

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 7/28/2020

Mayor Ing-Moody called the video conference meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Council Members present via phone/video: Hans Smith
Aaron Studen
Mark Easton
Alan Caswell
Hannah Cordes

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

N/A

Public Comment:

Mayor Ing-Moody asked if there were any public comments submitted for this meeting. Clerk Treasurer Kilmer responded that no public comments had been received.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that it is business as usual – though not exactly normal, given the Covid-19 pandemic. She has been busy keeping up with various meetings.

Staff Reports:

Staff reports are included in the packet.

Director Denham stated that he would like to schedule a Public Works Committee meeting soon as there are many topics, he would like to discuss included the Apollo proposed Energy Savings Proposal for the water meter replacements. He also stated that the North Town Project is behind schedule. They recently hit an unmarked power line which knocked out power unexpectedly to Grey's Lane. He said they have been spending a lot of time on the jobsite due to the age of the utilities it's been a challenging project. Council Member Smith thanked Director Denham for keeping up with everything and looks forward to the next Public Works Committee meeting.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports:

Council Member Easton reported that he attended the Methow Watershed Council Meeting as an alternate. He said it was a joint meeting with the Watershed Foundation. The meeting was about the two entities moving forward as one entity as they don't believe they have a reason to have two arms of an organization. He said the foundation stated they would like to be more involved in the council, while members of the council would like to slowly phase out and allow others to participate. Council Member Smith is curious to know the reasoning given and wants a logical explanation. Mayor Ing-Moody stated

that she would like to reach out to the County Commissioners to get a better sense of what happened at the meeting and she will report back to Council.

Council Member Studen stated he attended the Public Safety Committee meeting last week. He said that they discussed the leash law and whether or not it is feasible with not have a facility and / or enforcement specifically for violations. He also said they are working on a Remote Work Policy for town staff that would provide some guidance during emergencies on what that would look like. The Committee also spoke about a possible Social Media page for the Town. It would be helpful to be able to stop rumors from spreading by being able to put out a statement that is factual and provides information without allowing comments back.

Council Member Smith said he attended the Finance Committee Meeting last week. He said the financial management to date has been wise, thanks to the cost control by the Mayor and Department Heads. He said there has been no decision to reduce any programs at this time.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/Action: Ordinance #758 – Amending TMC Chapter 18.60 Wetlands:

Council Member Smith moved to approve Ordinance #758 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Studen and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Ordinance #759 – Business Licensing Services:

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer reported that everyone needs to move to the Business Licensing Services by the end of 2022. He stated this is an opportune time to get switched over because Winthrop will be doing so and the state would like to convert us at the same time. There is an application handling fee of \$19 and an annual renewal of \$11 the businesses would be charged for using the service.

Council Member Studen moved to approve Ordinance #759 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Police Department SOP/Facial Coverings:

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the discussion on updating the Standard Operating Procedures on facial coverings because she feels it is the best way to handle safety between officers and the public. She stated that legal council drafted the language with Chief Budrow and he is comfortable with the verbiage. It also helps with liability issues for the officers and the Town.

Mayor Ing-Moody asked Clerk/Treasurer to draft a resolution to adopt this policy and will bring it to the next council meeting.

Discussion/Action: Okanogan County Public Safety Emergency Communications Dispatch Services Agreement:

Chief Budrow stated that this contract will change the way that the calls are billed to the town. He would like to have more time to figure out the formula that will be billed and if it includes agency assisted calls. Mayor Ing-Moody stated she would like Clerk Kilmer to compile questions that everyone has and to proceed with finding out more information before bringing it back to Council.

Discussion/Action: Bob Droll Sports Complex Contract Amendment:

Director Denham stated that this is an amendment to rebid, included in this scope is the new baseball field that will be designed with the best materials possible. He said thankfully with the partnership with the school they will be able to have those materials included in the scope. Council Member Smith asked which fiscal year this would impact and Director Denham stated that it will be split between this year and next.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the contract amendment as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: B.E.E. Campaign Contract:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that this contract is for Red Umbrella Designs on the BEE Campaign. The funds for the campaign will come from the CARES Act funding. Council Member Smith said he noticed on the contract that there is no scope of work detailed as to what the payment is for. Mayor Ing-Moody stated it was for designing a logo. Council Member Easton asked if there is a working committee for this campaign and what are the goals for the campaign? Mayor Ing-Moody responded that yes there is a working committee. She said that due to COVID, there has been anxiety in the community that cultivated in a single event where business owners felt attacked and were feeling beat up and bullied for providing essential services to the community. They were not feeling supported by the town and were making accusations that were untrue. She feels that it is not who we are as a community and would like to start a campaign to combat those feelings. Mayor Ing-Moddy stated she doesn't know how much it will end up costing but has ear-marked \$8000 from the CARES Act for funding.

Council Member Studen moved to approve the contract with an amendment to include the scope of work being performed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Town of Twisp Social Media:

Mayor Ing-Moody said that this topic of conversation came about with concerned employees who have noticed a lot of chatter on social media that has taken on a new level recently. While she does not want staff to personally get involved with correcting information using their personal face book pages, she feels the need is there to get out information accurately and correct any misinformation on the Town's behalf which is why a Town social media account is needed. She also wanted to include a personnel policy on social media for protection of the town and it's employees. Council Member Easton said it's a good idea to disable comments and don't allow the discussion to happen on the page. He thinks a single person being responsible for posting and have it be more like a press release is a good idea. Council Member Studen thinks of it as an extension of the website and another way to direct people to reach out to Town staff for further information. Council Member Smith would like to see a clean personnel policy that doesn't prohibit employees from having their own Facebook page but will be clear to understand.

Discussion: 2020 Census:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that the statistics are showing that Okanogan County is not doing very well in completing the 2020 Census. She said it is important for the community to respond because it effects our funding from the state. She wanted everyone to tell their neighbors and spread the word.

Discussion/Action: Public Works Director Denham Vacation Rollover:

Director Denham included a letter in the packet asking to have Council Members approve his request to roll over his unused vacation hours. He stated that his planned vacation was cancelled due to COVID, he's had a heavy workload, he's had new staff to train this year and it's been hard to take time off. He

said that when he takes time off he gets backed up further and so it makes it hard to use his vacation hours. He stated he was able to reduce some of his hours that were rolled over from the previous year.

Council Member Studen moved to approve rolling over 70.5 vacation hours. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Executive Session: Potential Litigation:

Mayor Ing-Moody excused the public and staff at 7:30 pm for an executive session. At 7:45 pm, Mayor Ing-Moody resumed the Council meeting with no action taken.

Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes: 7/14/2020

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 28th day of July 2020.

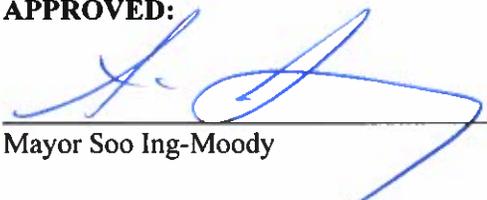
Payroll	EFT# 1473-1479	7680.00	7/15/2020
Accounts Payable	Warrant# 35608-35628	164073.60	7/28/2020
Accounts Payable	EFT # 1536	683.00	7/28/2020

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

Adjournment:

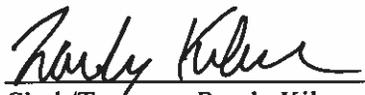
There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing – Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer