

**Town of Twisp**  
**Council Minutes – 12/11/12**  
**7:00 PM**

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Council Members present:      Traci Day  
   Clay Hill  
   Clint Estes  
   John Fleming

Council Member absent:      Bob Lloyd

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Council Member Estes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Request for Additions or Deletions to the Agenda**

**Additions:**      Ord. # 654 – 2012 Budget Amendment

**Deletions:**      Public Development Authority (TwispWorks) Appointment

**Public Comment Period**

There was none.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Ing-Moody reported on the following:

- She reported that Twisp didn't receive the Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) grant that the Town with others had applied for early in December. She stated that she will continue to work with the other organizations to keep the forward motion of economic development alive.

**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.

**Commission/Committee/Board Reports**

There were no reports submitted.

Council Member Day reminded the Council of the Planning Commission public hearings for Wednesday evening. The first hearing will be to take comments on the Twisp River Suites Planned Development Modification. The second hearing will take comments on Twisp's proposed Sign Ordinance.

Council Member Hill stated that he attended an Okanogan County Public Transportation Authority Board meeting. The meeting was scheduled to review Authority by-laws and to appoint Board officers. He stated that the Board discussed a levy of four tenths of a percent that would fund the Authority. This levy request would go to the citizens of the County for approval. The Board will meet again in January.

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

### **Fire District #6 – Contract for Services**

Council Member Hill sent a proposal with Council approval to District #6 on December 4<sup>th</sup>, presenting District #6 with an offer to extend the Town's contract for a starting amount of \$35,000 for 2013 with 5% increases to a maximum amount of \$42,542 in 2017. The \$35,000 figure was reached by subtracting the expense of property and liability insurance for the fire truck and fire hall of \$4,270 and half of the 2012 budget of \$4,466 for fire secretary wages, taxes, and benefits from the 2012 fire budget of \$41,500. The proposal stated that yearly increases were contingent on an improved fire rating with Washington Survey and Rating Bureau.

District #6 countered with a proposal dated December 7<sup>th</sup>, stating the same starting amount of \$35,000 for 2013 followed by an approximate 20% increase in 2014 and subsequent 5% increases thereafter to a higher maximum amount of \$48,620 in 2017 than proposed by the Town. District #6 would pay the first \$10,000 of major repairs to fire engine or fire hall with the Town responsible for the remainder. The increases would not be contingent on District #6 improving the Town's fire rating with Washington Survey and Rating Bureau.

Also on December 7<sup>th</sup> when the counter proposal was forwarded to the Town, a press release was issued by District #6 incorrectly stating that District #6 would accept Twisp's proposal for fire service for a contracted amount of \$35,000 in 2013 in order to allow Twisp a year to prepare for the 2014 contract rate of \$42,000. As the Council had not even had the opportunity to meet regarding the terms as newly proposed by District #6 for such a significantly increased contract amount for 2014 from \$35,000 to \$42,000 Mayor Ing-Moody stated that such a statement to the press was inaccurate and misleading. The Council discussed the budgetary impacts such an increase might pose.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that if an agreement could not be reached with District #6 by the end of the year, as per our current contract, the 1997 contract would automatically be reinstated. Mayor Ing-Moody shared legal counsel's review of the 1997 Fire Services Contract which concluded the contract would hold District #6 responsible to the original terms of a joint consolidated service warranting their response to Town incidents. Council discussed District #6's interpretation of the contract and the likelihood that the District would attempt to terminate the contract requiring arbitration.

The Council discussed the possibility of a one year contract versus a five year contract. A one year contract would enable the discussion regarding long-term fire protection services to continue and allow for public input. The Mayor and Council were in agreement that it is a decision that should include the citizens of Twisp, including the possibility of annexation into District #6 and/or the approval of a levy which could fund the yearly contracted payments on a sustainable basis. It was considered that after further consultation with the citizens, a longer termed contract could be possible beginning in 2014.

Council considered that a one year contract should be agreeable to District #6 since the terms for 2013 would remain the same as they had requested and in lieu of a five year contract, the Town would for the year assume the risk of not having a contingency reserve for maintenance and operational expenses over \$10,000, and additionally offering to actively work with the community to consider long term options.

The council also discussed re-offering the option of the Town's latest proposal for a five year contract if District #6 would prefer it over the one year contract.

**Motion:**

Council Member Estes made a motion to propose to District #6 a one year contract for 2013 with a contracted payment of \$35,000. This option would include language stating that the Town actively agrees to pursue either annexation or a levy to provide for incremental increases. District #6 would pay the first \$10,000 for major repairs to either the Twisp fire engine or Twisp fire hall and the balance paid by Town. This option is not contingent on the fire district improving the Town's fire rating with Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau. If the District would prefer, Option #2 would include a 5 year contract with a 5% increase on contracted costs beginning in 2014 contingent upon the Town's fire rating being improved, add proposed arbitration language and dispute resolution language, absorb half of the proposed costs of secretarial wages and benefits, and revamp the contingency budgeted for repairs and maintenance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Day and passed unanimously.

**Ordinance #652-2013 Final Budget**

Mayor Ing-Moody stated there is \$35,000 in the 2013 budget for contract fire services as it was incumbent of her to include a realistic figure for contract fire services. She stated that the 2013 Budget had been reviewed by all Council, is balanced, and ready for approval.

**Motion:**

Council Member Fleming moved to approve Ordinance #652, the 2013 Final Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Day and passed unanimously.

**Ordinance #654-2012 Budget Amendment**

Clerk Moriarty explained that Methow Watershed Council's fiscal year runs July through June and \$50,000 was received in June in addition to funds noted in the 2012 Budget for the Methow Watershed Council. In 2012, \$25,560 of the \$50,000 was expended for consultant and administration expenses. These funds expended in 2012 need to be represented in the 2012 Budget as the monies were not awarded until July of 2012. The remaining 24,440 will be expended by June 30, 2013.

**Motion:**

Council Member Fleming moved to approve Ordinance #654 the 2012 Budget Amendment as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda**

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Approval Minutes 11/27/12 & 12/03/12

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 27th day of November.

Payroll	13353-13368 EFTs Trans #2662-2664	\$46,086.84	11/30/12
Cashmere Valley Bank	EFTs Trans #2667-2668	\$2,341.51	12/01/12
Checks	29602-29633	\$20,037.63	12/11/12
Payroll	13369-13372	\$2,750.00	12/14/12

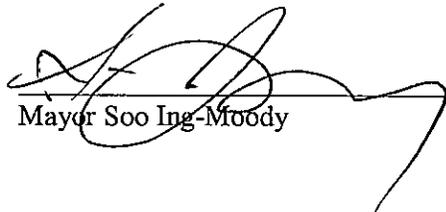
**Motion:**

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

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

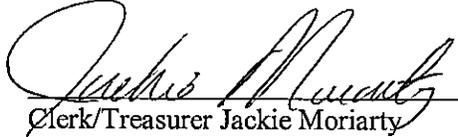
**APPROVED:**




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Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

**ATTEST:**




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Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty