

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 03/14/2017

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Council Members present: Aaron Studen
 Alan Caswell
 John Fleming
 Hans Smith
 Josh Thomson

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Fleming led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Request for Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Additions: Approval of Award Public Works Shop

Deletions: Earth Day

Public Comment Period: Up to Three Minutes

Mark Wolf-Armstrong: He thanked the Council for their service to the community and for taking citizen's open comments.

Council Member Fleming thanked Mark Wolf-Armstrong for his comments.

Dwight Filer: He stated that he has a sample resolution which he would like Council to support in asking Congressman Newhouse to come to a public meeting in Twisp. He stated that voting on the American Health Care Act is coming up soon and there are citizens in the Methow Valley who would like to talk to Congressman Newhouse before he votes on the issue.

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked the gentlemen for their comments

Mayor's Report

Mayor Ing-Moody reported on the following:

- She reported that numerous construction projects will be moving forward this year and she has asked Howard Moss, a former public works director for the Town, to come back as interim director until a new director is hired. She stated that he has accepted the job.

Mr. Moss stated that the 4 years he spent in Twisp were very pleasurable for him and he will enjoy the opportunity to be the interim director.

- She reported that the Okanogan County of Government (OCOG) of which she is co-chair recently met and that the topic of emergency management was discussed. She introduced Maurice Goodall, Director of the Okanogan County Emergency Management (OCEM).

Mr. Goodall gave an overview of his department which is under the direction of the Okanogan County Commissioners. He discussed making the cost for emergency management more equitable for the 13 cities in the county. He stated that better communications between the agency and the cities will be important for improving the communications infrastructure. He reminded Council of the Okanogan County Alert System that allows for mass notification of fire, flood, earthquake, severe weather and hazmat situations and asked all the citizens in the room to sign up.

Mayor Ing-Moody noted that the Methow Valley Emergency Plan will be brought to the Council for adoption in the near future.

- Mayor Ing-Moody attended the Methow Valley Trails Collaborative and stated that there was a bill passed at the federal level that allows areas to be deemed Priority Areas and this group is working with the forest service to achieve that designation for the Methow Valley Ranger District. The designation would allow partnerships of non-profits and user groups to participate in working together for better trail maintenance.

Staff Reports

Written staff reports were submitted and placed in the Council packets for review. Mayor Ing-Moody asked Council if they had any questions regarding the reports submitted by the Department Heads.

Council Member Fleming asked if the Twisp Police Department had been asked to assist the Town of Winthrop with policing issues due to the lack of a law enforcement force there. Mayor Ing-Moody stated that she has been discussing the issue with Mayor Acheson.

Chief Budrow

He was asked why fingerprinting reports are included in the Law Incident Summary Report. He stated that citizens who asked to be fingerprinted for job requirements are included on the report.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

There were no reports submitted.

Council Member Caswell, Liaison to the Planning and Parks and Recreation Commissions

- He reported that the Economic Revitalization Master Plan was been submitted to the P/C for their review and comments.
- He reported there will be a public hearing to take comments on the Port application for a Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance maps amendment for a new lot that will be created in a short plat process.
- He reported that the P/C completed their revision on the Subdivision sections on Short Plats and Long Plats.
- He reported that P/Rec Commission is organizing an Earth Day event on April 22nd. They held a meeting on March 6th and will have another meeting March 20th. They are working on assigning point persons in each neighborhood for litter cleanup and are asking other agencies to be involved in advertising, provide products for litter pickup, and placement of litter and recyclables.

- He reported that Steve Kern chairman the P/Rec Commission has asked the P/Rec Commissioners to review the section of Bridgeport's Parks and Recreation Plan on Goals and Policies to help them better understand the structure of a P/Rec Commission.
- He reported that Chairman Kern attended the Methow Valley Trail Collaborative on April 21th.

Council Member Aaron Studen, Liaison to the Okanogan County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

- He reported that the OCTA meeting he attended dealt mainly with budget and banking matters, but that OCTA is trying to link up with the Wenatchee bus system to get folks to Wenatchee. The problem is that buses don't leave Omak until 6:00 am and that does not match up with the Wenatchee bus system.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Action: Reschedule March 28, 2017 Council Meeting.

Mayor Ing-Moody is unavailable on March 28th the date of the next council meeting. She asked if the meeting could be moved to March 27th.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming made the motion to move the next council meeting from March 28th to March 27th, 2017. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Action: Ordinance #716 – Vacating a Portion of 3rd Avenue

Architects West submitted a Parking Opportunity Study as requested by the Town that shows parking opportunities around the proposed civic building. There would be a net gain of 8 parking spaces in this study.

Miki Eiffert, owner of Mick & Miki's Red Cedar Bar, attended the meeting and was asked about the number of deliveries made to her business and what she felt about semi-trucks only turning left from the alley behind her building to get to Lincoln Street. She stated there are 5 deliveries a week. She stated she has concerns about more truck traffic on Lincoln Street and the safety to pedestrians.

It was stated that the bollards that will be placed on 3rd Avenue between S. Glover Street and the alley do not allow thru traffic but are removable for snow plow purposes in the winter.

The Council discussed making 2nd Avenue from Glover Street to SR 20 a 2-way street again.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming made the motion to approve the vacation of a portion of 3rd Avenue.

Council Member Fleming rescinded his motion.

The Council asked to have a traffic circulation plan of downtown Twisp including 2nd Avenue as a two-way street and consider the turning radius for trucks from the alley to Lincoln Street due to the vacation of a portion of 3rd Avenue.

Discussion: Future Agenda Items

Mayor Ing-Moody noted that at recent council meetings the council has been asked to participate in issues that may out of the normal realm of topics for the council. She asked the council members their thoughts on this matter.

Council Member Smith stated that he and Council Member Caswell have been asked by Dwight Filer to request that Congressman Newhouse attend a town hall meeting in the Methow Valley to discuss the American Health Care Act before it comes to vote in the Congress.

Mr. Filer has also brought his request in the form of a draft resolution for council's approval and signatures at 2 separate meetings.

Council Member Smith stated that as an elected official he is comfortable in writing a personal letter to Congressman Newhouse with that request but as a council member he believes that the council should be dealing with business that directly affects the Town. He stated that community conflicts are unproductive for council energy.

Council Member Fleming stated that the Council should not get bogged down in unrelated issues to the Town. He stated that one of Twisp's hallmarks is its civility.

Council Member Thomson stated that taking on unrelated issues to the Town would impact council productivity.

Council Member Studen stated that the council does not want to get sidetracked into issues that are outside of the Town's scope.

Council Member Caswell stated that other cities within the State have signed on with the State on its view on immigration.

Mayor Ing-Moody questioned whether the Council would want to set any precedents of dealing with matters unrelated to the Town.

It was stated that the mayor and council members have all taken oaths of office and have duties that they do not take lightly.

It was noted that 2 or more council members can put an item on the agenda for a council meeting if so desired, but that otherwise, no matters unrelated to town business will be on the agenda.

It was discussed as to whether there was a need to create a policy related to what the council would accept as topics of discussion. It was decided that a strict policy is not necessary at this time.

Award of Bid for Public Works Shop

The bid opening for the construction of the public works shop was held on March 8th and the bid calculations of the competing firms were reviewed by Steve Roth of Architects West. Halme Builders had the lowest bid. The bid went over by \$50,000 and there is a concerted effort to reduce the scope of work on the project, possibly in the electrical plans.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming made the motion to award the bid to Halme Builders. The motion was seconded by Council Member Studen and passed unanimously.

Action: Amendment 7 to the Water Rights Planning Service Agreement between Aspect Consulting, LLC and the Town of Twisp

The money is in the 2017 budget to pay Aspect Consulting for water rights planning services but the dates of service needed to be changed on the agreement.

Motion:

Council Member Smith made the motion to approve the amendment to the Water Rights Planning Service Agreement between Aspect Consulting LLC and the Town of Twisp. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fleming and passed unanimously.

Discussion: SR 153 Bridge Construction/Closures

Mayor Ing-Moody was notified of bridge construction/closures in the Methow Valley for 2017 construction season by the DOT. She asked the council members if they had any comments on the proposed construction / closures.

After a discussion, she will communicate with the DOT that the Council would like to see: electronic signs at each end of the valley with updated dates and times, advance notification in the newspapers and the DOT's web page, and qualified flaggers on site.

Immigration:

Council Member Smith had completed research on immigration and sanctuary cities. He shared with the Council and audience that control of immigration is in the hands of the Federal Government and local and state governments are governed by our state constitution which does not regulate illegal aliens.

Executive Session: Approximately 15 minutes to Discuss Possible Negotiations and Price of Property Acquisition.

The Mayor and Council went into executive session at 7:15 for 15 minutes and came out at 7:30 and stated they were going into executive session for another 20 minutes. They came out of session at 7:48 pm.

Consent Agenda

- Accounts Payable/Payroll

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Town Council. The following voucher/checks are approved for payment by a majority vote on this 14th day of March, 2017.

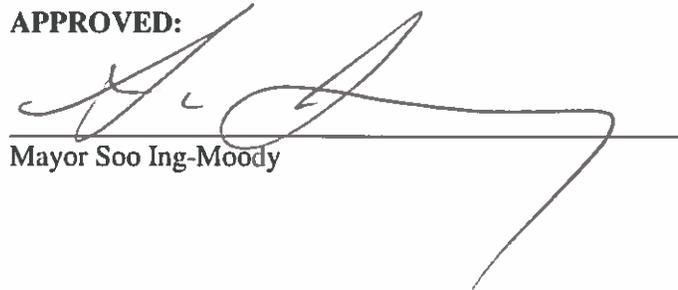
Payroll	EFTs Trans # 529-542, 568, 571-575 Checks 14233-14237	\$52,596.09	02/28/17
Cashmere Valley Bank	EFT Tran # 612	\$608.36	03/01/17
US Rural Development	Trans #613	\$395.00	03/02/17
Accounts Payable	Checks # 32972-32991	\$7,801.69	03/14/17
Accounts Payable	Checks # 32992-32994	\$9,987.82	03/14/17
Payroll	EFTs Trans # 649-652 Check # 14238	\$4,160.00	03/15/17

Council Member Smith moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty