

Town of Garfield
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 25, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Jarrod Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Jarrod Pfaff, Andrew Flodin, Daymon Marple, Sharon Schnebly, and Tim Southern. Staff – Public Works Superintendent Bill Bowman, Police Officer Brian Dentler (7:12), and Clerk/Treasurer Annie Pillers. Absent: Larry Hunt.

PUBLIC HEARING – DRAFT 2011 UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Mayor Pfaff opened the public hearing at 7:03 pm. There were no members of the public present. Daymon Marple noted his disagreement with the 1,000 sf minimum house size. Mayor Pfaff closed the public hearing at 7:05 pm and opened the regular council meeting. An ordinance to adopt the updated comprehensive plan would be presented at the next council meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Andrew Flodin **MOVED** the minutes of May 11, 2011, Regular Meeting be approved as written. Tim Southern seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICE REPORT: Police Officer Brian Dentler updated council on the recent activities of the department. Mayor Pfaff asked about enforcement of the junk vehicle ordinance. Officer Dentler was not aware of any recent actions. He agreed there were current violations in town. Mayor Pfaff asked that the department get moving on those. Officer Dentler discussed a recent animal case in town and that the animal was under quarantine for a 10 day period. Officer Dentler would be following up on the case and take action if necessary. Council discussed recent May Day activities and was informed of an incident during the parade where a go kart got loose and went into the crowd. There were no injuries. Officer Dentler informed council of 4 recent incidents of theft of fuel from vehicles. Officer Dentler left the meeting at 7:17 PM.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Street Maintenance – Bill recently graded several streets in town, including B Street near Ed-Ka. He would also do additional grading on California Street and D Street. Mayor Pfaff asked about street oiling for this year. He suggested Bill talk with Perry about what was done last year. Bill indicated he had repaired 5 potholes recently with cold patch but noticed another one today. He said cold patch is really just a temporary fix as it pulls up. Mayor Pfaff asked about street patching in town. Bill confirmed he still needed to meet with Whitman County Public Works to review the areas needed, measure the square footage and then determine how far the project could go. Mayor Pfaff confirmed the street patching would be separate from the TIB grant work being done this summer. He noted last year the down did some work on their own and he would like to have the town do some more work again this year, roughly the same tonnage as last year.

Pool - when the water was turned back on at the pool it was discovered there were a number of leaks – the toilet had busted as the trap was full of water, there was a leak at the heat exchange tank on heater, and another fitting busted.

WWTP – the electrician was out the last 2 days, but they were short days. The variable frequency drives (VFDs) are in, programmed and running. There is still other work to be done by the electrician (leads and lags) separate from the VFDs.

Garbage/Recycle - 4 recycle bins at \$100 a piece were recently purchased from WSU surplus. Bill is still waiting on dumpster prices from Ryan. Bill will also check with Palouse Welding.

Fire Department Siren Repair - Council was agreeable, while the electrician was in town, to have him check out the malfunctioning fire siren downtown.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 2011-07 – Utility Debt Forgiveness: Mayor Pfaff

Annie Pillers confirmed, after use of the \$75 deposit, the outstanding balance for Acct No. 651 was

\$373.22. Andrew Flodin **MOVED** to adopt Resolution 2011-07 authorizing the outstanding utility bill for Acct No. 651 be forgiven in full with no balance owed, after use of the \$75 utility water deposit. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS: Sharon Schnebly **MOVED** the following bills presented to council for payment. Daymon Marple seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Check Register #9971-#9975, plus EFTPS EFT Payroll: \$6,275.48

Check Register #9976-#9980 Claims: \$8,032.28 TOTAL: \$14,307.76

PDA: Council reconfirmed their support of the Garfield PDA's efforts to bring increased economic activity into town, including re-opening the restaurant and establishing a daycare. With a restaurant open the tax base for town would increase directly with additional sales tax receipts through food sales. Plus these additional visitors from outside the community coming to town, would also frequent other local retail businesses when in town, increase the sales base. With a restaurant reopening and a daycare established, there would be additional employment opportunities for community members who would then be able to stay in town and maintain their properties and use town services, increasing both property taxes and user fees to the town. Tim Southern **MOVED** the town support the continued economic development activities of the Garfield PDA as they directly benefit the town, by sending \$2,000 to the Garfield PDA. Andrew Flodin seconded the motion and the motion carried. Abstention – Daymon Marple.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Speaking on behalf of the Fire Chief, Andrew Flodin asked if it was possible to get a credit card for the fire department for purchases of quickly needed items or, for example, water for the firefighters, etc. It was confirmed the previous fire chief had a town credit card. Mayor Pfaff did not see any problem with this. It was noted the current card maximum limit is \$5,000 but no department head can make a credit card purchase of more than \$800 without council approval first. Council consensus was to get a town credit card issued to Fire Chief Chris McCully.

TOWN HALL CLEAN-UP: The mayor proposed repainting town hall and replacing the carpeting and linoleum. Repainting would also include the outside office doors. Mayor Pfaff estimated the cost at approximately \$1,500 to \$2,000. He also confirmed his intent to get new office furniture this year. Tim Southern **MOVED** to approve town hall clean up, including painting, carpet, and linoleum and office furniture. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Southern **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 pm. Sharon Schnebly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Jarrold Pfaff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Annie Pillers, Clerk/Treasurer