

**Town of Twisp
Council Minutes 05/27/09
Special Meeting
7:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm by Mayor Hickman.

Council Members Present: Clint Estes
 Tom Gehring – Arrived at 7:35 pm, excused absence
 Vicki Hollowell
 Tina di Rienzo
 Tom Mulgrew

Council members absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Estes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

William Boosman was present to discuss the Methow Valley Irrigation District/Hilltop Booster Station and Water System Project. Mayor Hickman shared that the issue was on the agenda later in the meeting.

Carol Volckmann was present to ask Council for permission to block off 5 to 6 parking spaces in front of the Confluence Gallery on Saturday, June 6, 2009 for the unveiling of a permanent art feature. Ms. Volckmann explained that they only wanted to block the spaces off from approximately 2:00 pm after the Farmer’s Market is closed and that they have their own barriers. Council agreed as a whole with the temporary closure of the parking spaces.

MINUTES

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to approve the May 12, 2009 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hollowell and passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Rick Balam, Police Chief

Chief Balam reported that he had recently attended the annual Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs conference in the Tri-Cities. Chief Balam reported he made contact with a representative of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission regarding Officer Marshall’s training. Balam explained that he will be required as Marshall’s supervisor to write a letter to the training commission requesting an exemption from academy based on the fact that Marshall went through approximately 700 hours of training in his previous position with the

State Parks Department and Balam is asking that this training be considered so that Marshall is not required to attend the complete police academy. Balam may have to testify at a hearing in Burien on June 10, 2009 regarding the issue.

Chief Balam requested Council's support regarding a letter he sent to District #6 Fire Chief Don Waller regarding a billing that Balam feels needs to be substantiated with backup. Balam reported he has not heard from Mr. Waller after two weeks. Balam plans to follow up if he does not get a response soon.

Randy Johnson, Public Works Superintendent

Superintendent Johnson reported the pool has been filled and is heating.

Johnson shared that he received some calls from citizens regarding dust control. Johnson's research showed that in the past dust control was applied on Anderson Lane, North Glover Street, 6th Avenue, a portion of street behind the Forest Service tree shed, and near the treatment plant. Johnson called for bids and shared that the only bid he had received to date was from Palm Construction for approximately \$3,000 for one load of the liquid used for dust control and the application. He expects a second bid from Cascade Concrete. Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that last year approximately \$8,500 of the street budget was used for dust control, much more than anticipated. Storms also reported that in the past, prior to 2008, some residents paid a portion of the cost to have their street treated.

Johnson reported the need to have an engineer review and adjust the capacity/BOD Biological Oxygen Demand of the treatment plant influent; the cost will be approximately \$3,000.

Johnson also reported he has an order in for some cold mix to repair potholes, that David Hunter is attending a Water Manager Training session (May 26-29) and that the Glover Street Project is going well.

Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported the Washington State Auditor's Office started their audit, starting with the federal grants and reviewing our minutes and policies.

Storms provided a Grant and Loan Status report showing 31 active and closed grants in the amount of \$7,324,642 with descriptions, departments, funding sources, total funds, status and a 90 day task list associated with each grant.

Keith Comstock, Fire Chief

Not present.

Sarah Schrock, Town Planner

Not present.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #609 – AMENDING LANGUAGE RELATED TO THE FEES IN THE TMC

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed Ordinance #609 amending the language related to fees in the Twisp Municipal Code. Storms explained that this ordinance completes the process begun by passing the new fee schedule resolution at the previous meeting. There is the need to strike out fee language in the Twisp Code previously passed by ordinance, and this ordinance does that.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to approve Ordinance #609 amending Sections 5.25.050 and 6.10.022 of the Twisp Municipal Code to remove fees from our Municipal Code so that they can be changed by resolution in the future. The motion was seconded by Council Member di Rienzo and passed unanimously.

CTED JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) – POLICE EQUIPMENT

Chief Balam reported that the Police Department had an opportunity to receive grant funds in the amount of \$9,999, through a Community Trade and Economic Development (CTED) Justice Assistance Grant, for two computer systems and installation equipment for the patrol cars. Balam shared that he also had enough money in his computer equipment budget to provide used equipment for up to two additional cars. Balam reported that this equipment would provide the opportunity for the police department to use e-ticketing in the future, which would save officer and staff time. It would also reduce errors and increase the time the officers could spend on the streets in their cars.

Council Member Mulgrew asked Clerk/Treasurer Storms what the impact would be on Town Hall staff to administer this grant. Storms shared that the impact would be minimal on this type of grant compared to the larger construction projects we currently have underway.

MOTION:

Council Member Mulgrew moved to approve the submission of the CTED Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$9,999 for computer and installation equipment for the patrol cars. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed. Council Member Hallowell abstained from voting.

OLD BUSINESS

MONTH-TO-MONTH RENT FOR LIBRARY SPACE FOR UP TO TWO MONTHS

Clerk/Treasurer Storms shared that the sublease for library space prepared by Town Attorney Scott DeTro had been presented to the Methow Valley Community Center Board for review and approval. Storms explained that in the interim the Council needed to extend the month-to-month lease with the Community Center, which will expire May 31, 2009.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to authorize renting space for the library from the Methow Valley Community Center on a month-to-month basis for two additional months. The motion was seconded by Council Member di Rienzo and passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE #608 – ESTABLISHING ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR DRUG RELATED VIOLATIONS

Chief Balam discussed Ordinance #608 establishing enhanced penalties for drug related violations in certain zones of town. Balam shared, as in the previous council meeting, that the penalties for the sale of narcotics in certain areas such as schools, bus stops, parks, etc. would be increased if this ordinance was passed.

Balam reported that many municipalities are participating and supporting the fight against drugs.

MOTION:

Council Member di Rienzo moved to approve Ordinance #608 establishing enhanced penalties for drug related violations. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed. Council Member Hollowell abstained from the discussion and the vote.

RESOLUTION #09-440 – PURCHASE POLICY

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed Resolution #09-440 to adopt a purchase policy. Storms passed out a copy revised since the previous Council meeting and read aloud a change on page four. Storms reported that all changes previously requested by Council were also made and highlighted on the draft.

MOTION:

Council Member di Rienzo moved to approve Resolution #09-440 adopting a purchase policy for the Town of Twisp. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed. Council Member Hollowell abstained from voting.

AWARD BID FOR HILLTOP BOOSTER STATION PROJECT

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that the bid opening for the Hilltop Booster Station project occurred at 2:00 pm today (05/27/09). Storms explained that the approximate budget for the project was \$820,000 and the apparent low bid came from KRCI, LLC at \$737,351.90.

MOTION:

Council Member Hollowell moved to award the bid to KRCI, LLC as the apparent low bidder for the Hilltop Booster Station Project in the amount of \$737,351.90 contingent upon Rural Development concurrence. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mulgrew and passed unanimously.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY – DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BLOCK GRANT – COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Development Authority (PDA)

Maggie Coon, PDA board member and Council Member Gehring reported on the meeting held to discuss the possible partnering between the Town and the PDA to apply for an energy efficiency grant being offered through the Department of Energy. In addition to Ms. Coon and Mr. Gehring, Council Member Mulgrew and PDA Board Member Rusty Post were in attendance at that meeting. Ms. Coon provided Council with a worksheet that they developed pinpointing the project/purpose, goals, project description and estimated budget. This group focused on a two-part plan. First, they would use funds to have a team do energy audits on all Town and PDA facilities to prioritize and identify opportunities for energy savings. Secondly, funds would be included in the grant application to actually perform some of the priority projects. Ms. Coon shared that the PDA members would be willing to help with the grant application.

Recycle Center

Council Members Estes and Hallowell reported on the meeting that they had with Betsy Cushman of Methow Recycles and Superintendent Johnson regarding a possible partnership with the Town and the Recycle Center. Council Member Estes reported that the main thing that the recycle center is lacking is manpower to expand hours of operation and a sub-station. Council Member Estes reported an estimated cost of \$150,000 to purchase a large substation container and to secure it with fencing and cover it. Council asked about the feasibility of having multiple locations with smaller containers. The committee responded that after talking with Betsy they decided that one large container housing several different types of recyclables that would be moved by truck would be better than multiple smaller stations because of the lack of manpower to empty them. Council Member Estes stated that based on the wise business decisions that Methow Recycles have made in the past, he felt partnering with them on a project would be a good choice.

Pool

Council Members Hallowell and di Rienzo reported on the meeting they had with Nancy Dicus and Josephine Bristol, Friends of the Pool, John Caesar, Swim Team Coach, and staff members Superintendent Johnson and Pool Manager Lori Rodio regarding possible energy efficiencies for the pool. The group discussed different heating options including solar heating and the possibility of covering the pool for year round use. Johnson reported that he was waiting for some information regarding solar heating to put together cost information on options.

Council Member Gehring shared that the pool building could fit into the PDA's proposal as well, since the idea was to address Town and PDA facilities. Council discussed that there are private companies, a state professional consortium, and Okanogan Co PUD that provide energy audits.

Council agreed that when the grant application and guidelines are available they will revisit their options and make a decision as to which project they feel would be best.

PAINTER'S ADDITION – MVID WATER LINE

Mark Edson reported that he was confident that the Methow Valley Irrigation District was going to fund the installation of a main irrigation line down the east side of Bigelow Street, opposite the Town water line on the west side, from the ditch box to his residence. Mr. Edson explained that each resident on that line would then be responsible to install service from the main line to their property at their expense. Mr. Edson stated this work would be done by a separate contractor after KRCI was done in that area and before the road was repaved.

Council then discussed the advantages of purchasing the 35 foot easement from William and Kristi Boosman. After discussion about the positive impact on the project's long term success by using the new easement, Council Member Estes said that he would like to negotiate with the Boosmans on purchasing the easement and approach the contractor regarding what, if any, charge would be added to change the location of the line from the initial design.

Several Council Members shared their opposition to purchasing the easement when other residents had worked with the Town on this project and agreed to grant easements to see the project completed without requesting compensation.

Clerk/Treasurer Storms shared that the time to negotiate a change order to relocate the main would be after the bid award is official, but before work starts. The Council agreed as a whole to have staff investigate the possible change order with the engineers and contractor and to negotiate with the Boosmans on a price for the easement. Council will discuss the outcome of the research at the next meeting.

Action: - Staff will investigate the change order with the engineers, contractor and negotiate with Boosman for a monetary value for the easement.

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 27th day of May, 2009:

Checks/Vouchers	#26363 - #26388	\$58,629.52	05/27/09
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MOTION:

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

Council members asked the Mayor if she had a list of candidates for planning commission appointments and briefly discussed who had expressed an interest. The Council was aware of others who were still considering it; this will be continued at a future meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Mulgrew moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mayor Stephanie Hickman

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer Colleen G. Storms