

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 10/30/17

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

Council Members present: John Fleming
 Hans Smith
 Josh Thomson

Council Members absent: Aaron Studen
 Alan Studen

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Thomson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Request for Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Additions: None

Deletions: Presentation – Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance Award

Public Hearing – 2018 Preliminary Budget Hearing

1. Revenue Source – Council Information
2. Action: Ordinance #720 – Ad Valorum (Property Tax)
3. Action: Ordinance #721 – Emergency Medical Services

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the public hearing to take comments on 2018 Revenue Sources at 5:33 pm. Revenue Source by Funds information sheets were provided by Clerk Moriarty for informational purposes. There was no public to make comment. The Mayor closed the hearing at 5:35 pm.

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the public hearing to take comments on Ordinance #720 – Ad Valorum at 5:35 pm. Ordinance #720 pertains to the annual 1% increase to the Ad Valorum (property tax) allowed by a Town per year for populations under 10,000. There was no public to make comment. The Mayor closed the hearing at 5:36 pm.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming made the motion to approve Ordinance #720 – Ad Valorum (property tax) the motion was seconded by Council Member Thomson and passed unanimously.

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the public hearing to take comments on Ordinance #721 – Emergency Medical Services at 5:36 pm. Ordinance #721 allows an increase in the regular EMS tax levy to be collected in the 2018 tax year. There was no public to make comment. The Mayor closed the hearing at 5:37 pm.

Motion:

Council Member Smith made the motion to approve Ordinance #721 – Emergency Medical Services. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fleming and passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period: Up to Three Minutes

Tree Board Chairman Dwight Filer explained to the Council that the Arbor Day Foundation is requiring more from Tree City members and at this time, he is submitting a draft town ordinance for review. He noted that a Town staff member will have to be the designated authority for future tree city issues. He stated that since he is retired now from his plumbing business, and is going to actively seek new members for the Tree Board.

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked Chairman Filer for his continued activism for Twisp's trees and parks.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Ing-Moody reported on the following:

- She participated in the Association of Washington Businesses Rural Jobs Summit – local government panel. She was one of four local government representatives from across the state on this panel. Largely based on local economic discussions as a Healthy Economy Committee member in the Methow Valley, and her work on the AWC Board of Directors representing the needs of mostly small rural communities, her statements advocated for needed improvements to the coverage and reliability of high speed rural broadband in order for rural communities to be competitive economically. She also advocated for increased work force housing, and increased cooperation between rural areas to gain a voice for their communities' needs in Olympia.
- She explained that she was ill during the Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council conference in Wenatchee and thanked Director Denham and Clerk Moriarty for attending meetings and networking for the Town.

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.

PW Director Denham

He reported on the following:

- The Twisp Community Trail construction has been completed by Lloyd Logging. He stated that his staff has been working on hydro seeding, signage, and rock picking/placement.
- The plumbing and wiring on the new public works shop is nearing completion; garage doors are in, water/sewer connections have been made, and the building is almost completely enclosed.

Police Chief Budrow

He reported on the following:

- Police department vehicles will use the town hall's public works shop this winter to keep their vehicles out of the snow.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

There were no reports submitted.

Council Member Fleming – Liaison to the Methow Watershed Council (MWC)

He reported on the following:

- He will be meeting with Dick Ewing, vice chairman of the MWC, once a month to review issues.
- He noted that Mr. Ewing stated that many of the solutions to water issues could be better dealt with at the state legislative level rather than at the local level.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Presentation: Twisp Chamber of Commerce 2018 Budget Request

Twisp Chamber of Commerce President Sandy Moody with Treasurer Jeff Palmberg presented to the Council their 2018 proposal for a portion of the Town's 2% funds. It was noted that the Visitor Information Center staff does a wonderful job of promoting Twisp and the Methow Valley from the Community Center location. Also, social media likes have increased 400% in reach and engagement due to the efforts of Amanda Mott Johnson of Methow Arts and her staff.

The Chamber is asking for an increase of \$5,000 to the \$25,000 it received in 2017. When asked how the additional funds would be used, Mr. Palmberg said the funds would help increase the momentum and success of advertising; provide salary increases; and increase the amount of marketing capability with Methow Arts.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that the Economic Revitalization Committee, which is proposed to be formed next month to discuss next steps of the Twisp Economic Revitalization Master Plan, will include a representative from the Twisp Chamber and Methow Arts.

Action: Extension of Fire Protection Interlocal Agreement – Okanogan County Fire District #6/Town of Twisp

Council Members Smith and Studen met with Fire Chief Acord and Commissioner Stokes. A 3-year extension of the contract between the Town and District for contracted fire services is anticipated to be acceptable by both parties. The extension from 1 year to 3 years would give both agencies more time to begin discussions on potential annexation, if desired which would necessarily include discussions regarding real property and assets, water billing, and debt service. The District would like to see an increase on the contracted price for 2018 to approximately \$50,000, a 2.8% increase for 2018, with small continual increases after that. A contract will come back to Council for review and approval.

Discussion/Action: Water Improvement Projects

Director Denham met with Rick Rose of Rural Development on the plans for Massey Wills Lane, 2nd Avenue & Lincoln Street, Burgar Street & SR 20, and W. Twisp Avenue water line replacements. He explained that the funding components of grant to loan ratio would better serve the Town if we approved the 2018, 2019, & 2020 improvement plan. He also stated that utility increases for debt service for these projects would not have to be made until the projects have already been constructed.

Director Denham stated that the application for funding is almost complete and he could send in the application if he had approval of the Council. If and when an application is approved by Rural

Development, the Council would not have to accept the grant/loan if the numbers were not right for the Town. There was a consensus that he should send in the application for the 2018, 2019, and 2020 construction projects with Rural Development.

Director Denham stated that it was advised that the Town not make any major increases in utility rates this next year in light of these future projects being considered for debt service.

Mayor Ing-Moody, Council, and Director Denham noted that they will calculate any increases needed to cover cost of living increases and next year's projects for 2018 when they are closer to finalizing the upcoming budget.

Mayor Ing-Moody noted that she met with Director McMillian of Rural Development and discussed needed funds for the Civic Building. One of the terms of conditions for funding from Rural Development would be support for the building in the Methow Valley Emergency Plan (part of the Okanogan County Emergency plan). She will be discussing this with the Public Safety Committee soon to request the building be included soon.

Consent Agenda

- Accounts Payable/Payroll

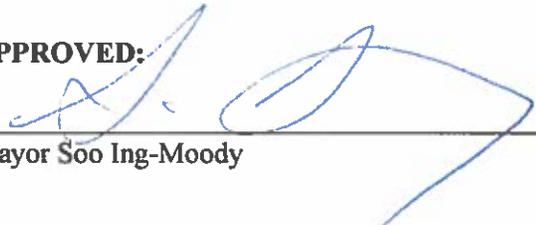
Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Town Council. The following voucher/checks are approved for payment by a majority vote on this 30th day of October, 2017.

Payroll	EFTs Trans #2601-2604 Check #14312	\$4,510.00	10/15/17
John Deere Financial	EFT Trans #2690	\$142.92	10/27/17
US Rural Development	EFT Trans #2689	\$683.00	10/28/17
Accounts Payable	Checks #33490-33522	\$344,478.97	10/30/17
Accounts Payable	Checks #33523-33529	\$441.00	10/31/17

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

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.

APPROVED: 

 Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST: 

 Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty