

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 10/27/2020

Mayor Ing-Moody called the video conference meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Easton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

N/A

Public Comment:

Mayor Ing-Moody asked Deputy Clerk Grennell if any public comment had been received prior to the meeting. She verified that none had been received.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that she continues to work on the budget with the staff and Clerk Treasurer; it should be ready for review at the next meeting. She said she participated in a virtual forum hosted by the Schafer Museum with all of Okanogan County's women mayors. She shared that she will be holding a Department Head meeting tomorrow to connect with staff and their departments.

Staff Reports:

Council Member Easton asked Director Denham how the water meter replacement project is going. Director Denham replied that it has been slow going but he feels they are halfway done. He said all the large meters have been completed and they are working on residential. He said he hasn't received any complaints and thinks the postcard mailer that was sent out helped inform residents what was happening. He said he is thrilled to have the SCADA system up and running to have real time results on the wells and lift stations. He said the North Town project is still ongoing. He said they ran into a problem with an old water line being in poor condition that was crossing SR20. It wasn't part of the original scope but needed to be replaced. Council Member Smith asked why the recent water production report was dramatically lower? Denham reported that it changes due to billing periods and times of year. He said they have also identified and repaired leaks. He's hoping next year to see even less water loss.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports:

Council Member Cordes attended a meeting with Council Member Easton and Tree Board Chairman Dwight Filer with Joshua Porter, a Professor with Western Washington University. Porter is overseeing a program called WWU Climate Leadership and will have students in the Methow next summer working on

various projects. He said there is funding in place. Cordes said they would like to include the Town of Twisp to the growing list of participants. Chairman Filer would be willing to supervise a crew to conduct some tree plantings in Town. Chairman Filer is working on writing a position description and will present it to Council for approval.

Council Member Easton attended the Climate Task Force meeting. He stated that they are having a public virtual meeting on December 10th for all to attend to view the progress and initial findings in the draft plan. He said they plan to bring it to local Government agencies by early 2021. He said if anyone is interested in joining to contact the Methow Valley Citizen's Council.

Council Member Smith attended the Public Works committee meeting earlier today. He said they are working on a fill and grade ordinance. He said that Methow Valley Community Covenant Church have completed their review of the permit requirements and have submitted a response to move forward with their project.

Council Member Smith also attended the Finance Committee meeting where they went over the General Fund as well as the Water/Sewer proposed 2021 budget. He reported that the current revenue in 2020 looks stronger than was projected. He said there was about a 9% cut in the General Fund and continue to work on identifying potential areas that can be cut. He said that good progress has been made and there will be a public hearing soon and Council will have a chance to review it prior to adoption.

Presentation: Twisp Chamber of Commerce: Vice President Don Linnertz and Marketing Director Jamie Petitto gave a presentation on the Chamber's 2020 accomplishments and budget requests for 2021.

Presentation: Friends of the Pool: Sarah Schrock gave a presentation on the new campaign the Friends of the Pool have launched to try to raise funds for a new pool facility.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/Action: Mistletoe Madness:

Twisp Chamber of Commerce Marketing Director Jamie Petitto gave a brief explanation of the Mistletoe Madness event that they would like to hold on Glover Street in December. The committee would like to include the Christmas Bazaar usually held at the Community Center. This would be like a Winter Market that would allow for an outdoor shopping event while staying within the Phase 2 guidelines needed for Covid. Petitto is requesting to use some of the available 2% funds to help cover some of the costs. She is asking for help paying for Public Restroom usage, Event Signage, and Event Music. Council Member Easton stated that he would like to use previous event signage so that any new event signage purchases will be incorporated in the new wayfinding signage that the Town would like to use moving forward. Petitto stated that for the event music, she contacted KTRT – The Root, and they are willing to provide the event music at \$175/hour, or \$1050 for two days. They will incorporate local business advertising during the event as well. Petitto is also requesting use of the current Public Restrooms or using Porta Potties. Mayor Ing-Moody stated that she recently received a letter from the MERC terminating the lease for the Public Restrooms with the Town of Twisp. She said the letter stated that the Town had abandoned the restrooms and was in default of contract. Mayor Ing-Moody stated that this is not true and the restrooms were built with public funds so the MERC can not just terminate the lease, which had been conveyed to the Merc a while ago, which they appear to have forgotten. The delay in reopening had to do with an attempt to find a solution in which an alternative option could be sought which would not require the loss of those grant funds to the Town for the expressed purpose of a public restroom in Twisp. She

said the Town will be addressing the situation as it unfolds. Director Denham stated that he can order porta potties but wasn't sure on the cost. Petitto said that it would be about \$300. Mayor Ing-Moody said then the total requested amount of 2% funds would total \$1350.

Council Member Smith moved to approve using the requested 2% funds of \$1350 for the Mistletoe Madness Event. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Architects West Re-Design Fee Proposal:

Director Denham stated that he would like to ask for a reduction on the cost estimating item. He feels we should not be paying for that as there was such a gross miscalculation on the estimation. Council Member Smith stated that he would like to ask to consider to reduce the amount in the proposed hours for architectural services in general. He feels that we have to keep in mind the funding we have available, and spending money on redesign was not planned. That cost is going to have to be made up somewhere. Council Member Easton said he understands there's a pandemic and that costs may have changed since this was first discussed, and asks how we would be able to trust that the new estimate is going to be more accurate? Mayor Ing-Moody said there is never a guarantee. Especially with the Pandemic there is inflation as well as a building boom happening. Director Denham stated that he feels that by comparing the bids received, the costs for services such as electrical and insulation should be much closer when estimating this time. He said that time is of the essence, we need to approve this new cost reduction in order to continue to meet the timelines. Council Member Caswell also expressed his reservation on spending more on the redesign when it won't be a guarantee that we will be able to accept the new bid if the numbers are off again.

Council Member Smith moved to accept Architects West's Redesign Bid with the cost reduction as discussed not to exceed \$66,211.10. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Public Works – Surplus Vehicles:

Director Denham stated that he would like to surplus equipment that is taking up space, has no use for, and doesn't operate. He said this is the first time he has done this in a while, and it would be great to surplus and get some value, if possible, from these items. He said he will use the government surplus sites that are approved, which he has used before.

Council Member Smith moved to approve the asset disposition as proposed in the packet. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: North Central Washington Narcotics Task Force 2021 Agreement:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that this is an agreement that is renewed every year. Unfortunately, Chief Budrow had to leave the meeting to attend to a police matter so he is unavailable to answer questions. Council Member Smith said that he has additional questions to ask Chief Budrow such as statistics and what value the Town receives from the agreement. He would like to table this conversation until the Chief is available for questions.

Discussion/Action: Airport Hangar Lease Rate:

Council Member Smith stated that the Finance Committee looked at the revenues versus expenditures for the Airport. They noticed that some of the Lessees have not converted to the new lease. Going into 2021 if everyone isn't converted to the new lease it's going to leave a gap in the revenues. He would like to consider a new rate structure for new leases that walk in the door. He feels that the new lease amount at \$395 only covers approximately 60% of annual operating costs. Council Member Cordes asked how many Lessees have converted? Unfortunately, Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer is on vacation and is not available to answer that question. Council Member Cordes stated that since Covid, they have not had any airport gatherings, so she isn't sure what the status is on the lease conversion. Council Member Smith would like more information from Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer before moving forward with this conversation.

Discussion/Action: PDA Board Member Appointments:

Council Member Smith moved to appoint Harry Grant to position #4 and David Gottula to the PDA Board. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Taking Action: How to build a Smoke Ready Community Meeting:

Mayor Ing-Moody is hoping to have representation from the Town at this meeting. There is a series of three virtual meetings that were described in an email that was sent to everyone. She said the meeting will be about Air Quality and how to create long-term sustainable solutions and ways to communicate to the community. Council Member Easton stated that he was planning to attend. Council Member Caswell stated he will attend the virtual meeting as well.

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 27th of October 2020.

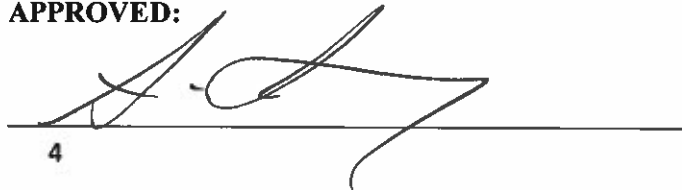
Payroll	EFT# 2060-2066, 2078	8648.00	10/15/2020
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 35786-35805	83272.10	10/27/2020
Accounts Payable	EFT # 2097	683.00	10/27/2020

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 8:32 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer

