

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 1/28/2020

Mayor Pro-Tem Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Studen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

Additions:

Discussion/Action: Twisp Airport Ground Lease

Public Comment:

Dick Pattison from the Twisp Airport Advisory Board commented that it's been a long process to get to where we are today with the Airport Ground Lease. He believes the updated version being considered by the Council addresses issues important to the town and to the lease holders. He thanked Council Member Smith and Council Member Caswell for their role in lease discussions. He is hopeful the Council will approve the lease and get lease holders to sign up on the new lease.

Leone Edson was surprised to read the article in the newspaper about the town purchasing a chipper. She is concerned that the town might be competing with private businesses by offering a free service to the community when existing businesses rely on that revenue. She questions how the town will police community chipping events so that only Twisp residents are using the service, and how Public Works will be able to devote time to chipping being that the department is seemingly short staffed. She also commented on the artist rendering of the new Civic Center/EOC that it looked like "Seattle" and she wonders who will be doing outside maintenance.

Mark Edson stated that purchasing a chipper is only leading to a Town of Twisp "Devitalization Plan". He is concerned that if the town offers free chipping events using citizen tax dollars, it will be competing with private companies who rely on that business. As for the Civic Center/EOC rendering, it is his opinion that it shows the town's inability to come up with a common-sense design. He stated that he would still like to attend any public meetings for the Civic Building to learn more, and that he routinely contacts Town Hall each week to ask if there are any meetings planned.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that Mayor Ing-Moody is in Olympia attending AWC Action Days. He explained that the Civic Center/EOC rendering provided in the packet is the most recent artist rendering of the planned Civic Center, and that this is the first time the entire Council has had a chance to see the new external aesthetic being considered. He stated that at the next regular Council meeting on February 11th, the architects will be presenting the 65% design drawings to Council, staff and the public, which will include updated renderings of the external elements of the Civic Center/EOC.

Staff Reports

Council Member Caswell asked Director Denham if he was aware that some of the streetlights were not working on Saturday night. Director Denham stated that he recently obtained a flash controller that he needs to give the battery boxes a recharge and hopes that will help get more lights working. He also stated that the recent streetlight project removed 8 PUD lights and installed 28 new solar lights so overall having 11 lights currently lit at night is still more than was previously lit. He believes that a higher number of foggy days and snowy nights this particular winter contributed to some of the new lights not working.

The Police Department included their year end report in the packets.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports

Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that he attended the Twisp Airport Advisory Board meeting the previous day. Although he will speak more about the lease later in the agenda, he thought the meeting went well and is excited to have Council review the new recommended lease.

Council Member Cordes attended the Methow Valley Trails Collaborative Meeting. She said they felt they has a great Summit Meeting with good conversation and data collection. In April there will be a team of AmeriCorps volunteers coming to the Methow Valley for 4 months and are looking for outdoor projects including parks cleanup, trail work, etc. She said they will be working on the Virginia Ridge trail system. MV Trails is also working on possibly building a multiuse trail at Liberty Bell Highschool that was part of a student project presentation. It would provide 4.5 miles of trails that would be available for the school as well as public use.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Action: Twisp Airport Ground Lease Agreement:

Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that the draft lease agreement is on the table for Council consideration. It has been a long process of negotiation and legal drafting getting to this point. He wanted to point out that the Council had adopted a previous similar version at the recommendation of the Airport Advisory Board, but that once that version was reviewed by the town's insurer there were some needed changes to ensure the town had adequate liability coverage. The new version being recommended by the Airport Advisory Board has been reviewed and approved as adequate by the town's insurer and legal counsel, and it keeps most of the non-insurance terms previously approved by the Council intact.

One non-insurance change Mayor Pro Tem Smith wanted to discuss with the Council is the proposed Section 2. Rental Fee – adding in the Transportation Services line-item in the consumer Price Index for the basis of limiting how the annual rental fee can increase. Mayor Pro Tem Smith feels that using the straight CPIU better captures likely increases in the cost of goods, materials, and services over time, and that the Transportation Services line-item really only depicts the cost impact of moving goods through transportation systems, not the increase (or decrease) in the relative cost of goods actually experienced by the consumer.. Council Member Easton is ok with the lease as it is as long as the transportation services line item wording is removed and used only CPIU instead. Council Member Cordes feels there is value to lease holders to switch over if they won't see an inordinately large yearly rate increase, so she would support using the Transportation Services line-item which is currently less than the straight CPIU.

After more discussion about the lease rate Council Member Easton moved to adopt the Twisp Airport Ground Lease recommended by the Airport Advisory Board with the change of striking the Transportation Services Line Item statement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Studen and passed with 3 votes and 2 abstentions (the abstentions being Council Member Cordes and Mayor Pro Tem Smith).

Discussion/Action: Resolution #20-652 – 2020 Interlocal Agreement for Building Inspector Services with Okanogan County:

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer stated that the only change in this agreement for this year is replacing a few names on the signature page and updating the year.

Council Member Caswell moved to approve Resolution #20-652 – 2020 Interlocal Agreement for Building Inspector Services. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed with 4 votes and 1 abstaining (the abstention being Mayor Pro Tem Smith).

Discussion/Action: Planning Commission 2020 Docket:

Council Member Easton would like the Planning Commission to look at Paradise, California and see what was adopted for land use planning and updates to the building code for better firewise development in that community. He said that town has dramatically changed their codes after recent fires so that when things are re-built it must be firewise and he thinks that we should think about that here with our own fire risk situation. He would like to see the town be more proactive to reduce catastrophic fire risk given the likelihood of future extreme fire events in the Methow Valley.

The Council also discussed recommending to the Planning Commission the following Actions:

Concur with stated docket for 2020 work. In addition to that work, please consider the following:

1. Research new codes and ordinances in Paradise California to be more proactive on creating a more firewise community in Twisp.
2. Examine the process and requirements for issuing public notices and seeking comments r for land use proposals that occur where mixed uses abut. For example, where commercial zones abut residential zones, and a project proponent wants to establish a land use that might

- conflict with the land uses in the adjacent zoning. Who gets notified when there are changes in business or structures in back to back zones if the proposed change is consistent with existing zoning requirements?
3. Development Standards – there needs to be a comprehensive review of the new Development Standards document in comparison with the town’s existing codes and ordinances to ensure there are no conflicts and that the Development Standards are able to be used efficiently by developers.
 4. Comprehensive Plan Update – please make an effort to include Public Works in the discussion about the scope of any upcoming Comprehensive Plan Updates.

Council Member Caswell moved to approve the Planning Commission Docket provided to the Council by Planning Commission Chair Battle with the four additional considerations. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed with 4 votes and 1 abstaining (the abstention being Mayor Pro Tem Smith).

Discussion/Action: Creative Arts District MOU Amendments:

Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that our attorney Scott DeTro and Mayor Ing – Moody had made the edits to the agreement as presented in the Council packet. Passages B-G were being removed as it doesn’t pertain to this type of agreement. All proposed edits were fine with Methow Arts, Scott DeTro, and Mayor Ing – Moody.

Council Member Cordes moved to approve the Creative Arts District MOU between the Town of Twisp and Methow Arts. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed with 4 votes and 1 abstaining (the abstention being Mayor Pro Tem Smith).

Discussion/Action: Varela Owner-Engineer Agreement Amendment 2020-01- Wastewater Facility Plan:

Council Member Studen moved to approve Amendment 2020-01 – Wastewater Facility Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed with 4 votes and 1 abstaining (the abstention being Mayor Pro Tem Smith).

Discussion/Action: Approval of Methow Watershed Position 5 & 6 appointments (Bill Tackman and Ashley Thrasher)

Council Member Easton moved to approve the appointment of Bill Tackman to Watershed Position # 5 and Ashley Thrasher to Watershed Position #6. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed with 4 votes and 1 abstaining (the abstention being Mayor Pro Tem Smith).

Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes – 01/14/20

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 28th day of January 2020.

Payroll	EFT # 191-196	6960.00	1/15/2020
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 35226-35231	11579.51	12/27/2019
Accounts Payable	EFT # 311	683.00	1/28/2020
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 35306-35320	40176.47	1/28/2020

Council Member Easton 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 Pro Tem Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVED:



 Mayor Pro Tem Hans Smith

ATTEST:



 Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer