

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 02/09/16

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

Council Members present: Bob Lloyd
 Aaron Studen
 Hans Smith
 Alan Caswell

Council Member absent: John Fleming

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Studen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Request for Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Additions:

Deletions: Resolution #16-572 T-O Engineering Agreement

PUBLIC MEETING – TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT

Public Comment Period: Up to Three Minutes

Greta Oosterhof, 506 Canyon Street - She stated she would like the reassurance that the \$20 fee would go to fix our streets and not to pothole repair or bicycle lanes. She stated that the elderly and disabled who live in the vicinity of E. 2nd Avenue and Methow Street have a very hard time navigating the bad pavement in their neighborhoods.

Dwight Filer, 507 Peters Lane – He stated that as a former council member he understands the aging infrastructure and chronic budget issues that preclude the Council from keeping up with street repairs. He supports the concept of a Transportation Benefit District and would respect the Council’s decision to create a district.

Barry Stromberger, 316 Burgar Street – He stated that he supports the creation of a Transportation Benefit District but asked if a limit could be placed on the number of vehicles a person would pay for under the district plan.

Maryann Kirkland, 512 May Street – She stated that she supports the creation of a Transportation Benefit District. She stated that potholes damage vehicles and a \$20 fee to make improvements is a small price to pay.

Alice West, 401 E. 2nd Avenue –She stated that the \$20 fee is not an equitable fee: the person with a higher income should pay more to the district than a person on a lower or fixed income.

Mark Edson, 321 Bigelow Street – He stated that the fee is unfair because it targets citizens on fixed incomes who are least likely to be able to afford the \$20. He asked if bicycle lanes would be included in any of the street projects funded by a Transportation Benefit District. He asked which vehicles would be assessed the fee by the Department of Licensing.

Mr. Edson was told he could pick up information about the Transportation Benefit District at Town Hall and the information would answer more of his questions.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Ing-Moody reported on the following:

- She reported that she attended the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Action days and met with legislators about interests important to Twisp and the Methow Valley.
- She reported that she has been appointed to the AWC Board of Directors, representing a district that includes Chelan, Grant, Douglas and Okanogan counties.
- She reported that she attended a Public Safety meeting and that there will be an emergency response exercise in May which will include local emergency response agencies to test the Methow Valley Emergency Plan.

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.

There were no questions asked of Department Heads.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

Council Member Studen, Liaison to Okanogan County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

- He stated that approximately 30 buses have been ordered and will be on the roads this summer.
- He stated that the development plan for the transit system will be on file at the local libraries and community centers for citizens to view.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Transportation Benefit District (TBD)

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked the citizens who spoke during the public meeting about the Transportation Benefit District. She stated that the Council would discuss the TBD at this time and no decision has yet been made about the formation of a district.

She clarified that the \$20 is a fee, and not a tax, which would be collected and disseminated by the Department of Licensing to the Town. The number of registered vehicles in Twisp is approximately 698 at this time and the amount of funds that could be raised would be approximately \$13,960. Mayor Ing-Moody and Council discussed the numerous state and federal funding sources that currently help Twisp with street improvements. It was noted that interior residential streets often do not qualify for state and federal funding and funds from a TBD would help fund improvements to those streets.

Director Denham noted that streets with infrastructure needs would preclude that street from a major resurfacing improvement until that improvement could be partnered with an infrastructure project to fix the whole street. He noted that the street fund balance has declined every year and more funding is needed.

The Council asked Director Denham some clarifying questions before it was determined that the formation of a TBD will be further discussed by the Public Works committee comprised of Council Members Lloyd and Fleming.

Action: Resolution #16-573-Water Systems Plan

The Water Systems Plan has been reviewed by the Washington State Department of Health and is recommended for approval to the Town Council at this time.

Director Denham stated that the Water Systems Plan is dated September of 2015 and Twisp's newest Cross Connection Plan was approved by the Council in March of 2015 and was not included in the final Water Systems Plan. He stated that the Water Systems Plan is a working document and can be revised as needed after its approval by Council.

Motion:

Council Member Smith made the motion to approve Resolution #16-573-Water Systems Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Studen and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Town of Twisp Wagner Pool Investment

The Town of Twisp receives \$15,000 a year from the Wagner Foundation for the maintenance and operations of the Wagner Pool. Clerk Moriarty has received notification that Merrill Lynch, the company responsible for holding the bonds and disbursing the \$15,000 each year, is terminating the account and will not act as the holding company for the investment any longer.

Merrill Lynch has given the Town until March 7, 2016, to decide what it wants to do with the bonds including moving the bonds to another company.

Action:

Clerk Moriarty will research the best option for the Town to move the bonds to a different firm.

Action: Appointment of a Planning Commissioner

The Planning Commission has a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Mayor Ing-Moody interviewed applicants and is recommending John Battle to the Planning Commission in an at-large position.

Motion:

Council Member Studen made the motion to approve the appointment of John Battle to the Twisp Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Action: Ordinance #701-2016 Budget Amendment

Ordinance #701-2106 Budget Amendment adjusts the beginning fund balances to accurately reflect the actual balances as determined after the first of the year.

Motion:

Council Member Smith moved to approve Ordinance #701-2016 Budget Amendment as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion: Council Member Committee Assignments

Council Member Lloyd will continue as the Chairman and Council Member Fleming as the second committee member on the Public Works Committee.

Council Member Smith was added to the Public Safety: Police, Fire, EMS, and Nuisance Abatement Committee to replace former Council Member Filer. Council Member Studen is the Chairman.

Council Member Studen was added to the Finance: Budget, Taxes, Licenses, Investments, Audit Committee to replace former Council Member Day. Council Member Lloyd is the Chairman.

Council Member Smith was added to the Non-Utility Facilities: Airport, Buildings, and Library Committee as the second member. He will join Council Member Fleming on the Committee.

Council Member Fleming will continue on the Methow Watershed Council and Hans Smith is the Alternate.

Council Member Caswell will be the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation: Pools, Park, and Trails - Liaison. The Sports Complex will be added to the list of amenities under this committee's responsibility.

Mayor Ing-Moody is the representative to the Okanogan Council of Governments and Council Member Lloyd is the alternate.

Council Member Studen is the Representative to the Okanogan County Transit Authority and Council Member Fleming is the Alternate.

Action: Council Meeting Time Change

The starting time for regular Council meetings is presently 5:00. Council members would like more time to get to the meetings after work.

Motion:

The motion was made by Council Member Smith to change the start time of regular Council meetings to 5:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lloyd 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 9th day of February, 2016.

Account Payable	Checks # 32035-32050	\$14,290.97	01/26/16
US Rural Development	EFTs Trans # 159, 161	\$1,000.00	01/28/16
Accounts Payable	Checks # 32051-32056	\$378.00	01/29/16
Payroll	EFTs Trans #256-7, 260,262,264, 266, 269, 271, 312, 344-7 Checks # 14141-14148	\$52,479.53	01/31/16
FP Francotyp-Postalia	EFT Trans # 288	\$500.00	02/01/16
Cashmere Valley Bank	EFT Trans # 295-6	\$1,086.52	02/01/16
Accounts Payable	Checks # 32057-32081	\$70,329.65	02/09/16
Accounts Payable	Check #32082	\$31.00	02/09/16

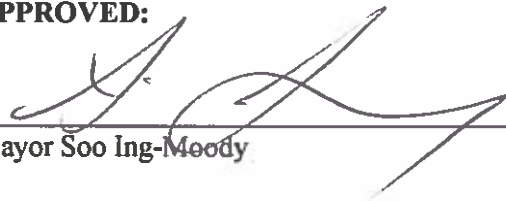
Motion:

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

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:20 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty