

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 26, 2023 – 6:58 PM
405 W California St.

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

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: No guests

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting July 12, 2023. Ronnie Mundell **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT:

Marshal Handley is not present for this meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Water

Everything is operating as normal. There was a water leak at Adams St. and one at the town park, both have been repaired.

Sewer

Everything is operating as normal.

Garbage

Everything is operating as normal.

Streets/Park

The RV Park is now open. The roads have been graded and some have been oiled. Neal asked which streets have been chip sealed, California, Main and Adams St. Neal wonders what will happen with Spokane St and Shon replied it was just graded. Neal said possibly they can throw some more gravel on it. Neal suggested putting larger rock on the road as well as wetting the surface and rolling it to pack it together. Blue directional signs will be ordered for the RV park. Shon will also provide some other signage options at the next council meeting. Shon asked if there could be a reduced contractor rate for the park or for guys coming to the area for harvest. Mayor Pfaff said they would do a little research on what others offer and would talk about it at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Facilities Plan amendment has received preliminary approval and is just waiting to go through the formal amendment process on the Department of Ecology side. JUB has been informed that the town is just waiting for the final amendment approval.

Neal said he was interested in talking about the water at the gun club some more. He is wondering why the gun club did not have to pay a connection fee or pay monthly water bills stating it is a private line that runs through city property. Mayor Pfaff said the town elected to separate that line from the cemetery and did so without the gun club involvement. They didn't ask for the separate connection therefore they shouldn't have to be billed for the new connection. At the last meeting, council elected to wait six months and revisit how much water was being used out there and if the town should bill for the consumption. It is thought that there will be very little water consumption.

The details of the connection and how it came about are not documented so it is hard to determine what agreements were made to run the water line to the gun club off the cemetery line. Roni asked if we knew yet what their consumption was for the last month and Shon replied, consumption will not show until the next billing cycle. Neal is not sure why the town would wait to bill. Connie said she was in favor of staying with the decision from the last meeting and waiting 6 months to evaluate what the consumption is during that time. Council elected to keep the same conditions as the last meeting and look at water consumption after 6 months and see what the results are.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Pfaff said that Larry Palmer wants to add a manager housing unit to his RV Park. Back in 2010 Larry did the same situation for Jenna when she attended school in the area. Larry went through the whole planning and zoning process and was granted a conditional use permit to operate an RV park with one manager unit on the facility.

The housing unit is a portable office building that was used for a daycare in Oakesdale and will now be converted into a residence again. It was manufactured in 1992 or 1993 making it outside of the allowable 5-year-old statute for manufactured homes. Neal said he is getting around the manufactured housing rules by stating it is part of the RV park and only a temporary residence. Neal asked what would prevent other people from saying if it was granted there, why wouldn't they be allowed to do the same. Mayor Pfaff said the difference is that Larry has an RV park with a conditional use to have a manager house unit.

Roni Mundell said since this happened in a very similar fashion to last time and was granted, she sees no issue with allowing it to occur again. Connie Schaut said she would prefer to look at something there rather than just an empty lot, stating it is one of the first things you see at the entry of town, and she would rather see something that is presentable and kept up. Neal said what was there didn't bother him before, so he doesn't see an issue with it as long as the property is kept tidy, and it is acknowledged that it is a temporary situation. Neal Leon **MOVED** to allow Larry Palmer to move an RV park manager house onto his property and provide him an exception to the 5-year statute with the acknowledgement it is temporary. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mayor Pfaff said that Eric from Bishop Law Office sent a letter saying he would now be the responsible party for representing the town in traffic violations, and the prosecutor's office will now be settling traffic violations for the county. Eric would only attend court if the town requested it and the cost would not be covered by the town's legal retainer, resulting in his hourly rate being charged.

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

Payroll: Checks 15773-15777 Plus EFT DRS & EFTPS	Total =\$10,074.20
Claims: Check 15778-15783	Total =\$44,370.50

Total Claims and Payroll: \$54,444.70

ADJOURN:

Roni Mundell **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Neal Leon **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.** The council meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.



Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor

ATTEST:



Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer