

**TOWN OF WILKESON**  
Regular Council Meeting  
March 13, 2013

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Hogerhuis opened the regular council meeting at 7:00PM.

**ROLL CALL:** Council members B. Thawsh, S. Hallin and T. Endsley were present. Council member I. Galbraith arrived at 7:07. Town Clerk Trisha Summers and Attorney Mike Reynolds were also present.

**Approval of the Scheduled Regular Council Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2013**

Council member Endsley motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2013. Council member Hallin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of bills for March 13, 2013 as budgeted**

Council member Thawsh motioned to approve the bills for March 13, 2013. Council member Hallin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**CITIZENS PRESENT/COMMENTS: (Max. 2 minutes per person, comments only)**

Luke Dillard (owner of 621 Railroad Avenue) and Nina Russell were present. Luke explained to council about his utility billing at 621 Railroad and asked for debt to be written off his account.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Council member Thawsh motioned to approve up to \$1,000.00 for ecology blocks, transportation of blocks, gate posts and NO Trespassing signage for the watershed. Council member Hallin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Council discussed forest management for the property across the street from the town cemetery. Town Public Works employees are going to clear out dead trees and overgrown brush to allow the smaller trees to grow. It was discussed whether they should rent equipment to do this but after discussion, council agreed that they could do this with equipment town already owns.
2. Window Bid invitation documents are going out Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Bid opening is Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Town attorney Mike Reynolds will be present at bid opening.
3. Council member Endsley motioned to allow the mayor to register the Coke Ovens on the Pierce County Historic Register. Council member Thawsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Coke Ovens are already registered on the National register so this is a formality to register with Pierce County as well and is required for grant proposals to the county heritage commission.
4. 621 Railroad Avenue Utility billing. It was brought to council's attention that the residence at 621 Railroad has been empty since September 2011 but had been accruing monthly utility charges every month. No consumption has taken place. Council member Galbraith motioned to forgive debt at 621 Railroad Avenue, Acct #11751. Council member Thawsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. A formal form has been made by the Utility clerk to ensure that all requests for utility shut offs are recorded and handled accordingly going forward.
5. 2013 Rural Town Corridor Grant. Council member Thawsh made a motion for the mayor to apply for the 2013 Rural Town Center grant due March 29, 2013. Council member Hallin

approved. Motion passed unanimously. Council member Hallin thanked Mayor Hogerhuis for her continued efforts and hard work obtaining grants for town.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***Utilities-*** (Council member Galbraith)-nothing new to report

***Forest, Fire and Skate Park-***(Council member Thawsh) nothing new to report

***Hazard Mitigation, Parks and Cemetery-***(Councilmember Hallin) Town Clerk and I are meeting next Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> to work on Hazard Mitigation.

***Safety Equipment/Clothing, Union and Streets-***(Council member Endsley) I am working on putting something together to define what is needed for the safety of the town employees to perform their jobs. I also would like to see some budget money set aside to purchase such equipment. I would like to set some time aside with Attorney Mike Reynolds regarding the union contract.

***Rural Town Corridor-***vacant

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

The mayor is working on soliciting the window bids and applying for the 2013 Rural Town Center Grant. The mayor is also in the process of getting information for two landscape architects regarding refurbishing the Coke Ovens for the upcoming Coke Oven Park grant. Dan Bruner, the town forester, will be back in town April 14<sup>th</sup> and the mayor has a meeting set up to meet with him in late April regarding our forest plan.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

May Day Classic Letter

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence

**Executive Session :** In Executive session at 8:00 PM and out at 8:30PM

Council member Galbraith motioned to approve a .50 wage increase for the Town Clerk Trisha Summers and Utility Clerk Milda Hadaway effective April 1, 2013. Council member Thawsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Council member Galbraith motioned to approve a \$1.00 wage increase for Water Operator, Luke Wilbanks, upon completion of cross connection certification. Council member Endsley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Council member Endsley motioned to approve the transfer of Pierce County trails property to the Town of Wilkeson with the exception of the trestle and providing the county agrees to maintain the trails in perpetuity. Council member Thawsh seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Council member Thawsh motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:35 PM. Council member Galbraith seconded. Motion passed unanimously.