

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 14th, 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: Monty Rojas Absent:

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: Abel Rushing, Blake Clemens and Dana Hogan.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Craig Mitzimberg **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, January 24th, 2024 and Emergency Meeting for the Methodist Church Damage February 2nd 2024. Roni Mundell **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT:

Marshal Handley is not present for the meeting tonight but sent an email with events from the prior week.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Mayor Pfaff said it has been a very busy week. The demo work at the Methodist Church has been completed and now they are focusing on air movement, drying the space and microbial spray to keep the mold from occurring. A roofer came to look at the leak in the roof and provide an estimate. There is a small ridge that connects the roof to the bell tower, and it is not steep enough to cause good wicking of water and snow from penetrating the roof and leaking inside. There is a chance that it could run between 10 and 15 thousand dollars just to keep the roof structurally sound for the next 2-3 years. This has been leaking into the ceiling of the church for quite some time and causing some rot.

The power outage over the weekend caused some issues for the sewer plant and the water system. The generator malfunctioned and needed help powering up to take over the power load at the WWTP while Avista was doing their repairs. There is a service that could come out once a month and make sure the generator is serviced and test the starting of the unit to make sure it fires in the future. The block heater was not working and the anti-freeze coolant was low. The company that provides the monthly inspection will be sending a bid for their services.

On the water side, when the power went down, well #4 malfunctioned due to a wiring situation in the power box. The water stopped pumping, however the chlorine continued

to pump. The fire department has been flushing the water from the system. Monty called Phil with KME back out and he will be replacing the solar unit and batteries at the reservoir and correctly wiring well #4 so that the well and the chlorine are connected and communicating again. The water system was flushed and Monty tested numerous locations which showed slightly elevated numbers but nothing near the state limits.

While flushing the hydrants, a water leak sprung at the base of the hydrant on 3rd and Cleveland. It is an 8" line so there is a good amount of water currently leaking. A company has been hired to come out and work on the line starting tomorrow. They will likely have to put in a valve and then replace the hydrant later. Further up 3rd street there is a 4" water line leaking and causing low flow for all neighbors south of the leak. This leak has been called into 811 locate and they will be working to repair it on Friday.

Citizen Dana Hogan questioned how much it will cost to repair the damage at the church. Mayor Pfaff said the approved demo bid was \$28,000 but will come back lower due to the town taking on some of the demo and not as much drying equipment being needed for the space. There will be about \$5,000 for the electrical repairs on the space. There will be higher than usual bills also coming this week for the sewer plant issues and the water system power issues. Mayor Pfaff said if there are no objections to the amounts, all the work should be completed in the coming week and all back to normal soon. The water system/hydrant repair will also be an expensive fix. The fire department will be supplying a list of hydrants that need repaired or replaced so the town can begin to budget for those expenses. Currently hydrants cost about \$4,500 to replace.

Water

Well #4 Offline, no communication between tower and power supply or water well. Phil with KME replacing batteries and solar and wiring it so the well talks with the chlorine injectors in the future.

Sewer

The generator malfunctioned and KME was quick to respond to fix the electrical issue due to the power surge.

Garbage

The garbage truck will need to go in for steering and tire issues again but won't happen until next week once things settle down.

Monty said he will be creating an emergency protocol for situations as this going forward so that all the systems are double checked quickly to avoid issues such as the ones that were encountered. Phil has fixed the issues that were identified in the latest power outage.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Pfaff said committee assignments need to be made. The following are the new assignments:

Fire Committee: Roni Mundell, Andrea Mills, and Jason Bankus

Finance Committee: Roni Mundell and Craig Mitzimberg

Planning Committee: Jason Bankus

Mayor Pro-tem: Connie Schaut

Mayor Pfaff said a company that deals with animal abatement was down to assess the issue of bats in the Methodist Church. The excrement is currently not that bad, it looks like someone went in there and cleaned at some point. This company would clean up the current mess and sanitize it and make sure it is sealed so bats in the future are not getting into the space.

Jason Bankus wonders from a cost perspective, can they look at what it takes to maintain it and try to recoup some of those expenses. Roni said the reality is that maybe the town can't keep the building and possibly once the community sees the amount that it costs to maintain it, they will likely understand why the town can't continue to keep it. They will have to assess what they would like to be done with the space in the future.

Roni is concerned that since it is a public space, the community should be informed about what the plan is with the space. It will be good to maintain it and clean it up as best as possible so if council decides to sell it, someone can find value in it. Since the space is not ADA accessible, it makes it very hard to use as a public space. Community member Blake Clemens asked if there is a possibility to just knock it down and wonders from a cost perspective, if that would make better financial sense. The cost to demo the space could exceed 10-20 thousand and if that was the plan, possibly some of the items could be sold for salvage from the space. Andrea said other communities have done creative endeavors with spaces like this but typically they have a larger population to support those more creative ventures.

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the bat abatement and cleanup at the Methodist Church. Andrea Mills **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

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


Payroll: EFT L&I, ESD, LTC, PFML	Total =\$3,017.35
Payroll: Checks 16019-16024 EFPTS + EFT AWC, DRS	Total =\$16,597.13
Payroll: Checks 16025 & 16027 EFT DRS	Total =\$4,120.57
Claims: Checks 16026 PLUS EFT DOR	Total = \$6,450.13
Claims: Checks 16028-16045	Total = \$27,422.35

Total Claims and Payroll: \$57,607.53

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 7:23 pm.

ATTEST:


Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer


Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor