

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 9/10/19

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Caswell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

N/A

Public Comment:

Mark Edson asked when the public will have knowledge of what the acquisition is that is being discussed during Executive Session. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked him for his comment and responded that according to RCW, the Council has the ability to call an Executive Session for Acquisition purposes without disclosing what the acquisition is provided that they must take action in open session.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that she has been busy preparing for the upcoming Council Retreat this weekend and that the budget process has begun. She also reported that AWC is hosting a Mayors Exchange in Leavenworth next week. It is a good opportunity for Mayors from across the State to get together to discuss things that are happening in their respective jurisdictions. The following day is an educational session for Mayors of cities belonging to Strong Mayor - Council forms of government. Mayor Ing-Moody will be facilitating both meetings and is on the panel to share the role and responsibilities of Strong Mayors during the Mayor as CEO session. It has been a long time since AWC has put on this educational forum so it should be interesting.

Staff Reports:

Staff reports are included in the Council packet. Council Member Easton asked Director Denham if the Canyon Street paving is still on schedule. Director Denham reported that it is being pushed back to the weather events that happened recently and that paving should begin Monday. He thinks that the sidewalk will be put in on Thursday. He stated that the project is wrapping up with one more water connection to install. Director Denham reported that the South Taxiway Project is starting on 9/11/19. Council Member Caswell asked Director Denham about the included water totals chart. He wanted to clarify the water loss totals. Director Denham stated that water loss is up a bit this year. He stated that there were two fires that

used a significant amount of water contributing to the numbers. It was then corrected that there have been three fires that have occurred this year in town. Director Denham made the correction and said that he had not remembered the third fire which could significantly account for the additional water loss. Regardless, he is planning to conduct a leak detection for the Town to more accurately account for water totals. Additionally, there is a new meter that was installed in the spring at the Twispworks Campus that does not seem to be capturing accurate water totals and would like to clarify the issue going forward.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports:

Council Member Cordes reported on the Tree Board meeting that met earlier in the day. There was a lot of discussion surrounding tree assessment in Twisp. The Tree Board Members are planning on doing a walk-through town to update current inventory and assess each tree. They would also like to educate residents with free classes on proper tree care.

Council Member Studen reported on the recent TranGo meeting. He stated it was a long meeting and that it is budget season for them. He is participating on the Finance Committee for TranGo and will meet to review the complicated and confusing budget. They also discussed the 5 Year Transit Development Plan that is required by the State. The draft plan is available for everyone to view on their website www.OkanoganTransit.com. You can comment by emailing TranGo or by talking with Council Member Studen. They are also working on purchasing property. Design West is going to conduct the feasibility study to help identify property and associated costs - although they are not yet in a contract. He also reported that they need to rewrite the lost and found policy as the Sheriff's Office is not interested in receiving any items from TranGo. The next meeting is scheduled for October.

Council Member Easton reported that he attended the Methow Valley Climate Change Taskforce Meeting spearheaded by the Methow Valley Citizen's Council back in July. They have created 5 subcommittees – Economy/Tourism/Recreation (Town of Twisp is on this committee), Food/Agriculture, Health/Wellness, Infrastructure (Town of Twisp is on this committee) and Natural Systems. He attended both the subcommittee meetings and a presentation to the taskforce by Dr. Amy Snover titled “Understanding and Preparing for Climate Change in the Methow Valley”. There were approximately 40 community leaders in attendance. They represented organizations and businesses such as VIP Insurance, the Mazama Store, Methow Trails, Willowbrook Farm, Methow Conservancy, Room One, The Cove, Fire District 6, the Okanogan Conservation District, the Town of Winthrop and the Town of Twisp. The goal is for the committees to meet again in November and then there will be a public meeting to get more input. Then an action plan will be developed for the Valley. Council Member Easton found Dr. Snover's presentation to be sobering.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Executive Session: Acquisition:

Mayor Ing-Moody excused the staff and public at 5:55pm for an executive session. At 6:15 pm Mayor Ing-Moody resumed the Council Meeting with no action taken following the executive session.

Discussion/Action: Land Use - Animals:

Mayor Ing-Moody opening the discussion on having a rooster within Town Limits. She stated that Shane Shaneyfelt has been into Town Hall and has expressed his displeasure that no action has been taken yet. She informed the Council that according to the disabilities act, which may likely pertain to emotional support animals, any support animal must be under the voice control of its owner so as not to be a nuisance, threat or endangerment to anyone. Council Member Studen stated he thought the Council agreed that the rooster does not qualify for an emotional support animal so that part of the discussion was off the table. Council Member Smith stated that the Council had received public comment that federal regulations require allowing emotional support animals on a flight or in a rental house, but given that there appears to be a requirement for voice control, the type of animal in this discussion likely wouldn't be protected anyway. Council Member Cordes asked if the animal might be allowed to stay inside. Mayor Ing-Moody responded that that could be construed as cruel for the animal and that it would result in potential enforcement issues. She gave the Council the options to either change the code allow roosters within town or apply for a variance of the code. Council Member Smith stated that he had researched whether a variance was possible under this instance with the town Planner, and they concluded that this would not be suitable for a variance under that use. You can apply for a variance if the situation is not under the control of the person asking for the variance. The rooster does not meet variance requirements. The Mayor restated that the Council would have to change the code to enable the rooster to stay. Any changes to the code must be enforceable. Council Member Easton said that he feels for the residents and understands the reason for them to want to keep the rooster. He stated that an ordinance however is an ordinance and that ordinances must be upheld and enforced. He shared that when he moved to town, he had 6 chickens and had to get rid of 2. He doesn't feel comfortable in changing the Code.

Council Member Easton moved to keep the Ordinance as is and not change it. The motion was seconded by Council Member Studen and passed unanimously.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that she knows this was a difficult decision for everyone involved and thanks the Council and Staff for the time spent researching and making a decision. She will direct the appropriate staff to enforce the code.

Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes – 6/11/19, 8/20/19, 8/27/19

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 10th day of September 2019.

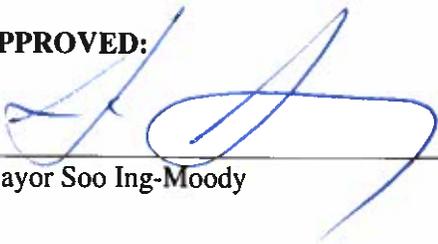
Accounts Payable	EFT# 2086-2088	1146.42	9/10/2019
Accounts Payable	Warrants # 35032-35037	3979.09	9/10/2019
Accounts Payable	Warrants # 34980-35031	144224.52	9/10/2019
Payroll	EFT# 2043,2047,2048,2050,2052-2057,2059-2061,2065,2066,2068,2071-2076 Warrants # 14441-14448	66996.79	8/31/2019

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

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:34 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer