

Town of Twisp
Council Minutes – 11/24/15
5:00 PM

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Council Members present: Bob Lloyd
 Aaron Studen
 Dwight Filer
 John Fleming

Council Member absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Filer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Woman of Valor

Council Member Fleming reported to the audience that Mayor Ing-Moody had been honored in Seattle by Senator Cantwell along with four other women who were chosen for providing leadership in their communities. Council Member Fleming read the opening statement made by Senator Cantwell when introducing the Mayor at the ceremony and stated that the recognition was well deserved. All Council Members congratulated the Mayor.

Mayor Ing-Moody expressed that it was an honor to be the Mayor for Twisp and that she appreciated the support of the Council and staff.

Public Hearing – 2016 Preliminary Budget Hearing

Mayor Ing-Moody opened the public hearing at 5:06 pm to take comments on the 2016 Preliminary Budget. There was no public to make comment at that time. Mayor Ing-Moody noted the Council could also discuss the budget under Old/New Business as per the agenda. Mayor Ing-Moody closed the hearing at 5:09 pm.

Request for Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

Additions: None

Deletions: None

Public Comment Period: Up to Three Minutes

Barri Bernier expressed that she and her husband Garth Mudge own the vacant lot at 214 S. Glover Street. They plan to build on the lot in the spring and have had discussions with Director Denham about the best way to get water to the lot. They had discovered after purchasing the property that there was no water supply connected to their lot and asked if a decision had been made on how water could be supplied to their lot.

Mayor Ing-Moody and Director Denham assured them that the issue of getting water to 214 S. Glover Street was being worked on and Director Denham would be contacting them with more information as he is able.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Ing-Moody reported on the following:

- She reported that she and staff have been working diligently on the budget.
- She reported that she has communicated with Governor Inslee's office about the need for more funding for the proposed Civic building.
- She reported that she and Chief Budrow attended a meeting aimed at improving telecommunications for public safety responders. First Net, a federal program, and One Net, a Washington State program, were discussed at this meeting. This first scoping meeting was to get input from local entities on communication needs during emergency events.
- She reported that Okanogan Council of Governments (OCOG) may be asking state legislators to change the language in the state code for regional transportation planning organizations to include entities such as OCOG who are not part of a Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

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.

Director Denham

- He noted that the highs and lows in the water loss report are partly due to 35 year old meters, and leaky valves in the distribution system.
- He reported that he has asked Fire District #6 to notify him when they use town water to flush hydrants.
- He reported that the estimates for relining the Twisp Pool are coming in slowly; he will keep everyone in the loop when the Town has firm estimates.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

There were no reports submitted.

Council Member Fleming - Civic Building Committee

- He reported that there will be a meeting on December 4th to interview the top 3 firms who applied to design the Civic and shop buildings.
- Letters of support from the Okanogan County Commissioners, Forest Service District Ranger Liu, Okanogan County Sheriff Rogers, Aero Methow and NCW Economic Development District were received for the Civic building.

Council Member Filer – Okanogan County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

- He reported that the Authority was delayed in ordering the buses due to a Federal Department of Transportation funding problem. The buses are expected to be ordered soon and on the road by May or June.
- He reported that there will be public forums held in the Methow Valley in January or February to discuss the transit system with citizens.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Action: Resolution #15-566 – Twisp Economic Revitalization Master Plan Consultants Agreement with SCJ Alliance

SCJ Alliance was chosen as the firm to develop the community economic revitalization master plan for the Town of Twisp.

Motion:

Council Member Filer moved to adopt Resolution #15-566 approving the contract with SCJ Alliance for the Twisp Community Economic Revitalization Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fleming and passed unanimously.

Discussion: 2016 Preliminary Budget

The Council was given a 2016 preliminary budget with all the funds balanced except Water and Sewer.

Mayor Ing-Moody noted the change of an additional law enforcement officer position included in the 2016 budget. She explained that the funds for an additional officer came from cuts to Temporary Officers, Overtime, and contingency line items. She stated that she feels that public safety will be better served with an additional officer, especially in light of the last two years of disasters.

Mayor Ing-Moody also noted that the Street Fund has been dwindling each year and that all street projects, not already funded for 2016, would not be implementable unless another revenue source can be identified. She noted that a discussion on a Transportation Benefit District is on the agenda for the Council to consider.

Clerk Moriarty noted the change in the budget formatting which allows grants to be listed in the 300 Revenue line items separately.

Discussion: 2016 Water and Sewer Rates

Water and sewer revenue did not equal expenditures for the year 2015.

Clerk Moriarty submitted a spreadsheet with proposed rate increases in water and sewer for council discussion.

During last year's budget discussions, it was noted that smaller annual increases might be easier on citizens than large sporadic increases.

The Mayor and Council discussed Twisp's aging water and sewer systems and the long list of projects that need to be completed to sustain supply and demand for Twisp.

Director Denham noted that he has cut several important projects in order to reduce the percentage of rate increase from the 2016 Budget. Any increases above the minimum amount required to balance the budget would potentially enable a cut project to be implemented. He does not feel comfortable to cut any more than has already been.

Council Member Filer asked to have additional increases of 12% and 14% to water and sewer be included on the rate spreadsheets for the Council to discuss at the next meeting. He stated that larger increases might allow important projects to be completed.

Discussion: Transportation Benefits District

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that she and staff are looking at a dwindling budget for streets and the poor condition of the streets in Twisp, especially noticeable for residential streets ineligible for grant funding.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that there are over 75 Transportation Benefit Districts in Washington State. The Districts are allowed to assess an annual \$20 fee for every vehicle licensed within the Town.

The forming of a TBD and assessing a fee of \$20 per registration would not be required to be a ballot measure.

Mayor Ing-Moody will have more information about TBD, at a later date after the Town receives some requested information from the Department of Licensing.

Action: Resolution #15-565-Salary Schedule

Clerk Moriarty submitted a Salary Schedule for 2016.

Motion:

Council Member Lloyd moved to approve the Salary Schedule for 2016 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fleming and passed unanimously.

Action: Resolution #15-567-Department of Ecology Interagency Agreement and Interagency Receivable

Resolution #15-567 approves the water service contract between the Office of Columbia River, Washington Department of Ecology and the Town of Twisp and authorizes the Mayor to execute the contract for the Town.

The monthly payment for 25 years will be \$11,400 and is reflected in the 2016 Budget.

Motion:

Council Member Fleming moved to approve Resolution \$15-567 – Department of Ecology Interagency Agreement with the Town of Twisp. The motion was seconded by Council Member Studen and passed unanimously.

Discussion: Civil Service Commission

The Town of Twisp has a three person Civil Service Commission. Two of the members of the Commission have recently moved out of town. Commission members are required to live in the town limits. Attorney Detro has stated that the two commissioners will be allowed to serve on the Board as de facto members until such time as they can be replaced.

Clerk Moriarty will advertise for new civil service commission members.

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 24th day of November, 2015.

Payroll	EFTs Trans # 2444, 45 Checks # 14121,22	43,560.00	11/15/15
MVID	Check #31890	\$5,000.00	11/16/15
Accounts Payable	Checks 31891-31916	\$36,616.60	11/24/15
US Rural Development	EFTs Trans # 2467,68	\$1,000.00	11/28/15
Accounts Payable	Checks # 31917-31922	\$378.00	11/30/15

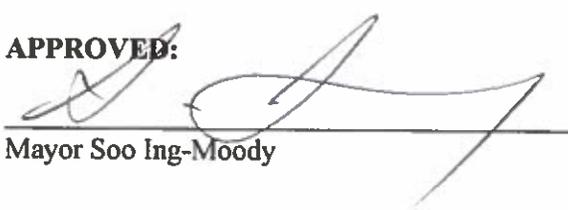
Motion:

Council Member Lloyd 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 7:15 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty