

Town of Twisp
Council Minutes – 11/22/16

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

Council Members present: Alan Caswell
 John Fleming
 Hans Smith

Council Member absent: Aaron Studen

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Fleming led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing - 2017 Final Budget Hearing

- Action: #714 – 2017 Final Budget

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the meeting to take comments on the 2017 Final Budget Hearing at 5:33 pm. There was no public to make comment. Mayor Ing-Moody closed the hearing at 5:34 pm.

Mayor Ing-Moody gave an overview of the Mayor’s 2017 Budget Message and stated that the Budget is balanced with revenues growing slowly at a healthy rate. There are a multiple projects that will commence in 2017 with some to be completed in 2017 and others in future phases. For large future public works projects needing to be completed to address aging and inadequate infrastructure, a new Capital Expenditures line item has been added to both the Water and Sewer fund budgets to act as a working reserve to fund these larger future projects. On the law enforcement side of things, she reported that the new cadet currently attending the police academy will complete training and begin working as a third officer for the police department in 2017. Additionally, she noted that the town’s budget does not currently reflect any potential funding which has been applied for and not yet received, such as the additional funds which will be requested during the 2017 legislative session for the completion of the Civic building project; the potential renovation of the Sports Complex through RCO grant funding; or transportation improvements which would be made if we are to be awarded a Completed Streets grant from TIB. If funds for these projects should be received then the town will be making budget amendments at that time.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming made the motion to approve Ordinance #714 – the Final 2017 Budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Request for Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Additions: **Discussion:** ‘09 Application, Resolution #16-596

Deletions: None

Public Comment Period: Up to Three Minutes

Herb Rosenberg, 612 June Street, lives in Painters Addition and May Street is the only access street for that neighborhood. Mr. Rosenberg asked that with the increase in traffic flow on May Street due to the new residential construction in the Painters Addition neighborhood, he wanted to know if a guard rail along the outside edge of May Street overlooking the steep bank to W. 2nd Avenue could be looked into as an added safety measure. Director Denham noted that a guardrail could make snow plowing less effective, but that he would look into the possibility since the hillside is very steep. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked Mr. Rosenberg for his concern and stated that the matter will be further reviewed.

Mr. Rosenberg also noted that the speed limit on N. Wagner Street (Twisp Winthrop Eastside County Road) is 25 mph and asked, due to the lack of activity on that stretch of street, if the speed limit could be increased to 35 mph to fit with the rest of the entrances to town? Certain members of Council had expressed that they too have wondered the same thing. Mr. Rosenberg was again thanked for his observation and the matter will be reviewed.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Ing-Moody reported on the following:

- She reported that the public meeting facilitated by Council Member Smith to take comment on the Community Economic Revitalization Plan (SCJ Alliance) and the Civic Building (Architects West) went well. Many comments were submitted to each of the firms' representatives. Mayor Ing-Moody reported that, as presented to her by Architects West, the overwhelming consensus of the comments at the meeting were to construct a one story Civic Building utilizing a portion of the 3rd Avenue, rather than to construct with added expense a two- story facility.

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 that staff has videotaped 90% of the Town's sewer lines and have cut blocking roots in critical areas.
- He stated that Ryan Sisler, the regular part-time employee for parks, will go full time in January 2017 and will be a great addition to the staff as he is also a highly skilled mechanic and welder.

Council Member Fleming noted the Independent Learning Center (ILC) has a mentoring program for students and asked if there could be any opportunity for Town staff to mentor students. It was stated that the Town's risk management group would have to review that idea.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

There were no reports submitted.

Council Member Fleming – Liaison to the Methow Watershed Council and Council Member Smith

A decision reached by the State Supreme Court, the Hirst Decision, establishes that no county in Washington State can allow any new private well without conducting a hydrogeological study of each well site to determine if there is some potential impact to the minimum Instream Flow of local stream or creeks. Attorneys, the County, and the Methow Watershed Council are not yet sure what that means for water rights reviews in Okanogan County.

The proposed Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plans for Okanogan County are presently under review.

This new decision on water regulations brings about some uncertainty for the watershed and may slow the Instream Flow Rule Revision process down again.

Council Member Smith –Public Safety Committee

Council Member Smith stated that the citizens of Winthrop will vote on annexation into Fire District #6 in February. The Town of Twisp’s contract with Fire District # 6 will expire at the end of 2017 and the committee will start discussions with Fire District #6 in 2017 to review potential terms for a new contract and/or discuss annexation.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Vacant Council Member Position

There has been a vacancy on the Council since Council Member Lloyd resigned. The Council is requesting that the Clerk advertise to fill the position. Advertisements will be run in the Methow Valley News on November 30th and December 7th with interviews at the December 13th Council meeting.

Discussion: 3rd Avenue Vacation

The Town has the preliminary plans for the proposed civic building and the one story model would include expanding the building onto a portion of 3rd Avenue between S. Glover Street and the alley. The one-story model was the preferred choice among the comments received.

Mayor Ing-Moody has asked Attorney DeTro to research the vacation of 3rd Avenue. Emergency vehicle use, traffic flow, and public space are all considerations related to the expansion of the building into 3rd Avenue.

Action: Resolution #16-595 – Highland Associates Contract Renewal for Planning Services

There are 24 more hours included in the 2017 Highlands Associates contract to give Planner Danison an additional 2 hours a month.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming made the motion to approve the 2017 contract with Highlands Associates. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously.

Council Member Fleming, as a citizen who went through a shoreline permit action with Planner Danison this year, noted that more information about timelines for advertising and comments, and appeal timelines would have been helpful for anyone involved in the permitting process with the Town.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that she would discuss that with Planner Danison.

'09 Application

Mayor Ing-Moody explained that '09 funds are given to Okanogan County by the State and the County is required to choose how they wish to share the funds with the cities and towns. For the past 2 years, Mayor Ing-Moody has applied for the funds for the Civic building / EOC (following the 2 years of wildfire disaster). Despite the merits of the project, and having met the stated requirements for prioritization, Twisp has rated low in project rankings. Council Member Fleming attested to the apparent unfair process inherent in the system, whereby the members ranking projects had serious conflicts of interest which were not addressed. A low ranking is not only ineffective, but Mayor Ing-Moody also considered whether the low ranking might even be detrimental in the eyes of other potential funding agencies.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that until the structure and methodology of the board that reviews the applications for the '09 funds is changed she does not have trust in the system and does not see any value in taking the time and resources needed to apply for the funds.

Director Denham offered to complete the application if the Council should still wish to apply despite the expressed reservations.

Resolution #16-596 – Salary and Medical Benefits Schedule

Resolution #16-596 supersedes all previous salary and medical benefit schedule resolutions and revisions. It includes the new full time position in the public works department.

Motion:

Council Member Smith made the motion to approve Resolution #16-596 – Salary and Medical Benefits Schedule. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fleming and passed unanimously.

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 November 22, 2016.

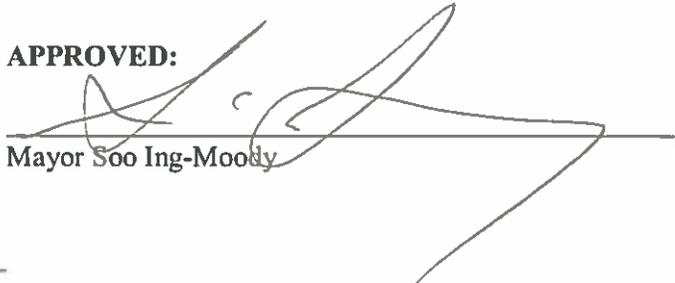
Payroll	EFTs Trans # 2283-2287 Check #14215	\$4,160.00	11/15/16
Accounts Payable	Checks #32716-32743	\$106,920.43	11/22/16
Accounts Payable	Checks # 32750-51	\$26,325.24	11/22/16
US Rural Development	EFTs Trans # 2291	\$683.00	11/28/16
Accounts Payable	Checks # 32744-49	\$378.00	11/30/16

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

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:09 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty