

# Town of Twisp

## Council Minutes – 10/8/2019

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

Council Members present: Mark Easton  
Alan Caswell  
Hannah Cordes  
Hans Smith  
Aaron Studen

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Council Member Studen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:**

N/A

**Public Comment:**

Leone Edson stated that she picks up her Council packet on Monday prior to the week's meeting. It is her opinion that the Council Members do not have enough time to read and understand what is presented in the packets and that they are likely not well versed or understand the issues. She also pointed out that on page 16 of the packet in the grant application that Andrew Denham is listed as the primary person to complete the task, with Mayor Ing-Moody listed as his backup if he is unable to complete the duties. It is Ms. Edson's opinion that the Mayor is not qualified to oversee the project. She wonders if anyone else from another town or agency can be the backup. Ms. Edson also pondered whether Council Member Smith should abstain from voting because the Yakama Nation was listed as an entity within the grant application. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked Ms. Edson for her comment and reminded her that the Council Members all serve on various subcommittees that enable them to dive deeper into subject matters before they are brought before the full Council. Regarding her other concerns, she suggested an appointment be made with the Clerk's Office to enable greater discussion on other matters or concerns.

Mark Edson stated that he has seen the DNS for the Civic Building that states no hazardous materials are present. He wonders if there has been an asbestos inspection. He stated that the building was built in the 40s and he would like to know how we can guarantee that there will be no asbestos when we start demolition. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked him for his comments.

Miles Milliken stated that he was at the previous Council Meeting and was happy to hear the Energy presentation by Apollo. He is in support of all energy projects for the future of Twisp. He stated that he is probably the youngest person in the room and will live in town the longest. He would like to see all of the projects presented to conserve energy happen in the future. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked him for his comments and responded that the town will continue to consider the viability of the energy projects brought forward with the intention that they be revisited by the council again in the near future.

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that each department continues to work on budget preparation. Once it is ready it will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and then Council.

**Staff Reports:**

Director Denham's Public Works report is included in the packet for review.

Council Member Easton stated that in talking with residents that live on Canyon St, they are concerned with the swales. One in particular is a swale that is in front of a fire hydrant at 6<sup>th</sup> and Canyon and there is concern that emergency apparatus be able to access the hydrant. He also asked Director Denham if there was a way to flag the swales so they are more easily seen. Director Denham responded that there are many challenges with the design. He has been working with the engineers at Varela and Associates to come up with an effective solution that will still comply with WA state stormwater collection standards. Director Denham also stated that he has been in personal contact with the residents in the affected area and has conveyed his desire to come up with a solution. He would like to have a fix in place prior to snow falling. Council Member Easton wanted to make sure to voice that the citizens are very happy and thankful to have the surface paved! Council Member Studen asked at what point we began to realize the problems with the project. He asked if there is a point in the process that someone could have noticed design flaws. Director Denham stated that he did a very thorough plan review and on paper the problems were not noticeable. The swales were built at the end of the project and it had also been a surprise to him that they would turn out the way they had. He had not expected pavement right up to the swales and anticipated a gravel buffer. Mayor Ing-Moody added that the engineers who designed our swales have also designed them for other communities according to state regulated stormwater collection, but that the Public Works staff will ensure it be improved upon.

Council Member Caswell asked Director Denham about a previous topic of water loss and asked for an update. Director Denham responded that they have been continuing to gather information on water loss totals. He believes that Hurst Construction used about 120 thousand gallons during the Canyon Street project. He feels confident that the number will be lowered by the end of the year. He stated that Evergreen Rural Water was out today and spent all day with an operator looking for leaks. They did not detect a single leak at any of the areas they thought might be a problem. He would like to budget for a leak detection for the entire town as it would be valuable information to have in the future.

**Commission/Committee/Board Reports:**

Council Member Easton reported that the Creative Arts District met on October 3. They received a letter of acceptance from the Washington Creative Arts District. The next step in the process is to formally apply. Methow Arts Alliance Director Amanda Jackson Mott will be completing the application. Council Member Easton stated that they had a great discussion on what the Creative District will entail.

Council Member Cordes reported on the recent Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. Most of the discussion revolved around updating the Trail and Parks Plan. They need to complete a parks inventory and maintenance update. They also need to determine the projects needed for the Capital Facilities Plan

so that they can apply for grant funding as it becomes available. The Commission also would like to organize more volunteers to help with needed projects. Council Member Cordes mentioned that there will be a Twisp to Winthrop Trail listening session being put on by Methow Trails on Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the Twisp Grange for anyone interested in attending.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion/Action: Grant Application – WA State Department of Ecology Sanitary Sewer Collection System Improvements:**

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the discussion stating that this grant application has been discussed previously. The members of the Public Works Committee have been well versed in this project and the needs of upgrading the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Director Denham mentioned that the scope has been reduced from 4.4 million to 3.4 million. He would like to continue to look for cost savings while keeping it as an efficient project as possible. Council Member Smith stated that a lot of thinking went into this proposal. It is clear that there is a biosolid loading issue and if the issue is left untreated the likelihood of Lift Station #2 failing is high. Mayor Ing-Moody added that the Methow Watershed Council has written a letter of support to the Department of Ecology for the project.

Council Member Smith moved to approve submitting the grant application to the Department of Ecology. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

**Discussion/Action: I-976 – Car Tabs:**

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that many cities are talking about I-976 and how it immediately impacts Transportation Benefit District (TBD) funds if passed. It proposes significant changes to many other aspects of the state's transportation system, including repeal of the authority for city TBDs to impose fees. Every city in Washington State would be impacted to some degree.

Council Member Studen moves to oppose I-976 as the Town Council feels it negatively impacts the administering of Transportation Benefit District funds. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

The Town will put out a press release and a fact sheet will be available at Town Hall.

**Executive Session: Acquisition (20 Mins)**

Mayor Ing-Moody excused the staff and public at 6:23 pm for an executive session. At 6:43 pm Mayor Ing-Moody resumed the Council Meeting with no action taken following the executive session.

**Consent Agenda:**

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes – 9/24/19

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 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019.

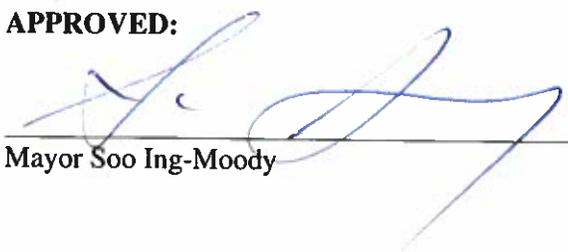
Accounts Payable	EFT# 2323-2325	1146.42	10/8/19
Accounts Payable	Warrants # 35059-35083	102046.31	10/8/19
Payroll	EFT# 2288-2289, 2291-2302, 2311-2315	58220.97	9/30/19

Council Member Smith 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 6:47 pm.

**APPROVED:**



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Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

**ATTEST:**



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Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer