

**Town of Twisp
Special Meeting - Retreat
Council Minutes – 02/11/23**

Mayor Ing-Moody called the retreat to order on Saturday, February 11th at 9:26 AM

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Easton.

Retreat Theme: “Focus on Sustainability”

Council Members present: Aaron Studen
Katrina Auburn - Remote
Hans Smith
Alan Caswell
Mark Easton

Department Heads present: Randy Kilmer, Clerk/Treasurer

Changes, Additions, Deletions to Agenda

N/A

Opening Remarks – Mayor Ing-Moody

Yesterday, you heard about the state of our departments, the progress made, the challenges we’ve faced along the way. Today, we’ll take the knowledge we have at our disposal and apply it to creating opportunities that will benefit our community into the future.

In the last 13 years, we have come a long way - and I am proud of our overall accomplishments. Together, we have worked to confront and address the issues most prevalent, and in priority, as was needed and feasible at the time. I’m happy to report that overall, the administration of the town is stronger than ever. By working together, our progress has led to our ability to not only withstand the last few years of uncertainty, but to emerge out of it even stronger, with improved systems, new facilities, and the evolution of competent and professional staff.

As the administration has grown, noticeable is the fact that the town is growing also. We are witnessing new homes go up every year, and now new neighborhoods are about to be developed. Some businesses are growing as well, with expansions being made, and new businesses setting up shop in town. For many, growth is an opportunity, and yet for some in our community it may be seen as undesirable. Regardless of one’s view, one thing we know for sure is that growth is inevitable, lest a less desirable fate befall us.

However, HOW we grow is not inevitable since growth can take many forms. Together, we have the ability to craft the way; the vision will be dependent on our work here today. Like a good garden, it will need our attention if it is to be abundant and bear the fruit we wish to see for the future. We should be

intentional about what and where we want growth to be; we need to prepare the area to ensure that what we grow has the best possibility to flourish.

Today we will talk about a variety of topics needing our attention. Our focus will be to consider what is needed to ensure a healthy ecosystem is in place, capable of supporting desirable growth and we may need to prune what is necessary to make way for the sustainable delivery of vital services.

The goal for the day will be to:

1. Line out priorities for the next year and beyond;
2. Consider how we could improve communication with the Public;
3. Work towards policies and planning this next year in support of the future and growth of Twisp, in the near- and long-term.

Agenda items discussed:

Housing

The Town Council discussed the following housing topics:

- Future of the Planner Position
- Defining “Affordability”
- Planned Developments
- Annexations
- Overnight Rentals
- Ingress/Egress
- Design Standards
- Climate Change
- Staffing capacity/resources
- Town walkability
- Wildfire Planning

Economic Development

The Town Council discussed the following economic development topics:

- TERC priorities
- Tourism
- Creative District
- TwispWorks and other partners

Amenities & Services

General Administration of Town Services

- Staff Salaries and Benefits
- Continuity of Quality Leadership

Police

- Staffing and salaries
- Budget
- Sustainability

Airport

- Hangar Lease Updates
- Communication and Partnership with Pilots
- Identifying Revenue Sources
- Responsible Fiscal Management
- Safety and viability

Pool

- Aging Pool and Equipment
- Staffing Issues
- Sustainability
- Long Term Plan / Recreation District Formation

Parks

- Park and Recreation Plan
- Sports Complex
- Trails
- Maves Park
- Methow Street Footpath
- Burton/Riverside River Access
- Skatepark

Wastewater Treatment Plant

- Funding Status
- Rate Impacts
- Annexation Impacts


There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer