

# **Town of Twisp**

## **Council Minutes – 05/23/23**

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Council Members present: Mayor Ing-Moody  
Mark Easton  
Alan Caswell  
Katrina Auburn  
Hans Smith  
Aaron Studen

Council Members absent: None

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Council Member Auburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Additions:

- Discussion/Action: TIB Overlay Award – Bid Authorization End
- Discussion/Action: Nightly Rental Task Force, John Battle – Planning Commission Chair

### **Public Comment Period: Up to Three Minutes**

**None**

### **Mayor's Report**

The Town continues to seek candidates to fill the vacant Police Chief position and will be working with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to attract and fill the position.

The Association of Washington Cities will be holding their annual conference in Spokane at the end of June. The Mayor, Clerk Kilmer, and Director Denham will be attending. All elected officials are also invited, and the Mayor has also received special allowance from AWC to invite the three new unopposed council members.

### **Staff Reports**

Director Denham reported that new funding is available through the Public Works Board, and that he anticipates submitting three separate applications for a Glover Street Water Project, Painter's Addition Emergency Egress, and Water Systems Plan update. All three grants would be from different programs and would not compete against each other.

The joint Crack Seal project between Twisp and Winthrop is progressing well despite some equipment issues. The crew should be finishing up in Winthrop this week and moving on to Twisp. The crew has

experienced some negative interactions with “hostile motorists”, and Director Denham requests that motorists consider the safety of the crew and exercise care and patience even when inconvenienced.

### **Commission/Committee/Board Reports**

Council Member Caswell reported on the Planning Commission meeting. The lone agenda item was Orchard Hills PD. The PC will work on a staff report and letter of transmittal to the council. A Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance still needs to be issued, and SEPA needs to be resolved before a final decision can be made.

Council Member Smith reported on the Public Works committee meeting. He shared that the grant opportunities discussed by Director Denham were reviewed by the committee and are fully supported.

Council Member Smith reported on the Finance Committee meeting. The Committee is working on the Milltown Annexation item to resolve the timeline for submission of a Planned Development and subsequent annexation.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion/Action: Trango Ground Lease – Brent Timm, TranGo**

As a follow-up to the action taken at the last council meeting regarding the TranGo Ground lease, Brent Timm, TranGo director, was present to give feedback on the agreement. Mr. Timm noted that the TranGo board agrees with extending the lease to a two-year term but would like further explanation for the rate increase. He shared photos, showing the approximately 200’x200’ lot, and the portions of it that TranGo uses. He stated that four buses are parked there in addition to a porta-potty, taking up less than a third of the leased lot. On behalf of the TranGo board he asked if the Twisp Council will reconsider the amount of the increase.

Council Member Auburn noted that historically the rate had never increased since the first instance of the lease. The Town does have increased transportation expenses since the lease’s inception, and there is a premium on vacant land in Twisp.

Council Member Smith added that in looking at general inflation, the proposed increase is not out of character. He also noted that the Town experienced issues with snow storage this past winter and has been offered a lease from a private landowner for double the rate that the Town has proposed to TranGo.

Mr. Timm responded that he is not aware of any snow storage currently on the leased lot, and that although he does understand the increase in land value over the past few years, the TranGo board has a hard time stomaching a 100% increase on the rate. He continued that TranGo has a lease in Tonasket for \$150 a month that includes heated storage, security cameras, all behind a locked gate. Now that TranGo is being asked to pay double the previous rate for a comparably lesser site, the board really needs justification to proceed. He asked again if the Town Council would consider a lesser rate.

Council Member Smith stated he'd be willing to hear a counter and made it clear that Twisp is not trying to "squeeze" TranGo as they appreciate the service to the community and as another local government agency.

Mr. Timm stated that the TranGo board had given him permission to approve a lease up to the amount of \$300 per month.

Council Member Smith asked the council if they'd like to discuss it here, or to push it back to the Finance Committee?

The Council decided to have the Finance Committee look again at the lease rate and bring back another proposal. This item will be on a subsequent agenda.

**Presentation: Proposed Methow Aquatic District – Miles Milliken**

Miles Milliken gave a presentation to the Town Council as a representative of a committee formed to get a "Methow Aquatic District" item on the ballot to support construction and operation of a new Aquatic Facility to replace the Wagner Memorial Pool and offer year-round indoor service to the Methow Valley. A copy of the presentation is available upon request.

The Council thanked Miles and the other committee members for their hard work in putting this together. Discussions included the form in which the Twisp Council's support might be requested. This item will be back on the agenda at a future meeting as more information becomes available.

**Discussion/Action: Nightly Rental Task Force, John Battle – Planning Commission Chair**

Planning Commission Chairman, John Battle, joined the Town Council to request support of a Nightly Rental Task Force to aid the Planning Commission in researching how other comparable jurisdictions deal with nightly rentals.

The Town Council gave permission to the Planning Commission to use community volunteers for research as a "Nightly Rental Task Force".

**Discussion/Action: Twisp/OCSO Agreement Proposed Amendment**

Council Member Smith made a motion to adopt the amendments to the Twisp/OCSO Agreement as presented. The Motion was seconded by Council Member Auburn and passed unanimously.

**Discussion/Action: TIB Overlay Award – Bid Authorization**

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the TIB Overlay Award – Bid Authorization as presented. The Motion was seconded by Council Member Auburn and passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda**

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes

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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2023.

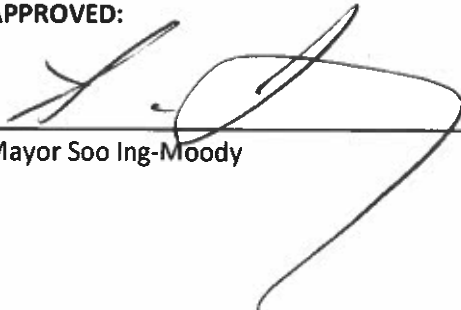
Accounts Payable	EFT Trans 811	\$2,691.06	05/23/23
Accounts Payable	Checks #37836-37861	\$40,803.20	05/23/23
Payroll	EFT Trans 990-998	\$11,178.47	05/23/23

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

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:44 pm.


**APPROVED:**




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Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

**ATTEST:**




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Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer