**TOWN OF YACOLT, WASHINGTON**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: July 7, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carothers

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

**ABSENT:** Councilmember(s): Gerhardt

**STAFF:** Town Clerk: Cindy Marbut

Public Works Director: Pete Roberts

Town Attorney: David Ridenour

**APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

MOTION: Councilmember: Hancock

SECOND: Councilmember: Urias

VOTE: 4- 0

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

NO:

ABSENT: Gerhardt

Changes noted for Council Hancock to specifically state that the donations or fee were for jail cell photos, Council Myers under new business strike rapid transit and replace with BRT.

\*Motion unanimously passed.

**LATE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Carolyn Rinta asked about how the town determined the cost of the kid’s village at Rendezvous Days. She felt it was expensive and that the odd cents made it hard to make change. Mayor stated that the costs were discussed in meetings and that there were a lot of factors to take into consideration. He stated we look at what other municipalities charge and Yacolt is always less. The costs of the rentals were a factor in the decision. Suzi Goedert stated she understood what Carolyn meant in that having even numbers make it easier for change. He wanted to thank all the volunteers and staff for all the hard work that went into the event, without everyone’s help the event would not have been a success. He spoke again about the date change and how it came about. He stated there would be a meeting in the future that he welcomed comments from citizens and volunteers good or bad about the event. There was a suggestion that the meeting information be placed on the Reader Boards.

Jack Thompson from NCCL was present and asked to speak, he wanted to know when the stage and other decorations would be removed from the park; he also wanted to know why it was left there. Suzi Goedert, public works stated it was her call to leave them there thru the holiday for more festive appeal. Pete Roberts, public works stated it would all be removed tomorrow. Jack then stated that they almost had a baseball game and that leaving that stuff would have prevented the game from taking place. There was further discussion about the little league fields, the Mayor emphasized the town does all that it can to help them out including mowing the fields. Traci Thompson spoke about how as they were selling fireworks she continually badgered about the date change of the Rendezvous Days. She read a face-book statement regarding a family who traveled to Yacolt to find there was no celebration on the 4th of July. She stated that many people expected to have a parade and fireworks on the 4th of July. The mayor reminded those present that Rendezvous Days was never about the 4th of July. Council Hancock stated it may take people time to adjust to the date change. Mayor said he appreciated the feedback. Jack asked about a Rendezvous committee that was being formed he had heard from Council Gerhardt. Mayor stated that the committee was just volunteers and staff working on the event that met prior to the event. He invited Jack to the wrap up meeting and the next year meetings.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Unlicensed Street Vehicles, RV Nuisance Ordinance\_ Council Notes for Discussion**

Mayor stated he had asked that this be put on the agenda. This was an issue that had been tabled some time back and not addressed. He stated he wanted the council to be aware of the issues in town with RV’s and excessive vehicles. Bill Rowe, stated that he remembered this issue and didn’t matter because they just have to move them off the streets and they right back where they were in 24 hours. Jack Thompson asked if there was an ordinance preventing excessive cars. Council Myers quoted Clark County statue and portions of the nuisance ordinance. He stated there are already tools in place to deal with the issue and he didn’t see the need for the ordinance at this point in time. We should utilize what we have available. He mentioned that there was nothing in statue that prohibited a RV on private property to be connected to homeowner septic system to dispose of grey matter. He stated that the tools we have in place deal with derelict vehicles and we should use those to address the issues. Council Hancock stated that not all disposed matter was grey. Council Urias agreed with Council Myers that we should not infringe on property rights, but he also did not want to see a RV park in a single dwelling home. He stated it was already difficult to enforce certain issues due to the lack of Yacolt having its own law enforcement. David Ridenour, town attorney stated that Ordinance 371 could address a lot of the issues, it has regulations on nuisance and dwelling permits. He also re affirmed what council Myers had stated. Mayor stated he had concerns with rodents and that there were complaints about the amount of vehicles in specific areas. Council Myers read some home assessment information about the property values in areas where there were potential concerns, noting that in most cases the amount of vehicles did not affect property values. Bill Rowe told council to be careful about issuing variances, the law says you can’t do then you can’t do it. He didn’t want to see another issue like the fence. Pete Roberts, public works said the health dept. determines the septic tank size by the size of the home, adding a RV adds dwelling to the home and it exceeds what the system is designed for. Mayor stated he and the town attorney would get together and look at the options under the existing ordinances.

\*Discussion Only

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Christy St. Easement/ Right of Way Request - Bolin**

Katie and William Bolin were present and asked that the council allow them the right to extend their fence to the easement between their property and Mr. Baumgarten. They noted that Mr. Baumgarten was wanting to build a shop on the easement between the two properties and that they wanted to keep their half of the area. There was discussion about the decision to not vacate the property to Mr. Baumgarten. Council Myers noted that this was tabled because the council had not heard from the adjacent property owners. The Bolins stated they do not wish to sell any portion of the easement/right of way, they want to use it for their kids to have a larger playing area. David Ridenour, town attorney, stated that there may be a need for a quick executive session on this matter, he stated his recollections were that the council did not vacate the property or start any kind of proceedings. Pete Roberts, public works stated he thought that the property owners could use the area until the town required the area. There would be an understanding that they would have to remove any structures if the time came the town required the easement/right of way. This was tabled for executive session next meeting.

\*Discussion Only

**B. Six Year Transportation Plan**

Pete Roberts, public works, noted that this was required every year to be updated. This was our wish list of street projects. He had worked on the changes the copy that the council had did not have the changes on it yet. He mentioned several areas that needed to be changed and moved all the dates up one year. Clerk stated she would get the council a copy of the changes in the next few days so they had time to review before the next meeting. There would be a public hearing on the plan at the next meeting.

\* Discussion only

**C. Verizon Conditional Use Permit Submission**

There were 2 representatives from Verizon present. They asked council what they needed to know about the permit. Colleen Groff stated that they were in leasing negotiations with the property owner. Council Myers asked if Verizon had the authority to make changes without the property owner permission. Colleen was not sure but would find out. Mayor stated that the property owner had been a voice in the previous issues with conditional use permitting. Pete Roberts, public works stated that this was not a cell tower, it was a satellite dish upgrade and it would not need to change trajectory or have an impact on the current site location, no easements would be needed. Council and Mayor asked that they be given information showing that they could make the changes without the property owner permission or that they had permission to move forward with their project. Will be on next agenda.

\*Discussion Only

**D. Employee Cell Phone Allowance – Clerk**

Cindy asked the council to consider a cell phone policy instead of renewing the current cell phone plan. She gave an example policy to the council from Thurston County to look at. She noted that more and more municipalities are using this kind of policy. She gave some dollar amount suggestions for discussion. She showed the savings in having a cell policy vs. renewing the current plan. She noted that the current phones were not being used, the mayor has the only working line right now, Mayor stated the phone he had doesn’t have a charger. Cindy noted that she has never had a town cell phone she uses her personal, Pete also uses his personal currently. Pete stated Suzi currently does not have a cell phone. Statement was made she needed to have a phone in case of emergency. Cindy stated that everyone were in agreement that she needed a phone, it is the type of plan and the costs that need to be addressed. Council Myers asked if there had been any plan comparisons done to ensure our due diligence. Cindy stated she had not done any but would get quotes for the next meeting. Council Urias stated that this was common in the private sector as well, in his job he has the option of a reimbursement or phone. Cindy stated that she was ok using her phone, Pete stated he was ok using his and the Mayor agreed also.

\*Discussion Only

**Mayor Comments:**

Thank you again to the staff and volunteers that worked on the recent event. Input from citizens on grants is needed for the upcoming year. We plan far in advance and we are looking ahead for ideas and or suggestions on the new park. Mayor thought that the walking trail could have some work out stations installed, it would be a benefit and help in the quality of life of local citizens. We use grants for infrastructure and would welcome any public suggestions.

**Public Works:**

Pete reminded the council that Suzi Goedert was the new temporary public works person. He stated she did a great job and keeps the inmates in line. He was very impressed with her work. He thanked Bill Rowe for volunteering to mow, it has been a big help to the town. The Recreational Area will be ready to open this week just needs a little more work. He noted that Verizon Wireless has contacted town hall and may be submitting a CUP for a cell tower, this is unrelated to the CUP that is before the town now.

**Town Attorney:**

None

**Clerk Treasurer:**

Cindy stated that she provided the council with the treasurers’ report and the financial position. She also asked if the Bigfoot Fun Run was going to continue to be on the weekend prior to the 4th. She wanted to reserve Huber Timing again. There was nothing but positive feedback from the runners on the system that Huber provided at the race. She asked about Junk and Jazz event, she wanted to make sure that the town is not accounting for this event since the town is not involved. Mayor stated it was his error that funding that is for the event for donations should just be locked in the safe for now and not run through the town accounts.

**# 12 WARRANTS**

\*Current Expenses: $ 14,381.94

\*City Streets: $18,016.79

\*Cemetery $ 646.90

\* Storm Water $ 957.15

Pay Bills presented in the amount of $34,002.78

MOTION: Hancock

SECOND: Karl

VOTE: 4-0

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

NO:

ABSENT: Gerhardt

\*Motion Passed

**ADJOURN** **8:13 pm**

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Cindy Marbut Jeff Carothers

Town Clerk Mayor

Minutes approved on July 21, 2014