

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Preliminary Draft
February 23, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor ProTem Larry Hunt called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Andrew Flodin, Larry Hunt, Daymon Marple, Sharon Schnebly, and Tim Southern. Staff – Public Works Superintendent Bill Bowman, and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Larry Hunt said Annie had indicated 12/31/10 Treasurer's Report needed to be added under check approva/4th quarter 2010 financials. Tim Southern **MOVED** the minutes of February 9, 2011, Regular Meeting be approved as amended adding 12/31/10 Treasurer's Report to the Approval of Checks/4th Quarter 2010 Financial Reports. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE REPORT: Police Chief Jerry Neumann provided the council with the 1st Quarter 2011 Activity Log, noting it represented a little over 5 hours per shift in Garfield. The department recently responded to a domestic issue in town. Chief Neumann is still working on the signs for the park. The WSU sign guy had some good insights and the county has the capability to build the signs. Chief Neumann will have a price before spring. He noted Palouse is looking surplusing the Intrepid patrol car and replacing it with a newer vehicle. Chief Neumann said the Intrepid is a 2004 with only 50,000 miles but they are mostly idle miles and that it is not marked the way the department needs it to be. It needs to be high profile, reflective, with a light bar. Larry Hunt alerted Chief Neumann to unsafe driving practices by an early morning Lewiston Tribune paper delivery person. Chief Neumann would follow up on this.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Bill Bowman reported:

Garbage truck retrofitted - The garbage truck has been retrofitted and the company did a beautiful job. Bill thought once retrofitted, it would be tougher with the existing dumpers because it is higher to tip. However, he got new casters and they worked fine on every single dumpster. It raised them a little bit and they work just fine. There is roughly a 6" higher step now. Bill will be modifying this to a lower height.

Oil spill -Tim Southern reported he, Mayor Pfaff and Bill met with the state regarding the accidental oil spill. Prior to arrival of the state, they had mediated the spill with an absorbent bail of straw and collector (tin piece of roofing). The state was happy they had called and addressed the problem. They left the town with some rolls for absorbent if it were to happen again.

Manhole covers – Bill has not heard back from the company.

WWTP – the pump continues to get plugged up with wipes that are put down the toilet but should not be. They plug up the impeller on the pump. Bill is still waiting for some final bids on the repair work.

New Garbage Roller Carts – Council discussed the implementation of the new roller carts and what rates to charge. Larry Hunt said the Mayor was proposing a \$15 fee for the initial cart, with the \$15 fee spread out over 3 months, paid at \$5 a month. The mayor was also proposing an "at cost" fee for a second can or a replacement can. It was noted the existing cans were going to cost the town about \$46 a piece. Bill noted there was also about \$8 per can shipping fee - \$2,600 for 300 carts. It was noted the new roller carts would equal 2 existing 32 gallon cans. The 2nd can fee was also discussed. The current cost for an "extra" can is \$3.18. Tim Southern pointed out the town was trying to get away from extra cans. That defeats the whole purpose of going to the roller carts. The town doesn't want to have the crew picking up cans and throwing them in. If a person is consistent with leaving bags out, they will have to pay for an extra can. Larry Hunt said the policy would have to be put in writing, to notify citizens of the change and that the town no longer accepting any other cans. He said there would be no more private cans after the new roller carts were implemented.

Grader – the brakes are fixed. Bill and Perry did grade California the next day after the last council meeting, but it was too wet. Tim Southern talked about needing to figure something about the drainage along California. Bill was suggesting perhaps a catch basin on one side to avoid water traveling across the surface, keeping the drainage on one side or the other.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Resolution 2011-03 - 2012 Street Levy August 2011 Ballot Measure: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2011-03 setting a one-year excess property tax levy to be used to finance street maintenance and repair and improvements and requesting the Whitman County Auditor place this \$55,000

ballot measure on the August 16, 2011 primary election ballot. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. .09 Grant Application for Daycare: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** to approve submission of the .09 grant application and authorization of the mayor to sign the grant application. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance No. 399N – Setting Garbage Rates and By Resolution: Larry Hunt reviewed the proposed ordinance for the new roller carts that would set a \$15 price for the carts, to be paid over 3 months, and a “at cost” rate for an additional roller cart or replacement cart, if damaged by the property owner. It was also noted this ordinance would allow garbage rates to be set by resolution hereafter. Tim Southern **MOVED** to adopt Ordinance No. 399N. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Further discussion ensued by the council. It was agreed the community would need to be educated on the new roller carts and that it would have to spell out the issue with extra garbage. Tim asked about the rate for a 2nd can. The current rate is \$3.18 for an extra can. \$6.00 was suggested as the price for a 2nd roller cart as they hold double of the 32 gallon cans. There was also a question about who owns the additional cart when paid for by a citizen. It was suggested if the property owner no longer wanted the additional cart or was moving, the “at-cost” fee be refunded to them if the cart was returned undamaged. It was further suggested a rental fee be established when a property owner just wanted a 2nd roller cart temporarily. Council discussed the \$15 fee and the “at-cost” fee. It was noted as a part of implementing the roller cart plan, the town was covering the costs of implementing by the \$15 fee and the extra cart fee.

The following ordinance amendments were suggested: j) “any additional *roller cart* shall cost \$6.00 each per week *per use*; k) Roller carts (initial).....\$15.00 for the initial one roller cart provided by the town to be billed over a 3-month period, at \$5.00 a month; (additional)....at actual cost to the town to be paid in advance of receipt of the additional cart, *to be refunded if no longer needed and returned undamaged*; l) Roller carts (replacement)....at actual cost to the town for any damaged roller cart that has to be replaced by the town to be paid in advance of receipt of the additional or replacement cart. The maker of the original motion, Tim Southern **MOVED** to rescind the prior motion approving Ordinance No. 399N and approve Ordinance No. 399N as revised. The second of the original motion, Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to approve the following bills presented to council for payment. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #9862-#9865 plus EFTPS EFT Payroll: \$6,118.94 Check Register #9866-#9867 plus DOR EFT Claims: \$7,063.32 VOID #9868 TOTAL: \$13,182.26.

UTILITY BILLING ERROR: Larry Hunt reported the December 2010 and January 2011 utility bills for residential dumpsters was billed at the old rate. The new rate went into effect in November 2010 and that was billed accordingly. The total amount of the shortage was \$120.10. Mayor Pfaff was aware of the situation and recommended not to worry about, but starting in February bill at the correct rate. Tim Southern **MOVED** to approve the billing shortage of \$120.10 for residential dumpsters for the months of December 2010 and January 2011 with no further action required. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Southern **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST: _____ **Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer**