

*Town of Garfield*  
**TOWN COUNCIL**  
**PUBLIC HEARING PRELIMINARY BUDGET / REVENUE SOURCES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
*October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - 7:00 PM*  
*405 W California*  
**Public Phone in Option: 1-661-372-0206 PIN: 278 431 407#**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Pfaff called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- **Preliminary Budget started at 7:01**

Mayor Pfaff presented the spreadsheet showing the 2021 preliminary budget and some items will need to be discussed, he asked if council would like to take Marshal Handley up to 40 hours a week? Cande Hasenoehrl said he has been working out nicely and it has been great to have more coverage in town. She visited a little with Marshal Handley about the extra hours and the budget that he would proposing. She would like the council to entertain a reserve officer to cover when Marshal Handley is out of town. There are some hurdles to get over to find a reserve officer but Marshal Handley says it is not impossible. Cody will have the salary resolution for the next council meeting showing the full-time officer position at the \$60,000 annual pay rate. This will bring the proposed budget to \$1,480 higher than the interlocal police agreement would have been for 2021 with the City of Palouse.

The council will need to discuss the fire budget. Mayor Pfaff suggested a \$5,000 increase for expenses. Cande thought this was a nice gesture and thinks the department should still entertain a levy to deal with aging equipment and apparatuses that are needed. Mayor Pfaff encourages the fire department to come to the table with a 1,3 and 5 year budget to better help plan for the future and what is actually needed financially. The air packs are still the main concern for future budget and large spending. Tom Tevlin said with better planning on the department side, the town could possibly come up with more money in their budget to support more but the town really needs some assurance the money they are committing will pay for what is needed and the department will then be in good shape. Shon Clark suggested Fire Chief Chris McCully coming to the next meeting and be part of the budget discussion.

Mayor Pfaff said him showing up would be good but a plan needs to accompany the visit so the town has a solid idea of what is needed and what the funds need to be spent in the coming years. Cande warned there is some equipment that if not replaced will make it so they are unable to respond to fires in the near future. Neal Leon suggested they shouldn't wait until it is obsolete to replace it, they need to work on replacing piece by piece now. Mayor Pfaff asked if the council would like to leave this \$5,000 increase in fire budget for the preliminary budget and the council agreed it should remain.



Mayor Pfaff said he speculates the RV Park will cost about \$30,000 to enhance the space. Neal wants the council to come up with a plan on how they want to remake that space. He added Genesse, Steptoe and Palouse all have RV parks that can be visited to see what they like or don't like about them. Shon said the town will have to re-work the water and sewer on the property for the new use.

An estimated \$5,000 is needed to clean out the other half of the sewer pond. Dept. of Ecology would only allow the town to clean half of the pond out at a time so the vegetation could continue to do its job.

2021 will be the final year of making payments on the sewer loan, and the \$53,000 for the final payment was set aside in fund 403 at the beginning of the loan agreement. Mayor Pfaff said this means it is time to start touring the plant and see exactly what is needed out there. There is no need at this time to look at replacing the plant as the water I&I issues need to be rectified first. Mayor Pfaff wanted the council to be aware that the sewer plant upgrades and repair conversation will be happening in the future.

Mayor Pfaff explained that this was the preliminary budget and it will be changed as they get closer to December and know exactly what the expenses are for 2020.

- **Revenue Sources Levy / Levy Certification**

Mayor Pfaff said each year the town is eligible to take no more than 1% in real estate levy tax increase, this Ordinance 475-N allows for that 1% property tax increase or an increase of \$670.55. Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to approve Ordinance 475-N Terri Linderman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pfaff said that Cody will now enter the preliminary numbers into the BIAS system to create the official preliminary budget.

### **The Public Hearing Portion of the meeting closed at 7:42**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Pfaff, Neal Leon, Jesse Parkins, Terri Linderman, Cande Hasenoehrl and Tom Tevlin Staff: Cody Lord – Clerk/Treasurer, Public Works: Shon Clark Absent:

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUEST:**

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Neal Leon seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

### **POLICE REPORT:**

Marshal Handley provided the council with a written report. Trunk or Treat in Garfield has been canceled due to Covid. He stated that Palouse is having Trunk or Treat and Garfield residents are encouraged to go there with their kids. There was a domestic dispute involving a gun and some surrounding agencies assisted with the situation. Some good police grants are coming out, Marshal Handley will continue to monitor for appropriate opportunities.



**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Shon Clark for Public Works

**Water**

Water meters were read for the last time this year.

Two new water meters were installed on 10<sup>th</sup> and Adams Street.

**Sewer**

There was a sewer line blockage on Cleveland in the town's main. The line was dug up and cleared but a plan must be put in place to deal with the root issue on this line.

Mayor Pfaff asked if the backup made it to the residence and Shon said they were able to address it before it became a homeowner issue.

**Garbage**

The garbage department has been busy lately with lots of requests for dumpster service.

**Streets**

The snow plow is on the truck and they are prepared to start plowing roads.

**Park**

Restrooms are closed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

• **Engineer Statement of Qualifications**

A total of four engineers submitted their Statement of Qualifications for the sewer project next year. Mayor Pfaff encouraged all the council members to have a look through the plans. Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to continue on with Century West Engineering to facilitate the I&I CDBG project. Neal Leon seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pfaff said the town had received bid for 80 Chrome Books that are slated to be purchased with the Covid Cares Funding. The library district has asked for \$5,000 to purchase a couple laptops and PPE and cleaning supplies for the library. Marshal Handley has asked for around \$1,900 for an AED. Cande Hasenoehrl **MOVED** to approve the bids from the school, library and Marshal's office to use the Covid Care Grant Reimbursement money. Neal Leon seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Pfaff said to remember this is a reimbursement program and the bills will be submitted quickly but he was uncertain how long it would take to get those funds back.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**FINANCIAL:** Approval of checks

Tom Tevlin **MOVED** to approve payment of bills. Terri Linderman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Payroll: Checks 14497-14501 EFTPS	Total = \$10,981.61
Claims: EFT L&I and ESD QRTLY	Total = \$2,030.11
Claims: Checks 14502-14510 EFT DOR (2-VOIDS)	Total = \$6,361.28



Total of Payroll & Claims = \$19,373.00

Cande expressed she had one more issue to discuss, stating she has been approached by several people in town about Terri Linderman's eligibility as a council person since she no longer resides in town. Terri said she is still residing in town, even though her home has been sold. Mayor Pfaff stated that after talking to the town's attorney, as long as the county has her as a registered voter in this community, then she is eligible to hold a town council position. Terri said if there are concerned citizens about her intention on council at this time, then they should come to a council meeting and question her. Terri said she is still looking out for the interest of the people of the community and said she has been and is still committed to making it to all of the meetings. Neal said he has also fielded a couple questions about it but could go either way after looking at the RCW pertaining to elected officials in towns. Neal thinks if a member of the community has a problem with it, then they should be here at council expressing that concern. Tom felt that Terri was doing a fine job and should remain a council member as long as she felt she could represent the people of the town. Tom wonders what the community has to question on her voting record and said if there was an issue with this record, they should be here at council expressing that concern themselves.

**ADJOURN:**

Terri Linderman **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Jesse Parkins seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The council meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

  
Jarrod Pfaff - Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Cody Lord - Clerk/Treasurer