

TOWN OF WILKESON
Regular Council Meeting
February 13, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hogerhuis opened the regular council meeting at 7:05 PM.

ROLL CALL: Council members B. Thawsh, S. Hallin and T. Endsley were present. Clerk/Treasurer Trisha Summers and Mike Reynolds, Town Attorney, was also in attendance. Council member Hallin made a motion to excuse council member Galbraith due to illness. Council member Endsley seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously. Council position #4 is vacant.

Approval of the Council Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2013

Council member Hallin made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2013. Council member Thawsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Special Council Meeting Minutes for February 1, 2013

Council member Hallin made a motion to approve the special meeting minutes for February 1, 2013. Council member Thawsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills for February 13, 2013 as budgeted

Council member Thawsh made a motion to approve the bills for February 13, 2013 as budgeted. Council member Endsley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN'S PRESENT/COMMENTS: (Max. 2 Minutes per Person, Comments Only)

No citizens present

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Rick Kuss, Commissioner of East Pierce Fire Dept., did a presentation on the service areas of East Pierce. South Prairie, Milton and Wilkeson are not annexed and are still operating under contract. East Pierce has 45 volunteers and 110 staff fire fighters. Wilkeson has two volunteers. East Pierce would like to work with Wilkeson to annex. Council member Endsley expressed concerns over Wilkeson only having two volunteers. 234th is the closest staffed fire station to Wilkeson. Mr. Endsley also asked for more information from East Pierce regarding what steps they wish to take to annex Wilkeson. Town Attorney Mike Reynolds spoke about the "flow of consideration" when negotiating a contract. He was not sure how the auditor would look at this change if town increase cost for residents with no increase of benefits. Mr. Reynolds negotiated the original 20 year contract, of which 7 years is left on, with District 12. Fire Chief Thorson said the residents are not paying as much as the rest of the municipalities for fire services, if the town annexed it would be a gradual increase not all at once. He said right now the cost to operate the fire station does not equal the payment for services the town makes. The Mayor asked if the calls from out of town serviced by the station are part of this amount. She thought there was a chart that showed about 2/3 services calls coming from outside of the town. The chief will check into this and get back to the council.
2. Motion to pass Resolution NO 2013.02 authorizing the mayor to enter into a contract for professional engineering services with Gray & Osborne, Inc. general contract and Albert Street Phase 2. Council member Endsley motioned and Council member Thawsh seconded. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Council member Thawsh to coordinate an Adopt-A-Highway cleanup in April 2013.
2. Approval of fence quote for water shed tabled pending more information.
3. Town Hall designation. Florence Fabiani has worked hard on this, Thank you Florence!
4. Motion to approve up to \$100 for National Night out in August 2013. Council member Endsley motioned and council member Thawsh seconded. Passed unanimously.

5. Motion to approve the hiring of a part time IT Communications Specialist. Council member Thawsh motioned and Council member Endsley seconded. Passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Utilities – absent

Forest, Fire & Skate park–Talking with Dan Bruner and going over our existing forest management plan. There are also 25 year old trees that need to be thinned due to the ice storm and trees breaking. Dan will be back in Washington in two months at which time we will get together and come up with a plan for logging.

Cemetery–Met with Town Clerk and Rosemarie Howard to get a better idea of procedures for cemetery and burials. Working on Hazard Mitigation plan as well.

Parks–vacant

Shop Utility Maint, Streets–Would like to review safety protection equipment needs of employees. (Clerk has put together information as requested and it will be available after the meeting) Also would like to sit down with Mayor and discuss the upcoming union negotiations.

MAYOR’S REPORT: The Mayor attended the heritage Conference and Causus in Olympia last week. WHS has raised over \$2600 to help the town with the Coke Oven preservation project. Meeting with Zach from Representative Reichert’s office tomorrow. We are going to discuss projects/grants in town. Bryan Bowden is almost done with the Draft Coke Oven Park Conceptual Plan. This plan will be passed out to the council and participate for review and passage soon.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Economic Development Letter

Pierce County Regional Council Meeting invitation

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Land Acquisition and Personnel. In Executive_Session at 8:45 p.m., Out at 9:00 p.m.

Council approved a 50 cent per hour raise for part time employee, Curtis Rowe retroactive to January 1, 2013.

Motion to increase salary of Curtis Rowe, maintenance staff by .50 cents per hour for the year 2013. Motion by Councilmember Thawsh, second by Councilmember Ensley. Passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Thawsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Council member Hallin seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.