

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 10th, 2024 – 7:00 PM
405 W California St.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Pfaff, Council Members: Craig Mitzimberg, Jason Bankus, Roni Mundell, Connie Schaut, and Andrea Mills. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer: Cody Lord, Public Works: Shon Clark Absent:

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Regular Meeting was opened at 6:57 pm.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST:

Perry Brown is here to discuss the notices he has received for junk vehicles. Marshal Handley said he wasn't aware Perry would be in attendance this evening, so he didn't have the tickets in front of him to reference. Perry discussed the contents of the letters and explained that he believes some of the vehicles don't meet the junk vehicle criteria. Perry has removed the motor home and is currently working on the other vehicles to move. Marshal Handley said one of the vehicles, the Focus, was not registered to Perry. Mayor Pfaff asked Perry if he was good at postponing any other violations for two weeks while Marshal Handley was able to better advise on the junk vehicle situation and what has been issued to date. Mayor Pfaff said if the Focus is gone, then it wouldn't be ticketed. Perry will return to the January 24th, 2024 meeting and until then no further tickets will be issued.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Council Meeting December 13th, 2023. Craig Mitzimberg **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT:

Marshal Handley said there have been 7 calls since the first of the year. There was a DUI on New Years which resulted from a person driving down the wrong way on Main Street and hitting the ditch just at the end of town. Palouse is putting together a 1-day community emergency preparedness training. This will be a multifaceted training put on by the Palouse Planning Commission and will likely be an 8-hour training.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

If the weather conditions continue to drop in temperature, Chief McCully is suggesting turning the community center into a warming shelter. It appears the temperatures won't get that drastic but could be an option in case they do. There are two new recruits meeting with the department so two new turnouts will need to be purchased. The extraction machine for the turnouts has been purchased and the town will be seeing a bill for \$3,100.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Water

Everything is operating as normal. There was a water leak on New Year's Eve which was repaired and restored quickly. There is a new production meter on well #3 and the old one was sent back under warranty.

Sewer

Everything is operating as normal.

Garbage

Everything is operating as normal.

Streets/Park

A tree fell over in the storm and took out some of the power on South Hill. The limbs in the park still need to be picked up. Andrea Mills asked who responsibility it is if a tree falls in the road and Mayor Pfaff said it was the homeowner's tree, but we assist as much as possible, Shon said it could be an obstacle for the EMS truck and that is the justification to get it off the road as quickly as possible.

OLD BUSINESS:

There is still between seven and eight thousand dollars left of the Covid relief money. Shon said putting a concrete pad out at the plant and covering it with a roof would be handy for more draining and storage. A drain would not be needed on the floor if it was sloped to one side to handle run off. Mayor Pfaff asked Shon to get some bids. Councilmember Jason Bankus said he could call Atlas and get some contact information for Shon as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Pfaff said it is that time of year when committee assignments need to be designated. The fire department needs three, and Roni and Connie will remain there for now. The finance committee needs two members and Roni is the only member currently on there. One council member is needed to sit on the Planning and Zoning committee which typically only meets once a year. Mayor Pro-tem also needs a new designation and should be someone who is frequently in town. Craig and Connie are the two that are usually in town the most. Mayor Pfaff said to take the next two weeks to think about who wants to do what and at the next meeting the designations will be completed.

Mayor Pfaff said there is one resolution regarding public meeting policy and one ordinance to formalize the number of chickens a citizen is allowed to have in town. These need to be reviewed between this meeting and the next and they will be discussed at the next meeting.

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

Payroll: Checks 15936-15942 Plus EFTPS, EFTs AWC, DRS	Total = \$16,791.67
Payroll: Checks 15962-15965 Plus EFT DRS, and EFTPS	Total = \$9,739.03
Payroll: Check 15985 Plus EFTs AWC, EFTPS, and DRS	Total = \$9,432.99
Payroll: Checks 15979-15984	Total = \$7,701.53
Claims: Checks 15966-15978 Plus EFT, DOR	Total = \$5,884.12
Claims: Checks 15986-16002 (13 th Month)	Total = \$16,723.46
Claims: Checks 16003-16006	Total = \$64,906.00

Total Claims and Payroll: \$131,178.80

Roni Mundell **MOVED** to go into Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110 (g). Andrea Mills **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.** Executive Session will begin at 7:20 and run for 30 minutes. The mayor will be asked to leave the session halfway through the 30 mins. At the completion of executive session, the meeting will be adjourned. The executive session was exited at 7:50 pm.

ADJOURN:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Roni Mundell **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