

**Town of Twisp Council Minutes**  
**2/22/05      7:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Jones -- Adjourned at 9:37 PM  
Council members absent: None

Request for additions or changes:  
Changes or Additions: None

Council Member Koptonak led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the previous meeting 2-8 were read and approved as amended. Motion made by Council Member Koptonak and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hickman. Passed unanimously.

Minutes from the special meeting on 2-15 were read and approved as amended. Motion made by Council Member Koptonak and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brown. Passed unanimously.

The bills and previous payroll were briefly discussed. Motion to approve the current bills and disburse payment (subject to the availability of funds) and approve the current/past payroll was made by Council Member Koptonak and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hickman. Passed unanimously.  
(See attached back up for more detail)

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**Department Head Reports:**

**Mayor's Update:**



**Gary McConnell – Public Works Superintendent**

- Sidewalk Grinding Project has been a great success
  - Had them do everything, not just the “hot” areas and Town will cover the difference above the \$1000 AWC Grant
- Cannot sweep the streets until it warms up a bit. Water would just freeze to the streets making them hazardous.
  - Will sweep the Sr. Ctr. Parking lot as well

**Police Department– Sgt. Shane Jones**

- No one present at this meeting representing the police department

**Sheila White – Acting Fire Chief**

- Inquired about the status of the keys for the Chief's car
- Was wondering why she had not been notified to assist with the writing of an ordinance concerning the EMS funds

**Airport-Paul Wagner**

- Reported on a small grant that the airport is going to get that will allow them to finish the fence project.
  - Small amount of matching funds necessary and the airport board is going to pay the amount due

**Administrative-Finance – Barb Dale**

- Working on the EMS audit as ordered by Council and the Mayor

- Also in the midst of an audit by Shannon Stuber from the State Auditor's Office
- Mentioned an upcoming seminar being put on by the Conconully Chamber of Commerce at Sun Mtn on March 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and recommended that it would be good for any council members to attend if they can as well as the Mayor.
  - Clerk is planning on attending as well as the Grant Administrator

**Town Planner—Jeff Thomas**

- Moved to first of the updates allowing him to leave and prepare for the Zoning Ordinance Public Hearings the next two evenings at the Sr. Ctr. At 6:30 pm
- Also preparing to begin work on the Highway 20 Project requirements

**Grant Administrator – Melissa Cauley-Evans**

- Not present at tonight's meeting

**NOTE:** First side of tape recording did not record. Tape is blank.

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**Public Comments:**

Steve Cheek: Public Comment on the EMS Donated Funds and the Fire Dept. in general. Once investigation is complete what assurance can you give him that there will be a viable fire dept. Rose said she couldn't give an answer regarding that question, as she does not know the answer.

Robin Madison: Was wondering if there was any way for business owners who do not live within the boundaries of Twisp to be able to vote on issues and be involved with government and the making of policies they have to live by. Feels there should be a feeling of teamwork between the business owners and the Town.

Richard Yonko: Was concerned about the Christmas tree that has still not been removed down by the flagpole. Is on his property and would like to see it removed. **ACTION: Gary to have his crew remove the tree.** Also concerned about the numerous people who park their vehicles in the parking lot by his home and leave their vehicles running while they go in to eat at either the Branding Iron or Antlers. Was wondering if signage could be posted noting it is illegal to leave your car running and unattended. **ACTION: Rose to talk to the police dept about this issue and maybe place a notice in the establishments denoting RCW.**

Les Stokes: Was concerned about the status of the EMS audit and the timely response to his request. Mayor Jones told him that the audit of the EMS funds was underway and that we had up to four months to complete per the letter sent to him previously.

Jerome Thiel: Concerned about the Highway 20 project and potential detours that may take people away from Glover Street or Town by diverting them onto the E. County Road. Some discussion followed both from the citizens and Council on this subject. (Concerns around the Saturday Farmer's Market, parking issues, etc.) **ACTION: Mayor Jones promised she would keep the business owners and the Chamber informed throughout the project.** Some discussion followed about having semi trucks utilize the E. County Road instead of driving down Glover Street and harming the roadway.

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## New Business:

- Jerome Thiel: Signage on Highway 20
    - Summarized the discussion from the last Chamber Meeting.
      - Cluttered and hard to read any one sign (Brought some pictures of the area for Council to see)
        - Would like to see some uniformity of signage and to get rid of the old car on the pole, etc.
        - Let the Chamber look for ways to make the signage by more useful, appealing, and efficient
          - One of the most important signs is the Medical Center sign and it is hard to read/find
      - Council Member Koptonak noted the sign ordinance that failed a few years ago and the subsequent signage that has now occurred
        - Also asked if the 24-hour Parking Lot is up for sale
          - Would like to know what their asking and see if there is any possibility of the Town purchasing
      - Concerned that if it is sold, the Town could really have a problem with public parking for the Hwy 20 businesses and Farmer's Market
      - **ACTION: Following the discussion it was the general consensus of Council that the Chamber pursue the whole signage issue and report back to Council at a later time**
  - Randy Sackett: Hwy 20 Project Inspector
    - Gary noted that there is a clause in the contract noting that changes can be made in the contract if mutual agreement is reached
      - Feels they would be amiable to this change as it would take some responsibility off of them
      - If they would agree, it would save the Town some grant funds
    - Gary noted that there is already an issue that affects where the water lines come together and that they are not together until they are almost at the top of the hill. (Between where Chief Sanford used to live and the Bonica place)
      - Originally thought to be close to the fog line by the old Shell station and the gas pumps.
      - Need to put in one bigger pipe and eliminate both of the old ones (12 to 16")
      - Should the old ones break (installed in 1938 and 1947) because of the new lines going in, this would cause a major catastrophe and could even bring the homes sliding down the hillside as the hillside erodes
        - The Council felt this was an emergency condition and that we should try to obtain funds to cap and replace lines now, to avert any type of breakage
      - **ACTION: Gary to write up Declaration of Emergency and Melissa to look for emergency grant funds**
      - Traffic will probably just become one lane during the construction period or be diverted down Glover Street.
        - Important once project is ready to go to relay to the community the plans so they can be aware and not speculate
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Old Business:

- Action List Update
  - Items on list were quickly discussed and updated as necessary
- Discussion followed around the EMS reconciliation and the current audit being conducted by the state auditor

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Meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

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Clerk – Barbara G. Dale

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Mayor Rosemary Jones