

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 22, 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 GUESTS: Roger Sandberg,

- Roger Sandberg is here to introduce himself to the council and says that he is running for Whitman County Superior Court Judge. He detailed his local endorsements and local support. His experience as judicial officer and judge pro tem when the regular judge is gone, provides him with what he considers to be great experience and understanding for the position. He has done criminal and family law cases and says he possesses more experience than the other candidates. Roni Mundell asked about his experience working on domestic violence cases and wonders what his thoughts are on cases being weaponized against parties. He explains he has also worked with the Alternatives to Domestic Violence group and has represented 100s of domestic violence cases and divorce cases and explains some of the details seen in these types of cases. Roni asked why he wanted to be elected judge and Roger responded he truly believes he is the most qualified candidate with the broadest range in experience. It is a public service job, and he feels anyone filling the position should have the qualifications to do it right.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, May 8th, 2024. Andrea Mills **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

POLICE REPORT:

Due to training with the county, the council will likely not get an updated in person police report from Marshal Handley again until August.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Water

The Meat Shop had a substantial water leak and Monty has been stopping in to check on the progress. Meter reads were completed on Monday. There seemed to be another calling issue with well #4 but moving to manual and back over to auto seems to

have brought it back online but Monty will keep an eye out to make sure it is operating correctly.

Sewer

Everything is operating normally, and wasting is getting completed.

Garbage

The garbage truck is back up and running with the compactor working much better.

Street/Park

All the town properties have been mowed and the flags were put out.

Cody explains that the town utility maps are now updated digitally to a service that we can continue to update as changes are made to town systems or when unexpected discoveries are made. A \$5,000 grant was awarded from the town's insurance, Association of Washington Cities, and will be used to buy a Trimble DA2 location positioning and recording antenna to link coordinates with the mapping system. This will allow service lines, manholes or other assets that are not correct or not documented to be added to the mapping system with high accuracy. This will allow a digital format to be handed off when there is employee or engineer turn over and will result in less error when trying to locate assets that are not easily visible below ground.

Mayor Pfaff said there are three bids for the antenna system needed to make these updates. The engineers believe the Trimble unit will be the most suitable for the town's needs. The council reviewed the bids and agreed that the Trimble unit with the 2-year service contract appeared to be the best option. Craig Mitzimberg **MOVED** to approve the Frontier Precision bid for the Trimble DA2 receiver and antenna for \$4,994. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Craig asked if there was any new news about the garbage truck search and Mayor Pfaff said nothing new, but they will need to start getting serious about looking.

FINANCIAL: Approval of Checks

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

Payroll: Checks 16166 – 16169 PLUS EFTPS
Claims: Checks 16170 – 16173

Total =\$6,896.66
Total =\$17,001.53

Total Claims and Payroll: \$23,898.19

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Connie Schaut **MOVED** to go into executive session per RCW 42.30.110(g) for evaluation of qualifications of an applicant. Craig seconded the motion. They will be in executive session for 40 minutes. Executive Session started at 7:20 pm. Connie Schaut **MOVED** to exit Executive Session at 7:58. Craig Mitzimberg **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

The Regular Town Council meeting resumed with discussion about a pay raise for Monty Rojas. Mayor Pfaff said that he is asking for \$52,000. Ronnie Mundell **MOVED** to approve a pay raise for Monty in the amount of \$52,000 annually. Andrea Mills **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

ADJOURN:

Jason Bankus **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Connie Schaut **seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.** The council meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.



Jarrod Pfaff – Mayor

ATTEST:



Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer