

**Town of Twisp
Council Minutes 02/24/09
7:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by Mayor Hickman.

Council Members Present: Clint Estes
 Tom Gehring
 Vicki Hallowell
 Tina di Rienzo

Council members absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Estes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions and/or Changes to the Agenda

Additions: Economic Stimulus Funding Application – Twisp Public Development Authority
 – Rusty Post, PDA member – presenter.
 Youth Soccer Group – Use of the Town Soccer Fields

Changes: None

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

MOTION:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the February 10, 2009 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

MAYOR HICKMANS UPDATE

No report at this time.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rick Balam, Police Chief

Not present.

Randy Johnson, Public Works Superintendent

Superintendent Johnson reported that the flow meter had been installed and Ken Bailey, an electrical engineer had been working on repairing the telemetry and various wiring issues at the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Bailey also evaluated the boiler at the pool, which currently does not meet Labor and Industries standards, and is ordering parts and coming back to fix it at a later date.

Superintendent Johnson showed the Council a blower motor used to regulate control room temperatures. Johnson reported that this particular motor had been burnt out for approximately three years; a replacement motor has been ordered.

Superintendent Johnson reported that he and his crew had responded to several frozen/broken meter issues this year, some that owners did not report for several months. Johnson stated he was going to implement a plan for next year to do a winter water campaign to better educate water customers regarding potential winter water issues. Johnson reported he and his crew had been spreading environmentally safe de-icer on the catch basins in an effort to stay ahead of melting and run-off. Johnson reported that he had begun developing a program for sweeping, which will include clearing the downtown sidewalks to keep Town in tip-top shape.

Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that she, Mayor Hickman and Superintendent Johnson had a meeting with a representative of the Department of Ecology regarding the upgraded telemetry project and grant. Storms suggested that the Public Works Committee (Council Members Hallowell and Estes) meet with her, Mayor Hickman and Superintendent Johnson to review this issue and see if it is the best option for Twisp.

Clerk/Treasurer Storms shared that she is monitoring the Federal Stimulus Funding that could benefit Twisp for infrastructure projects. Storms reported that she and Mayor Hickman will be attending a Public Works Trust Fund workshop in March. Storms told Council that Public Works Trust Fund loans are currently at the very low interest rate of ½ percent.

Storms reported that the Town financials are due by May 30, 2009.

Keith Comstock, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Comstock shared with Council that the Standard Operational Guidelines had been completed.

Sarah Schrock, Town Planner

Not present.

OLD BUSINESS

HILLTOP BOOSTER STATION DESIGN REVIEW

Superintendent Johnson reviewed the preliminary plans provided by RH2 Engineers for the Hilltop Booster Station with Council. Johnson shared the following details:

- The pump house and generator buildings will be built partially in the ground with only the roof line showing.
- Johnson assured Council that there was plenty of room for work to be done inside the building and that if a pump had to be pulled for repairs the pump could be taken out of a panel in the roof of the building.
- A 6 to 8 inch floor drainage pipe would be installed in the pump house in case of an emergency.
- Johnson shared that noise would be minimal except for when the emergency generators ran or were tested.
- Installation of a slatted fence to reduce visibility and noise.
- The need to contact the residents affected by the change to educate them of the possible issues that could be caused by the increased water pressure.
- Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that no land purchases were necessary for the project.

GLOVER STREET AND SIGNAGE DESIGN REVIEW

Clerk/Treasurer Storms shared that a committee met to discuss concepts related to signage for the entrance of Glover Street. Storms explained that the type and extent of signage and lighting will be subject to the budget. If budget allows lighting, water and electricity will be included in the project. Preliminary plans include 4 decorative light posts; a base for a future art piece; and a sign welcoming you to downtown. Council had an extensive discussion regarding possible lighting choices; pole height; number of lanterns and shapes; wattage; and styles. Council Member Gehring suggested that the light poles all be placed on the west side of Glover Street only at this time. Council agreed as a whole to choose a single lantern and a 16 foot pole.

Council Member Gehring asked if the street signs that will be installed as a result of the Glover Street project can be smaller than the signs that are on 2nd Avenue. Council agreed with Council Member Gehring's request. Clerk/Treasurer Storms made a note to contact the engineers.

GLOVER STREET PROJECT PARKING ISSUE

Rusty Post, owner of the Riverbank Building located at the corner of Glover Street and 3rd Avenue was present and discussed the loss of several parking spaces in front of his building on Glover Street because of the change from angle to parallel parking. Mr. Post pointed out that he believes one more parallel space could be added in front of the business and asked if the Council would consider Superintendent Johnson's recommendation to develop angle parking on the north side of his building on 3rd Avenue to compensate for the lost spaces. Council directed Superintendent Johnson to continue to pursue this plan and report back to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

ECONOMIC STIMULUS FUNDING APPLICATION/RESOLUTION #09-437

Rusty Post, member of the Public Development Authority (PDA) Board briefed the Council about the status of the Forest Service Complex auction. Mr. Post shared that the Forest Service had resumed the auction of the property despite the ability of the Colville Tribe to submit an appeal to the courts regarding its decision not to give the property to them.

Mr. Post explained that the reason for his visit to Council was to request the Town submit, on behalf of the PDA, an application for Economic Stimulus Funding from the federal government through the Governor's office. Mr. Post reported that the PDA is continuing to advance their business plan, which includes the renovation of 12 out of the 17 buildings on the property and the application is for funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the renovation stage. This stage would create up to 25 jobs by their estimates. Mr. Post discussed the PDA Board's plan to contact the Building Inspector to start obtaining building permits so that the PDA can show in the application that they are ready if and when funding is available.

Council Member Estes inquired as to whether the Town would incur any financial obligations if the grant is not received. Clerk/Treasurer stated only costs incurred by staff time spent on the application process.

MOTION:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve Resolution #09-437 approving the Town's application on behalf of the Twisp Public Development Authority to the State of Washington Governor's office for \$1.5 million in economic stimulus funding for 2009 to renovate the Forest Service Complex. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING AFFORDABILITY REQUEST

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed a request from the Northwest Association of Housing Affordability (NAHA) for the Town of Twisp to write a letter supporting NAHA's efforts to purchase the 16-unit Riverview Apartment in Twisp.

Clerk/Treasurer Storms suggested that if Council supports the purchase they should consider writing a separate letter to NAHA stressing the importance of strong management practices and occupancy standards for their tenants to lessen the involvement of our police department as seen in the past at some of the other subsidized properties in town.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to support the transfer of the Riverview Apartments to Northwest Association for Housing Affordability. The motion was seconded by Council Member di Rienzo and passed unanimously.

YOUTH SOCCER GROUP – PERMISSION TO USE THE TOWN OF TWISP SOCCER FIELD

Council discussed a letter from the Youth Soccer Group requesting permission to use the Town soccer field. Clerk/Treasurer Storms asked Council if they want to discuss this issue each season or if they would rather have it be a staff decision as long as everything is done as agreed upon in regards to clean up. Administrative Assistant Moriarty suggested that the Council approve it on an annual basis instead of a seasonal basis. Johnson shared that he intended to implement a night watering schedule for the soccer field and the park so irrigation should not interfere with the soccer group's practices and games.

MOTION:

Council Member di Rienzo moved to approve the use of the Town soccer field by the Youth Soccer Group for the 2009 spring and fall practices and games. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

ROUTINE APPROVALS

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 24th day of February, 2009:

Checks/Vouchers	#26119	\$854.87	02/24/09
Checks/Vouchers	#26120 – #26146	\$37,468.37	02/24/09

MOTION:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the current accounts payable and current payroll and benefits and to disburse payment. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Hallowell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mayor Stephanie Hickman

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer Colleen G. Storms