**TOWN OF YACOLT, WASHINGTON**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: April 7, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carothers

Councilmember(s): Lewis Gerhardt, Vince Myers. Rick Urias, Dave Hancock, Rick Urias

**ABSENT:** Councilmember(s):

**STAFF:** Town Clerk: Cindy Marbut

Public Works Director: Pete Roberts

Town Attorney: David Ridenour

**APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

MOTION: Councilmember: Urias

SECOND: Councilmember: Hancock

VOTE: 5- 0

YES: Councilmember(s): Urias, Myers, Gerhardt, Hancock, Karl

NO:

ABSENT:

\*Motion unanimously passed.

**LATE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Cell Tower Conditional Use Decision**

Mayor explained how the cell tower process of the past and how the decision came to be on the agenda today. Noah Grodzin spoke to the council about what he felt AT& AT could bring to the Town of Yacolt by having the cell tower approved. There was a short discussion on security on the premises, style and other communications accessibility to the tower. Council Member Karl moved to approve the Cell Tower, a second was made by Council Hancock Clerk stated that the approval had to include the conditions of the approval for the record. Town attorney, David Ridenour stated that he had provided specific language that needed to be read into the record as part of the approval process. Council Gerhardt made a motion to amend the approval to include the conditions of approval. He read a prepared list of conditions (see attached) including necessary language as directed by David Ridenour.

MOTION AMENDMENT CONDITIONS: Gerhardt

SECOND: Hancock

VOTE: 5-0

YES: Councilmember(s): Urias, Myers, Gerhardt, Hancock, Karl

\*Motion unanimously passed.

MOTION: To Approve Cell Tower CPU: Karl

SECOND: Hancock

VOTE: 5-0

YES: Councilmember(s): Urias, Myers, Gerhardt, Hancock, Karl

NO:

ABSENT:

\*Motion Passed

**B. Draft Cemetery Ordinance # 517**

David Ridenour, town attorney, reminded the council that this item had been discussed in 2013. He apologized for getting the document to the council late. The cemetery dates back some 99 years and creates some conflict with town ordinances. Yacolt is unique in that it does not provide typical services in comparison to other cemetery districts or municipalities. The draft was prepared for consideration of better guidelines and to increase the costs of burial. David stated that this would be the 2nd touch on issue and suggested the council take time to review it. Council requested it be placed back on the agenda April 21, 2014

**\*\*** Discussion no action taken

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Joy Russell YMCA joint venture with Battle Ground**

Joy Russell from Battle Ground introduced herself and gave a brief history of her volunteer work in the communities and her desire in helping the community. She has been working with the YMCA for the past year with a vision toward a facility that would benefit everyone. She quoted some statics on the success of the YMCA. She noted that no family is ever turned away that has a need. It is the largest after school program/ day care provider and has programs for everyone. She has a vision for a facility to be built in the area and has approached the Battle Ground School District on the matter. There have been discussions on potential sites. Council wanted to know about the prospect of having a satellite site in Yacolt to benefit the North Clark County area. Joy stated anything is possible. There was discussion on funding the project and the costs, some ideas where to put it out for bond and reach out to private donors. Council Myers stated that to put on a bond would raise taxes he felt the citizens should benefit more than it being placed in Battle Ground, since the Yacolt, Amboy area would have to drive to use the services. There are several studies that need to be completed that are very expensive. She invited the council to take a tour. There were ideas about a Bus system that could transport residents to and from, other ideas on how to get a market study completed. Mayor stated he was excited about finding out the interest in town for the project. Joy stated she could bring out the head of the YMCA who she had been working with to meet with the council to answer any questions or concerns, the council felt this was a good idea. Council Gerhardt stated that with the new Recreation Park there could be lots of activities that could go together with their programs. Joy asked for a person from Yacolt to join the task force, Clerk stated she would be a part of that task force for the town.

\*Discussion no action taken

**B. Dawn Dautrich & Guests WSU Nursing -Yacolt Medical Needs**

Mayor gave some history on how he met Dawn and the other nurses, he also gave some insight to what the vision of these women was. He introduced Dawn who then spoke to the council about the Nursing programs @ WSU and how they could benefit the town of Yacolt. She talked about the excitement the nurses had in helping achieve a clinic or some type of medical services to Yacolt. There is definitely a need and the next step would be to figure out how to get the whole program rolling / started. She stated that there are lots of nurses who need clinic time and this would be benefit that provides the training that the nurses need also. Council member Hancock asked if this would be some type of free clinic for the populous and she stated it could be. The group would also be meeting with the Senior Citizens committee on Wednesday to see how they feel about the need and get their support.

\*\* Informational Only

**C. Public Meeting Storm water Fees**

Council Meeting was closed at 8:03 pm and Public meeting was opened, Public Works, Pete Roberts updated the council on how the public hearing came to be on the agenda. He reminded them he had provided them in previous meetings information about surrounding municipalities’ fees and how they reached the fees that they charged. He explained impervious and pervious differences. He spoke about the differences in residential charges, commercial and industrial fees; and how a standard rate could be used for residential and square footage of impervious could be used on commercial or industrial property. He explained how the town came to decide the cost of fees in the past using the basis of” if you had a water meter” you were charged the current fee, which was not a feasible today in recovery of the cost of maintenance of the storm water in town. Mayor spoke about a power point that had been presented in years past explaining all the work that had to be done to storm drains around town. Council Myers asked what Pete thought would Council Gerhardt asked what Pete was proposing for an increase in fees, he stated that the cheapest in the county was 6.50 but he thought that 6.00 was fair for Yacolt, Council Gerhardt directed the staff to put together a draft ordinance for the increase in fees to be brought back at a later meeting.. The Public meeting was closed at 8:15 pm and Council meeting was reopened.

\*\* Informational no action taken

**David Ridenour/ Town Attorney:**

David stated he wanted to get dates so that collective bargaining could resume, he said getting everyone together with dates was challenging, and they had limited dates due to schedules. He said he didn’t know if the council would want to have a quorum or just have the union and attorney’s together bargain. He said that would be up to them. He gave an update on the Marijuana legislature that recently took place and only 1 agenda item had passed and he thought there would be better clarification on the issue, he said the State Supreme court upheld the decision of one city to ban it completely. He said that issues would probably be pushed harder in the next session.

**Mayor Comments:**

Mayor thanked everyone for attending the meeting it was important to have public input, what he thinks is important might not be the same as what the citizens feel is important. He stated there was a lot going on and coming up and he appreciated everyone’s ideas. He encouraged residents/citizens to get involved in the upcoming events. He reminded them about the litter pickup that would be taking place the same day as the town clean up and volunteers were needed. They generally pick up trash up to about a mile and half out of town. Susan from the barbershop is instrumental in helping with this project. Last year they collected about 80 bags of trash.

**Public Works:**

Pete added information about the Spring Clean-up, times and locations. He also stated that the Recreational Park could be ready to open in about 3 – 4 weeks depending on weather.

**Clerk Treasurer:**

Clerk went over the events and how they were progressing. She let them know about the orders for the events and how she was able to save some money on the medals for the Bigfoot Fun Run and how there was a new design this year with a paw print. She informed the council that the computer upgrades were complete and they were able to save some money, it was less expensive than anticipated. She told council of how Kathy, customer service clerk, had been sending out donation letters and how they appear to be successful in obtaining prizes for not just the Bigfoot fun run but also for the sidewalk chalk contest.

**12 WARRANTS**

\*Current Expenses: $ 15,698.97

\*City Streets: $21,220.57

\*Cemetery $ 627.82

\* Storm Water $ 391.13

Pay Bills presented in the amount of $37,938.49

MOTION: Karl

SECOND: Gerhardt

VOTE: 5-0

YES: Councilmember(s): Gerhardt, Urias, Myers, Karl, Hancock

NO:

ABSENT: Motion unanimously passed.

**ADJOURN** **8:39 pm**

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Cindy Marbut Jeff Carothers

Town Clerk Mayor

Minutes approved on April 21, 2014