

Town of Twisp Council Minutes – 11/26/2019

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

Council Members present: Mark Easton
Alan Caswell
Hannah Cordes

Council Members absent: Hans Smith
Aaron Studen

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Cordes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

Addition: New Business: Tree Board Grant Application Request

Public Comment:

Mark Edson stated that he would like to see the Town be more transparent with information regarding the new Civic Building. He would like citizens to see how big the footprint for the building will be. He suggested putting up cones, barricades or paint on the street to show the dimensions of the building. He said that the Town will not be able to purchase Kevin Hickman's property directly behind Town Hall as it is not for sale. He also stated that he sees the new gateway art has been installed and believes they are unsafe. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked him for his comments and stated that she and the Town also believes in transparency and stated that meetings are open to the public.

Public Hearing – Preliminary Budget Hearing:

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the final public hearing for the 2020 Preliminary Budget at 5:32 p.m. She asked the public for comments and if anyone believed that any member of the Council should not vote on the subject. There were no comments from the public and no action taken by Council.

Mayor Ing-Moody closed the public hearing at 5:32 p.m.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that the budget is nearly complete and will be ready for adoption at the next Council Meeting. She stated that she had an interesting meeting with the Public Works Director in which she was informed that WSDOT Regional Supervisor Don Becker was present with another staff member who shared that WSDOT will be requiring the town to pay for snow and ice removal. This meeting coincided with the first snow fall of the year in which several complaints were noted regarding the

highways being slicker than normal. According to Chief Budrow, law enforcement responded to 9 accidents in the Methow Valley, along SR 153/SR20. It was shared that WSDOT will not sand or de-ice the Highway through the section within town limits unless the Town pays for the applications. They added that they do not believe they have to plow the highway through town, but that at this point they will continue to do so. Upon further research, Director Denham stated that the cost per application runs anywhere from \$14-\$68 depending on the need, which could be anywhere upwards of \$2000 or more per season. He said that our public works department has a small sander that are used on town streets but does not have highway sanding capabilities. Director Denham stated that he was told that WSDOT knew with impending budget constraints that this change would be coming but failed to notify the town in advance. Mayor Ing-Moody stated that this new change should it be implemented would be a financial burden to Twisp, and other small jurisdictions. She will be working to better understand the situation going forward. In the interim she advised Council and others in the community to use extreme caution on the highway this season.

Staff Reports:

Director Denham reported that he was notified that the Town was unsuccessful in securing two grants with TIB. He stated the town had applied for the Cascade Loop and the North Town Chip Seal Project. This was the second year that we were unsuccessful in North Town and will attempt to continue with the project with additional funding sources, if possible. He also stated that they finally have emptied the digester at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. They have been working on the project for 4 months and feel it was a great success. Council Member Easton asked Director Denham which sidewalks are being cleared by staff in the winter. Director Denham stated that they clear the sidewalks along Highway 20, as well as on Second Avenue toward the clinic. They usually clear sidewalks that are connectors throughout town. There is an ordinance in place for downtown businesses to remove the snow/ice from their sidewalks in front of their businesses by 10am each day. This first snowfall he had the time to remove snow from the sidewalks of Canyon Street. He wanted to see how it would go and the amount of time it would take.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports:

Council Member Cordes attended the Tree Board meeting and shared that they spoke about applying for a grant and reporting on current tree conditions. She also attended the Parks and Recreation meeting where they are continuing to review and update the Trail and Recreation Plan.

Council Member Easton attended the Chamber of Commerce's Retreat. He said they have 5 main events that they are focusing on in 2020 that they will be promoting. They continue to work on their new website with the hope that it will be running by January. He stated that everyone seems to be happy with the current vision and the way things have been going within the Chamber. He also said that they will continue to hold sip and chats throughout next year.

Council Member Easton also attended the Climate Task Force Meeting where he was part of the infrastructure booth. It was suggested that the town enact ordinances for new buildings to make them fire wise among other things. There is a link online to listen to the presentation and to fill out a survey. He feels that having these meetings is really bringing the whole valley together.

Council Member Caswell attended the Planning Commission meeting earlier this month. He reported that they discussed some ideas for open space and will be moving forward with the discussion in the future.

He also attended the Public Works meeting where they discussed the Apollo Solutions water meter replacement ideas.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion: DNR 2020 Community Forestry Assistance Grant Application Request:

Tree Board Chairman Dwight Filer requested permission to work on a grant application from the Department of Natural Resources that would benefit the Town regarding trees. He stated that the grant award could be for \$5000 up to \$20000 depending on the requested amount. There is a 100% match required that can be made in-kind. He stated that he spoke with TwispWorks - who wrote a letter of support for the grant – and they have budgeted to spend \$3000 on tree maintenance next year. They indicated that they would be willing to give part of the match to help with the removal or replanting of trees for work being done on the campus. Mayor Ing-Moody believes more information and a more detailed plan is needed on the scope and overall cost of the project before Council can authorize the application. Conversation also included having town staff report and do the administrative duties as required by the grant. Mayor Ing-Moody will follow up with Chairman Filer. The application has a tight timeline as it is due on December 12th.

Discussion/Action: Resolution #19-647 – General Sewer Plan:

Council Member Caswell moved to approve Resolution #19-647 – General Sewer Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Resolution #19-648 – Highlands Associates Contract Agreement:

Mayor Ing-Moody requested the following changes to the contract agreement: Section 1.B. She would like to change the wording from Clerk/Treasurer to Mayor. She feels that its appropriate for the Planner to report to the Mayor.

Council Member Cordes moved to approve Resolution #19-648 – Highlands Associates Contract Agreement with requested changes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: NCW Drug Task Force 2020 Agreement:

Council Member Easton moved to approve NCW Drug Task Force 2020 Agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: BIAS Software Service Contract:

Council Member Caswell moved to approve the BIAS Software Service Contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed unanimously.

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 26th day of November 2019.

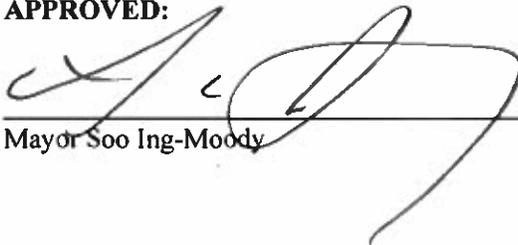
Payroll	EFT# 2607-2612	6960.00	11/15/19
Accounts Payable	Warrants # 35158-35184	89837.99	11/26/19
Accounts Payable	EFT# 2643	683.00	11/26/19

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

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer