Excess Levy sent to the county will not be run because there are very few agencies putting levies on the primary ballot which would result in the town having burden the majority of the election cost during this cycle. Mayor Pfaff suggested the town just wait until the General Election to place this levy on that ballot. The details of the levy are the same as previously agreed to, the only difference is requesting to be on the General ballot. Tom Tevlin **MOVED** to approve Resolution 2023-04 placing the Street Levy for collection in 2024 on the General Election ballot. Neal Leon **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Pfaff said the conversation about a new mower was tabled a couple of meetings ago just to be able to have all the council members present for the discussion. The current mower is starting to age and it would be ideal to get a zero turn that will allow easier mowing in the park. For a John Deere mid-range would be about \$5,400, Cub Cadet would be about \$3,700 and Hahn has a Husqvarna for about \$3,500. Likely the plan would be to keep the current Cub Cadet and move it out to the sewer plant. Craig said with the addition of the RV park it will be a little more challenging to mow with the additional curbing and the zero turn would make this easier. Mayor Pfaff said that Fund 312, Equipment Capital Fund, has an estimated \$36,800. Council agreed that the John Deere 500 series mower would be the best option for the town's purposes.

Mayor Pfaff said they will go over the engineers at the next meeting but JUB Engineering and TD&H were the only two companies to submit an RFQ. Neal Leon thinks that JUB demonstrated they have more relevant work experience and history with I&I to help the town solve this problem. All other council members said they also felt the work experience and projects completed were more in line with the issues the town is currently experiencing and decided collectively based on experience, relevancy of prior projects and JUB's focus on small communities, they would elect to move forward with JUB Engineering. Council was unanimous in their decision.

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

Payroll: Checks 15691-15695 EFT DRS and EFTPS	Total =\$9,773.66
Claims: Check 15696-15701 Plus EFT Dept of Rev	Total =\$8,358.18

Total Claims and Payroll: \$18,131.84


ADJOURN:

Roni Mundell **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.** The council meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.



Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor

ATTEST:



Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer