**TOWN OF YACOLT, WASHINGTON**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: May 5, 2014**

**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: Hancock

SECOND: Councilmember: Gerhardt

VOTE: 5- 0

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

NO:

ABSENT:

\*Motion unanimously passed.

**LATE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Item B. under new business rotate finance committee Rick Urias

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Andy Bronkhorst/ Diana Bronkhorst

Andy updated council on the music selection for Rendezvous Days and how he secured the band. Diana gave the council an update for the vendors and volunteers that had been secured for the event also. She noted that she has had lots of experience working on events like dinners for the homeless. She asked if there was enough money in the budget for prizes for one of the child games she had planned, clerk noted that there was enough.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Cemetery Ordinance # 517**

David Ridenour, town attorney reviewed the process that brought us to this point in the cemetery ordinance. Public Works, Pete Roberts, asked if the headstone could have specifics for mowing. Council Gerhardt asked if there had been rules heard prior to this situation. The response was no. Council Myers suggested that owners who wanted to be with their pets not be denied. There are some people whose pets are like their children and it should be dealt with on a case by cases situation. Citizen in audience stated that the cost in Wyoming was higher than the proposed cost in this ordinance. David went line by line highlighting sections 7, 9, 9.1, 9.2 10.1, 10.3 for discussions. He asked the council for guidance on rule making for these different sections. There was discussions on fencing, pets on leash, who can and who cannot be buried in the town and if the plot can be handed to other family members. All the guidance from council will produce the Ordinance for approval at the next meeting.

\*\* Tabled until next meeting/ Discussion only for purpose of bring back completed Ordinance # 517

**B. Draft Storm water Ordinance # 518**

Mayor stated this was the 2nd viewing of this issue before the council. He gave some history of how important it is to keep up with the rising costs. Raising fees is not easy but sometimes necessary to deal with the costs of storm water. Public Works, Pete stated that if the council agreed to the increase that the amount of money raised in the increase would be gone in just the 4 times that the street sweeper comes to clean up our roads. He isn’t asking for a lot just enough to cover rising costs. Council Myers was not

comfortable with the $6.00 he would prefer the amount to be $5.00. Citizen in audience stated that the council should consider senior citizens and income challenged residents before raising fees. Mayor stated he wasn’t for raising fees but sometimes it is a necessity. Clerk stated that there were lots of programs out there to help those people they just needed to know where to go and where to look. Some information was available at Town Hall. Council Karl asked other council members if they wanted to vote or table to next meeting. Motion to table was made.

MOTION: Councilmember: Urias

SECOND: Councilmember: Karl

VOTE: 5- 0

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

NO:

ABSENT:

\*Motion unanimously passed.

**C. Executive Session Yacolt vs. State Auditor Litigation**

The council declined to go to executive session. Mayor stated that they had received the proposed settlement and reviewed it.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Yacolt vs. State Auditor Proposed Settlement**

David Ridenour, Town Attorney, spoke about the information that had been provided to the council about the settlement. He also stated there would be no comment on this issue until all parties had signed the agreement and the Superior Court ruled on the settlement. At that time a statement would be prepared for any media or public citizen who wanted more information. Council Karl made a motion to approve the settlement agreement and release a prepared statement by town attorney for the lawsuit against the state auditor and other individuals.

MOTION: Councilmember: Karl

SECOND: Councilmember: Hancock

VOTE: 5- 0

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

NO:

ABSENT:

\*Motion unanimously passed.

**B. Late Change addition/ Rotate Finance committee Rick Urias**

Council Myers nominated Council Karl for the position after he stated he would be on the committee.

MOTION: Councilmember: Myers

SECOND: Councilmember: Hancock

VOTE: 5- 0

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

NO:

ABSENT:

\*Motion unanimously passed.

**Mayor Comments:**

I want to thank all those who have been working in their yards cleaning them up, this time of year we get a lot of pass through visitors and it is nice to see people taking pride in their property. The flower baskets will be out in about 2 weeks, we are waiting for a little better weather before putting them out, they will be out before Memorial Day. We will be getting new flags to put out around town also about the same time. It has come to his attention that the council and staff need to speak louder at meetings so that they can be heard

by those with hearing challenges. Mayor asked that we keep that in mind. He addressed the council and stated that he wanted to know what the vision was? If there was any council member who had ideas for

the future and if so to contact him. It is important we know where we want to go in the future, he has a few ideas but would like the council’s input for where the town should be heading.

**Public Works:**

Pete stated the reader board was down for maintenance the metal was starting to rust so it was sent to the powder coaters to get done should be up in the next week or so. He said he had been approached by several citizens wanting to volunteer to mow different areas of town. He said they were retired and just wanted something to do. He mentioned that the street repair needed on Amboy Rd was going to cost about 7500.00 there just has not been time to do it right now with trying to get the Recreation Park open. He hoped that park would open in about 2 weeks depending on weather and the seeding that took place was strong enough. He told the council about a person who voluntarily created the spec’s for the Disc Golf field. He just donated the information to help the town out, all he wanted in return was to be at the grand opening and available to help teach people how to play.

**Clerk Treasurer:**

Cindy stated that Diana Bronkhorst stole her report, she was very happy with the help she has been receiving from her. She gave a brief update on the new completion date of the annual reports, she was having difficulty with a report. She talked about the preparations for the Rendezvous/ Bigfoot fun run. She asked the council in their travels to stop by and take Bigfoot with them and take a photo so she could post it on the webpage. She would be planning a meeting for everyone to get together to finalize all the preparations for events in June. Council Myers asked that it be later in the evening so that council could attend after work hours.

**# 12 WARRANTS**

\*Current Expenses: $ 8421.84

\*City Streets: $14419.05

\*Cemetery $ 750.28

Pay Bills presented in the amount of $23,591.17

MOTION: Myers

SECOND: Karl

VOTE: 5-0

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

NO:

ABSENT: Motion unanimously passed.

**ADJOURN** **8:23 pm**

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Cindy Marbut Jeff Carothers

Town Clerk Mayor

Minutes approved on May 19, 2014