

# Town of Twisp

## Council Minutes – 7-26-22

Mayor Ing-Moody called the video conference meeting to order at 5:44 pm.

Council Members present via phone/video: Mark Easton  
Aaron Studen  
Hans Smith

Council Members absent: Katrina Auburn  
Alan Caswell

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

Council Member Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:**

Discussion/Action: Resolution #22-695 - Adopting OK County All Hazard Mitigation Plan

### **Public Comment:**

Jonathan Baker, owner of EQPD, commented on the closure of the TwispWorks campus Methow St. entrance. He stated that this closure is preventing delivery trucks from conveniently accessing his business, and creates additional traffic in the back corner of the campus. Jonathan requests that the Town reconsider the solution to accomplish goals in a different way that would be less impactful to his business. Mayor Ing-Moody thanked him for his comment and responded that this measure is a result of the Town and TwispWorks' temporary agreement which would enable administrative permits be issued from the town while TwispWorks pursues the required update to their Master Plan for the campus. Council Member Studen asked if this is a matter is within the Town's authority to address as TwispWorks is private property. The Mayor responded that it is largely a TwispWorks matter, and only a town matter in so far that this temporary measure which was proposed by TwispWorks and agreed upon by the Town, would allow administrative permits requested for other projects and businesses on campus not to be held up until the Master Plan is received. The temporary measure, until a Master Plan is adopted, was accepted by the Town as a reasonable compromise to address expressed traffic and pedestrian concerns since the Methow St. entrance has not been an official designated ingress/egress for the campus. The Mayor offered that she would be happy to further this conversation with Jonathan outside of a Council meeting, if he so desired; she also encouraged him to speak to TwispWorks Director, Sarah Brown.

### **Discussion/Action: Resolution #22-695 - Adopting OK County All Hazard Mitigation Plan:**

Maurice Goodall presented the Okanogan County All Hazzard Mitigation Plan to the council. Twisp is a member of the Okanogan County Emergency Services Organization, who has been a group working together on this plan to address state and federal requirement to mitigate hazards in local jurisdictions. The County contributes around 60% of the cost, and the Towns around 40%. This plan identifies hazards in advance and prioritizes projects for advance mitigation. This plan must be adopted by Towns who wish

to have access to State and Federal dollars for future projects. The plan is currently available for review on the County's website. It was shared that adoption of the plan is not required at this meeting, but it is requested to happen sooner than later; the draft form will remain as such until all local jurisdictions have adopted it.

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked Maurice for the overview and taking the time to present the plan. She asked how long the plan is valid. Maurice responded that the plan was adopted for five years, but County Commissioners as well as the local agencies would plan to review it annually to ensure that progress is being made on the identified projects.

Chief Budrow commented in support of adopting the plan, noting that the Methow Valley Emergency Management team assisted in developing the plan, and that adopting the plan does not conflict with the separate Methow Valley Emergency Plan.

Maurice reiterated that this plan is specific to identifying hazards and addressing them in advance. It is separate and does not invalidate other emergency plans in existence such as the Community Wildfire Protection plan.

Mayor Ing- Moody confirmed that adopting this plan creates no obligations for the Town, and that it is required to access Federal assistance on the identified projects.

Council opted to review the plan and bring it back for action at the next meeting.

### **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that the Clerk's office is making progress with staffing the empty positions. She reported the move into the new Civic Building will be delayed in the interest of efficiencies for the outdoor portions of construction. The new estimated move in date is targeted for the end of September. The Town is looking at a phased approach to complete the exterior of the project, first to give public access to the building, and secondly to complete 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and crosswalk improvements.

### **Staff Reports:**

Chief Budrow reported that there are many visitors in the valley as the weather improves. He has been working on background checks for new hires.

Director Denham reported that the Civic Building is close to achieving substantial completion. Issues with watering are being addressed at the Sports Complex. The wastewater treatment plant is limping along but making do for the time being. Parts for the mixer are on order. Staff have been dealing with a breakdown at sewer lift station #3. They are working to assess whether to install a package lift station sooner than initially planned. This would be a major project to undertake in-house and require a lot of staff time. Handling it in house could result in cost savings of approximately one-hundred thousand dollars. The May St./Lookout Mt. chip seal project is scheduled to begin pre level and patch work next week. The Cascade Loop project has been awarded, next steps are preconstruction meetings and establishing a project schedule. The Biosolid/Lift station project is progressing but experiencing supply chain issues. Staff is able to operate the new screw press even though the building and lift station portions are not complete. A new public works operator will start next week. Director Denham gave compliments to his Lead Operator, Kevin Sackmann, who was able to handle working alone for a week due to all other staff being unavailable.

Clerk Kilmer reported that progress is being made to fill empty positions in the Clerk's office. He thanked the Mayor and staff for supporting him while staff is so limited and thanked the community for their patience in his handling of requests.

**Committee, Commission and Board Reports:**

Council Member Easton reported on the Chamber of Commerce meeting. The Chamber is looking to hire an event coordinator to free up their marketing director’s time for other projects. Methow Arts will be taking over the Art Walk even from the Chamber. The Chamber will be increasing their annual membership fee to \$100 starting in 2023.

In the absence of Council Members Auburn and Caswell, Clerk Kilmer reported on the recent Planning Commission meeting: Abigail Pedersen, a Western Washington University intern for the Town of Twisp, gave an update on the sign inventory she’s been working on. She’s working to identify all signs in the Town and to compare them to the proposed new sign code for compliance. The results of her study will be made available to the Planning Commission and Council when they are complete. The Commission also reviewed recommendations on language for climate change to potentially be included in the next comprehensive plan update. Planner Danison and Michelle Miller gave an update on the progress of the Shoreline Master Plan update.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion/Action: DNR Community Forestry Assistance Grant**

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the DNR Community Forestry Assistance Grant. Council Member Easton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/Action: WSU AgWeather Contract:**

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the WSU AgWeather Contract. Council Member Easton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/Action: WA ST Dept. of Commerce - HAPI Grant Contract:**

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the HAPI Grant Contract. Council Member Studen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked Council Members Easton and Studen for serving on the committee that will interview and select the consultant.

**Consent Agenda:**

- Minutes – 6/21/22, 7/14/22
- 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

Payroll	EFT # 1635-41, 1668-69, 1689, 1679 Warrant # 14477-14486	24,226.88	07/26/22
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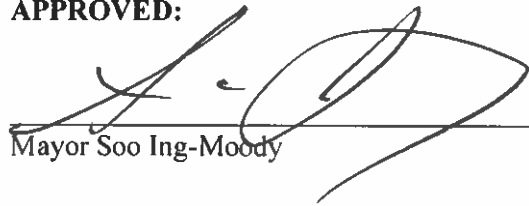
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 36647-36668	317,098.54	07/26/22
Accounts Payable	EFT #1666,1667,1703	6,872.45	07/26/22

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

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:34 pm.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

**ATTEST:**

  
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Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer