

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 8/10/2021

Mayor Ing-Moody called the video conference meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Council Members present via phone/video: Hans Smith
Mark Easton
Hannah Cordes
Aaron Studen
Alan Caswell

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

- Discussion/Action: USDA Water Project - Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions
- Discussion/Action: USDA Water Project – Request for Obligation of Funds
- Discussion/Action: USFS Emergency Facilities and Land Use Agreement – Twisp Park
- Discussion/Action: USFS Commercial Agreement – Fire Hydrant Usage

Public Comment:

Mayor-Ing Moody read aloud the following public comment:

Hi Randy,
My wife Molly and I own the Glover Street Market. We have an on-going conversation with Town officials about our alley access, necessary to run our business. We missed the 7/27 meeting, as the topic appeared as a "parking restriction" on the agenda. The line item on this week's agenda looks like it is designed to give the Town authority to enforce a partial parking ban on part of 2nd Avenue to allow for trucks to make the turn into our part of the alley between Glover and Lincoln streets. We appreciate the attention to the topic of access, but would like to comment on the proposed solution for a couple of reasons.

First, we believe that there needs to be a comprehensive solution to the alley access problem that covers all property owners who have property that backs onto the alley between River Street and Twisp Works on the other end. All owners need to have access to the full width of the right of way for the entire length of the alley, together with the ability of over the road trucks to make turns into and out of the right of way at designated access points. This should cover all obstructions in the alley, including garbage cans, chairs etc., as even the smallest of obstructions in an already narrow alley make it impossible to take deliveries at the rear of businesses. The alternative is to have trucks pull up in Glover Street, set out cones, unload pallets, and then unload those pallets by hand in the street or sidewalk, and hand-carry items to the back of the various businesses.

Second, the parking restriction as proposed only extends until 8:00 a.m. The Methow Valley is typically on some point of a large delivery loop for most companies that extends throughout North Central Washington. We don't have the ability to choose our delivery times, and most would fall outside of the parking restriction time window. Then again, we are back in Glover Street unloading large trucks in the public right of way and typically during business hours.

Lack of access to the alley puts a burden on businesses that affects the viability of those businesses.

We need to be able to take deliveries at the back of our properties, off of Glover Street, where we can process our deliveries where they should be processed. The alley needs to be kept clear and all businesses need to make provisions for garbage etc. on their own properties and not within a public right of way. Access to the alley continues to diminish as obstructions are installed, for example the new Town hall closing 3rd Avenue to traffic.

We would like to comment narrowly on the parking ordinance that is on the agenda, but this is also a broader issue that needs to be addressed.

--Jeff Patterson

Could you make sure that this gets on Public Comment this evening...

It has come to my attention by several local contractors coming into our shop they have all been voicing the statement on what poor quality of job has been done thus far on the foundation of the new town hall. The workmanship on the concrete is unacceptable and would not pass their residential standards on home building. I do know that the codes have changed from the inspection end of it through our building codes and our local inspectors are not responsible for that. So, this is my concern...is the rest of the structure going to be done this poorly? Are we paying for a Jaguar and getting a Volkswagen? Do we have specialty inspectors involved? I know I will not be getting a response, but definitely something to think about.

---Leone Edson, Resident

Randy, please include the below as my Public Comment for tonight's meeting.

Now that the air quality conditions have changed & updated for Twisp, and the staffing has already been budgeted for the pool, can a prompt reopening take place for the remaining summer season? Please advise.

Also, I notice that the meetings do not open with either a reading or motion to waive the reading of the previous minutes. It is difficult to be accurately informed without meeting minute approval of prior meetings. In spending of the ARPA grants - please give equal consideration to the spending of those dollars that will benefit the community as a whole as well as internal spending that doesn't support public benefit. Moving forward, more clarification on the potential to spend \$20,000 of the ARPA on the website & \$1,500 remote staff equipment & is appreciated.

It is very good to see the breakdown of dollars put toward the park equipment. A point of pride in ownership so to speak.

---Dara Perez

Mayor Ing-Moody asked Clerk Treasurer Kilmer and Deputy Clerk Grennell if any other public comment had been received prior to the meeting. They both verified that nothing else had been received.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that she has spent a large amount of her time attending meetings about the fires in our area. She said they held a community meeting last night that was a virtual meeting online and simultaneously broadcasted on the local American Legion radio station. She thanked the Legion for their offer to provide information to those who are not tech savvy online with another way to reach the broader community. She said she is glad for the fresh air and grateful that evacuation levels have been reduced, but cautioned that there is still fire burning in the area. With the anticipated hotter and drier weather forecasted for the next couple of days, she said we need to stay vigilant as a community as it is still fire season. She said that there will be a new Type 1 team coming in from California to take over the fires as the other team is timing out. This new team will manage all 4 fires in the County (Delancey, Cedar Creek, Cub Creek 2, and Muckamuck) and sharing resources.

Staff Reports:

Director Denham reported that he hasn't had a chance to write a staff report as he is short staffed. He said the projects continue as planned. He said the residents on W. Twisp Ave are patient and understanding of the project going on there and he is grateful.

Committee/Commission/Board Reports:

Council Member Smith said he attended a Public Safety committee meeting where they continued to discuss the collective bargaining for the Police Officers. He said at some point when there is an agreement the committee recommends, then it will be brought to Council for review and approval.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/Action ARPA Funds Update/Request:

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer has provided an easy breakdown of the current ARPA fund approvals/requests/estimates for Council to review. Council Member Smith asked if the advanced endpoint security/email monitoring cost would be needed for the following year as well. Kilmer said that it would probably be needed and that it can be approved now or later. Mayor Ing-Moody said that the park repairs are the result of the ongoing conversation for critical repairs at the park which includes new swings and ground cover. She said they would like to improve the playground for safety purposes.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the park repairs, advanced endpoint security, and staff remote hardware expenses with the 2021 ARPA funds. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Ordinance #773 – TMC Chapter 10.20 Parking:

Council Member Easton said that after hearing the public comment received at the beginning of tonight's meeting it brought up valid points. He said that making sure the alleyways are kept clear and remain unimpeded. Director Denham stated that he has been meeting with business owners to better understand their needs as well as having met with the PUD about power pole repositioning where it encroaches too much into the right of way. He said he is doing all that he can to help open the alleyway as wide as possible. Council Member Easton is asking if there is a way to keep the parking prohibited until 12 noon, that maybe it would help with delivery times. Denham replied that he only discussed with the business owners the possibility of prohibiting the parking until 8am and so he doesn't know if they would be amenable to changing the time later. Council Member Smith said from the sound of the public comment he doesn't seem to think that 8am is agreeable. Council Member Easton asked if they could wait and have Director Denham follow up with business owners to see how they would feel about changing the time to 12 noon. Mayor Ing-Moody stated that this item will be brought back for further discussion at a later meeting.

Discussion/Action: Resolution #21-682 USDA Sewer Project Grant/Loan:

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer stated that this is a loan resolution for the Sewer Improvement project and is more of a housekeeping type of approval. He said they've already approved the project and conditions.

Council Member Smith moved to approve Resolution #21-682. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: USDA Water and Waste System Grant Agreement:

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer said this is the grant acceptance agreement that goes along with the loan mentioned in the previous agenda item.

Council Member Studen moved to approve the USDA Water and Waste System Grant Agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Department of Ecology – Shoreline Master Plan Grant:

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer stated that we are eligible for a grant award of \$11,200 for updating the Shoreline Master Plan. He said that to remain in compliance we have to update the plan and to receive the grant monies we need to apply. He said the town will work with Planner Kurt Danison on the request and execution of the Plan.

Council Member Studen moved to approve the application for grant money to update the Shoreline Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: TIB Grant – SCAP Cascade Loop Application:

Director Denham said this is the third year that the town has applied to reconstruct Cascade Loop. He said it's in dire need of construction but they have kept the plan bare bones and as simple as possible to hope for a grant award. He said if awarded, the work would be scheduled for some time next year.

Council Member Caswell moved to approve the TIB – SCAP Cascade Loop grant application. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: TIB Grant – Small City Maintenance Program Application:

Director Denham said this is a brand new grant this year. He said TIB targets low cost effective dollars for town staff to utilize the small works roster to save on engineering costs. He is asking for \$66,800. He said it can be used for fixing pot holes, etc. He said the town needs to apply by Thursday to be considered. He believes this program is a good start and would like to see more thought and strategy go into the future of the program.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the TIB –Small City Maintenance Program Grant application. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: USDA Water Project - Letter of Intent to Meet Conditions:

Director Denham said that Clerk Kilmer did all of the work on this application that became a 100% grant for \$250,000. He said that at the end of working off the 4-year funding package it's frustrating to come up short in the end. He is glad that there won't be a need to take out a loan to finish the project and the grant significantly lessens the financial burden on the Town.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the USDA Water Projects – Letter of Intent as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: USDA Water Project – Request for Obligation of Funds:

Council Member Studen moved to approve USDA Water Projects – Request for Obligation of Funds as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: USFS Emergency Facilities and Land Use Agreement – Twisp Park:

Mayor Ing-Moody explained that this agreement is for the Fire Teams in the event that they should need to use the park for any future community meetings; a fee would be collected and liabilities covered should something happen. She said it is standard as we usually have these agreements in place during large fire events where reimbursement is possible.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the USFS Facilities and Land Use Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: USFS Commercial Agreement – Fire Hydrant Usage:

Mayor Ing-Moody said that this agreement is for use of the fire hydrant at the Fire Hall in the event that they need to use water for structure protection during the ongoing fires. She said reimbursement of water used is important since we cannot gift this resource; reimbursement is standard during large fire events and would financially assist to keep costs down for the Town in the event water is needed.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the USFS Commercial Agreement for hydrant usage as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

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 10th day of August 2021.

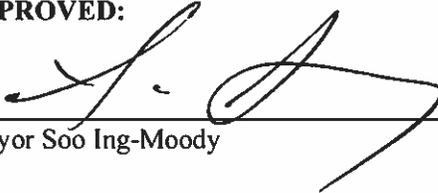
Payroll	EFT# 1558-1585 Warrant # 14459-14465	70835.02	7/30/21
Accounts Payable	EFT # 1434, 1619, 1620	809.46	8/10/21
Accounts Payable	Warrant# 36855-36886, 1572-1574	206489.22	8/10/21
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 36887-36895	10767.83	8/10/21

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

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing – Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:25pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer