

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 2/11/2020

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

Council Members present: Hans Smith
Aaron Studen – by phone
Mark Easton
Alan Caswell

Council Members absent Hannah Cordes

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Easton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

N/A

Public Comment:

Kyrie Jardin of Winthrop stated that he is part of the Dark Sky Coalition and would like to invite the Council to have a discussion about Dark Skies in the spring as it relates to the new building.

Leone Edson of Twisp states that she has major concerns with the plans for the Civic Building. Her opinion is that we are biting off more than we can chew with funds and manpower to maintain it. She thinks it should be open one more day during the week to enable the town to make more money.

Mark Edson of Twisp stated that he has some concerns about the building and is hoping for an open discussion rather than a comment period. He stated that on the pictures that were provided he does not see any dimensions given. He knows of two power poles that have to be relocated and wonders what will happen to the residents that receive power from those poles? He is also concerned about asbestos in the building and that the DNS that was filed stated there is no asbestos in the building. His opinion is that it should be built on a vacant lot that the town owns so that construction wouldn't have to wait.

Greta Oosterhof of Twisp stated that she would like the Council to look deep down inside themselves and ask what the driving force for this building is. She said if any council member has any doubts or concerns that she hopes they would be willing to share with each other and be bold enough to say something.

Bruce Morrison of Twisp stated that he has not had a chance to look at the plans for the new building yet. He said he has spent a lot of time in the current Town Hall and he feels it is absolutely necessary to replace it.

John Battle stated that he is excited for the potential and new spaces to be available to the public with the new building. He would like to better understand the deadlines and timeline of the process.

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked everyone for their comments. She stated that additional comments are welcome in writing or at the next council meeting. She explained the reason for public comment to be held at the beginning of the meeting so as to allow Council the opportunity to hear the public's input on a topic on the agenda prior to having discussion or potentially taking action.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that she will be in Olympia this week. One of things to discuss there will be transportation and the Department of Transportation trying to put the costs on towns and cities for winter road maintenance on state highways running through towns. Representative Goehner has been working with us on this item in support of the towns and cities it is affecting.

Staff Reports

Director Denham reported that he intends to hold a community meeting on March 4th at 6pm at the Twisp Grange to show residents plans for the Canyon Street Bus Stop and the Northtown Project.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

Council Member Easton reported that on February 3rd he attended a meeting at TwispWorks in preparation for the Valley wide Earth Day celebration. There were many community representatives from Methow Valley Citizens Council, Methow Arts, Town of Winthrop, Town of Twisp and other organizations. They would like to celebrate in both towns for cleanup or restoration projects and are talking with TranGo to provide transportation between towns for the celebration.

Council Member Easton also attended the recent Chamber of Commerce's sip and chat held at Fiber. He stated it was a good turnout and they elected new officers for the Chamber.

Mayor Ing-Moody facilitated the recent Okanogan Council of Governments (OCOG) meeting. She stated that the first phase of the Backroads Study is complete and have been given approval to start phase 2 with SCJ Alliance, which includes compiling GIS data sets. This project will be funded through RTPO.

Council Member Smith attended the recent Public Works Committee meeting. He said they went over the Ecology numbers for the loan on the collection systems plan improvement project and are not excited about loan options with the Department of Ecology. They would like to look for more other grant opportunities. They also talked about the Sports Complex Project and the potential for additional funding to complete the plan. Public Works is in the process of hiring a new employee who will be starting in the next couple weeks.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Presentation: Civic Building 65% Plans:

Steve Roth with Architects West gave a presentation on the new Civic Building/Emergency Operations Center plans. He went over these main topics: Public Survey Results, Civic Building Design, Sustainability, Construction Cost, and Schedule.

Mayor Ing-Moody would like to answer some of the questions that were asked earlier during the public comment period.

Regarding the questions on dimensions, the new building will fit into the existing property with the partial vacation of 3rd Avenue. Regarding the maintenance/cost of operating the new building, operations has been assessed to be affordable and within budget. As for moving power poles, the town has been working with the PUD regarding the poles and will continue to do so during construction. Regarding opening Town Hall an additional day, she clarified that since we are not a retail business dependent on sales – opening an extra day would not have an impact on revenues, while staff would not be able to concentrate on work needing to be completed when the office is closed. Friday is a work day for some staff and meant as a day to work without interruption. She stated that oftentimes, hardworking staff and council are busy at work even though the office is closed to the public. Regarding Dark Skies, she wanted to reassure community members that these considerations are being factored into the plans.

Council Member Caswell stated that he spoke with many citizens and based on the photograph in the newspaper he received several negative comments describing the tower as a cathedral or a movie theater and not a Town Hall.

Mayor Ing-Moody made an exception at this meeting to allow public to ask any questions that had been unaddressed previously.

Mark Edson asked Chief Budrow if he was comfortable with bringing an inmate into the building. Chief Budrow responded that the hallway for transport is secured and he felt very safe with the design as he had provided input throughout the process for his area.

Quinn Christiansen asked about the intersection of 3rd and Glover stating that it is one of the busiest intersections in town and how this new building would affect the traffic on Glover. Director Denham stated that there are no changes to encroach into the street, and Architect Steve Roth confirmed that there would be no loss of road a legal 2-way street.

Miki Eiffert asked how big delivery trucks would be able to go down the alley behind the building to deliver to area businesses without going through a residential neighborhood. Director Denham stated the alley isn't changing and it should be ok with the delivery drivers to make turns into the alley.

Council Member Smith stated that he thinks Steve Roth and Architects West did a great job. He feels they really delivered on creating a building that will create a great legacy building for Twisp. He's not surprised to hear a difference in opinion of the corner tower. He would like to continue to explore that piece of the building. He doesn't feel anything that has been mentioned is reason to delay the 65% approval.

Council Member Easton is concerned on what the setback would be to the project if they were to stop to rework the corner of the building. Steve Roth explained that to change the corner piece would result in a delay and would push the building dates out further. He stated that the building is engineered around that corner and to change it would be a big deal at this point. The corner design has been the same for over a year now and to change would require much more time.

John Battle asked if we keep the frame of the corner but change the texture or material that is on the outside of the corner will that hold up the process? Katrina Auburn asked if the beam can be shortened? Steve Roth indicated that any of those changes are possible, but any large changes would naturally affect the timeline. Mayor Ing-Moody reminded attendees that the reason there was a higher corner in the design

is because there is a communications tower being installed on the roof of the building at the opposite corner and it was designed to provide a focal point away from the utility tower.

Mark Edson is concerned with the amount of heat that will come in the side windows of the corner offices. Steve Roth explained that there are blinds and shades available to help with sunlight.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the Civic Building/EOC 65% plans from Architects West. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Apollo Solutions - Investment Grade Audit Proposal for Water Meter Replacement – Energy Services Performance Contract:

Council Member Smith feels that under the Financial Criteria he would like to see this amendment:

Bullet Point 2: The maximum term of potential financing will be 15 years or less for the balance of project costs. The loan will be completely self-funded during the entire term of the loan through the increase in water revenues back to the Town of Twisp. The project will be neutral or have a positive accumulated cash flow.

Council Member Smith moved to approve Apollo Solutions Group Investment Grade Audit Proposal – Water Meter Replacement Energy Services Performance Contract with amendments to bullet 2 under Financial Criteria. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Mayor Pro Tem Reappointment:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that it was time to appoint or reappoint a Mayor Pro Tem. She thanked Council Member Smith for filling the need during the past year. She opened it up for discussion among Council Members for anyone else willing to step into the Mayor Pro Tem role.

Council Member Caswell moved to appoint Council Member Smith to continue as Mayor Pro Tem. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Parks and Recreation Commission Appointment:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that Will Menzies is applying to be appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Council asked a couple of questions of Menzies.

Council Member Caswell moved to appoint Will Menzies to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Methow Watershed Council – Opening Methow Rule:

Mayor Ing-Moody asked for the Council's input prior to the next Watershed Council Meeting. She said the Council is considering asking to open the Methow rule. Council Member Smith stated he is not at liberty to discuss the topic. No other Council Members voiced their opinion. There was no discussion.

Executive Session: Potential Litigation:

Mayor Ing-Moody excused the public and staff at 7:40pm for an executive session. At 8:10, the Mayor extended the session for an additional 5 minutes. At 8:15 Mayor Ing-Moody resumed the Council meeting with no action taken.

Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes – 1/28/2020

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 11th day of February 2020.

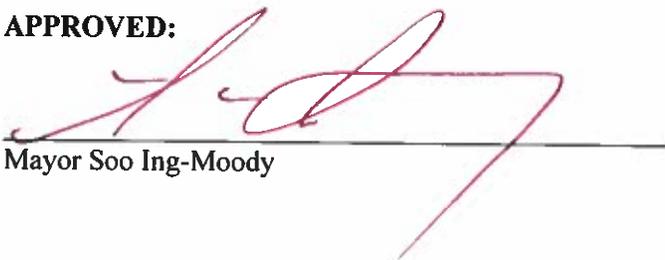
Payroll	EFT# 370, 372-383,389-394	67959.85	1/31/2020
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 35321-35354	56226.82	2/11/2020
Accounts Payable	EFT#	1003.36	2/11/2020

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

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing – Moody adjourned the meeting at 8:23p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer

