

**Town of Twisp
Council Minutes 06/10/08
7:00 PM**

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Stephanie Hickman
Clint Estes
Tom Gehring
Vicki Hallowell
Tina DeRenzo

Council members absent: None

Additions and/or Changes to the Agenda

Council Member Gehring requested a discussion regarding Public Development Authority potential board members be added to the agenda.

Council Member Gehring led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Lee Fox, Twisp resident addressed Council regarding police conduct. Mr. Fox quoted some information regarding what constituted a pattern of harassment from the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division. Mr. Fox stated there were others in the Town of Twisp concerned with harassment issues. Mayor Nations asked when the others would be addressing the Council; Mr. Fox did not know and said they were uncomfortable doing so at this time.

William Robinson, Twisp Volunteer Fire Fighter, reported to Council that the Community Center parking lot was cleaned and their board thanked the Council for allowing the fire department to assist them.

MINUTES

MOTION:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the May 27, 2008 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

MAYOR NATIONS UPDATE

Mayor Nations reported that a preconstruction meeting took place for the 2nd Avenue Street Project and construction will begin Monday, June 23, 2008. Mayor Nations discussed the suggestion of the contractors to detour traffic down Borchard Lane off of 2nd Avenue. Superintendent McConnell felt it would not be wise to use Borchard Lane as a detour listing that it is too narrow to handle the volume of traffic and several small children live on the lane. A

member of the public who said she also lived there added it would not be good for children on the street. Council agreed that the contractor would need to find an alternative detour.

Mayor Nations reported that the section of Twisp Avenue between Glover and Lincoln Streets was currently being widened. Mayor Nations pointed out that twelve additional parking spots would be created and would provide for a much safer place for pedestrians to travel including many children going to the park and pool.

Mayor Nations inquired as to what items Superintendent McConnell retrieved from the recent surplus of the Forest Service Complex. McConnell listed several items of use to the Public Works Department. McConnell also asked permission from the Council to give a 4-Wheel ATV, that our public works department had no use for, to Greg Stanovich, Methow Valley School District, to be used on the school property. The Council agreed to give the ATV to Mr. Stanovich since it was another governmental agency.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rick Balam, Police Chief

Chief Balam reported on the month of May's stats. Balam shared that Town was becoming very busy.

Gary McConnell, Public Works Superintendent

Superintendent McConnell reported that the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan public hearing was advertised for the June 24, 2008 Council meeting. McConnell briefed the Council on revisions but recommended minimal changes and to focus on current priorities.

McConnell reported that the pool was up and running and he has put Public Works employee David Hunter in charge of the pool. Council Member Hallowell asked if the pool leak had been fixed and McConnell shared that the foam injection had not stopped the leak. He added he had done everything he could think of to do and suggested an engineer be brought in to assess the issues.

McConnell mentioned he'd like to purchase an industrial weed eater for \$250 from Public Works Member KC Moriarty; it is basically brand new and the \$250 is the value of it. Council did not object to the purchase.

Council Member Gehring asked if the planters that were vandalized on Glover Street were going to be able to be repaired or replaced. McConnell reported that the planters were not repairable and that he thought that the planters were a product of a Chamber of Commerce project.

Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that the Annual Report/Financials went into the Washington State Auditor's Office by the May 30, 2008 deadline. Storms discussed information provided to Council including graphs and revenue, expenditure and debt reports. Storms discussed the trends in our major revenues and explained that the general fund did well last year, adding to its operating reserves. She said the fund that needs to be watched closely is the water/sewer fund, which ran through almost \$48,000 in operating reserves in 2007. We did restore the practice of transferring money to capital reserves from this fund, so part of the money was moved there.

Expenses, though, increased more than revenues, which was addressed with our recent rate increase. She said we would continue to watch this fund closely. Council Member Hollowell thanked her for this report.

Keith Comstock, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Comstock reported that he was trying to get the Fire Department compound cleaned up and was happy that the Howe Fire Truck and Crown Victoria car were being considered for surplus. Comstock shared that the old fire truck is owned by Dwain Hutson and Les Stokes and that both gentlemen are aware that they will need to find a new location soon for the truck.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #598 – AMENDING CHAPTER 10.20 OF THE TMC REGARDING LOADING AND PARKING ZONES WITHIN THE TOWN

Chief Balam explained that Ordinance #598 amends a section of the prior ordinance in regards to 3rd Avenue being changed from a one-way designation to a two-way designation and contains language restoring parking as parallel only on both the north and south side of the street.

MOTION:

Council Member Hollowell moved to approve Ordinance #598 changing 3rd Avenue back to two-way and back to parallel parking. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

METHOW VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL – RECYCLING PRESENTATION

Julie Muyliaert was present along with two Community Center School 6th graders, Morgan Allen Tate and Lilly Schlotzhauer (Fletcher Rickabaugh was involved in the project also, but absent from this presentation) to speak to the Council about a project they conducted regarding recycling. Tate and Schlotzhauer read along as Muyliaert showed a power point presentation of their project. The girls shared that they had picked up garbage at three locations in Twisp, sorted the garbage and then studied what could have been recycled from their collection.

Tate and Schlotzhauer asked Council if recycling bins could be placed in Town to encourage recycling. Council discussed what locations would be best utilized, how to educate citizens about recycling and the obstacles people face when recycling. Some suggestions from the audience and Council were: having bins outside the gate at the Methow Recycle Center, expanding the hours of the recycle center, having a large station placed in a central location with easy access; and studying what items would make the biggest impact as far as space in our landfills and give the public access to recycle those items.

Tate and Schlotzhauer also shared that Betsy Cushman of the Methow Recycles was a great help during their project. The Council thanked the students for their presentation.

RESOLUTION #08-419 – AUTHORIZING THE INCURRENCE OF USDA INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE HILLTOP BOOSTER STATION AND WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed Resolution #08-419 authorizing the incurrence of indebtedness for the Hilltop Booster Station and water system improvements. Storms explained that approximately 75% of the funding from USDA (\$859,000) for this project would be in the form of a loan with a 4.5% interest rate and the other 25% of the funding (\$287,000) would be in the form a grant. Storms stated that by approving the Resolution the Town could move forward with the project.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to approve Resolution #08-419 authorizing the incurrence of indebtedness for the Hilltop Booster Station and water system improvements. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #08-420 – AUTHORIZING THE INCURRENCE OF TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION FINANCING DEBT FOR THE HILLTOP BOOSTER STATION AND WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed Resolution #08-420, which would authorize the incurrence of temporary construction financing debt for the Hilltop Booster Station and water system improvements. Storms explained that the Town needed to secure interim financing for approximately one year and the interest rate offered by Cashmere bank was approximately half of prime, which was running around 5.5% currently. Storms asked that Council authorize the temporary financing with Cashmere Bank.

MOTION:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve Resolution #08-420 regarding temporary financing for the Hilltop Booster Station and water system improvements. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #08-421 – APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SCOTT DETRO FOR ATTORNEY SERVICES

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed Resolution #08-421 regarding the approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Scott Detro for attorney services. Storms shared that Mr. DeTro had not requested an increase for many years and now was asking that his rate be \$175/hr; which is significantly less than his rate for the private sector. Storms recommended retaining DeTro because of his long history and expertise with water issues in our current water situation.

MOTION:

Council Member Hickman moved to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Scott DeTro for attorney services. The motion was seconded by Council Member DeRenzo and passed unanimously.

RH2 ENGINEERING SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR 2ND AVENUE STREET PROJECT

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed the RH2 Engineering Supplemental Agreement for the 2nd Avenue Street Project. Storms explained that this agreement was for the Phase 2 portion of the job, the actual construction engineering including inspection services. The Supplement #1 for approval was for \$158,753.78, which brought the total contract to \$287,481.35. Storms shared that the charges are billed out at an hourly rate as the job progresses up to this maximum.

Mayor Nations questioned the maximum allowance for change orders being five for this project. After a brief discussion by the Council they felt comfortable with that number.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to approve the Supplemental Agreement #1 with RH2 Engineering for the 2nd Avenue Street Project. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Member Gehring and Hallowell brought up the Public Development Authority Board and presented a list of potential members that have either voiced their interest or that the current task force has suggested would be good candidates. Council Member Gehring shared the criteria that the task force had loosely established for potential members as being those with the following expertise: grant writing; legal; construction; business management; accounting and knowledge of the community. Council Member Gehring reiterated that the terms will be staggered from one to three years for the initial set up.

Clerk/Treasurer suggested an application form be produced so interested people can submit it for consideration by the Mayor and Council. Clerk/Treasurer Storms and Administrative Assistant Jackie Moriarty will work on the form, a newspaper article and web page information regarding the PDA.

Mark Edson discussed the possibility of the Hilltop Booster Station project not happening because of increased construction costs. Clerk/Treasurer Storms responded that our recent bid opening was at the low end of the estimate, so costs may not increase as much as feared because the market is more competitive. She also stated that if the bids come in high there is a possibility of obtaining additional funds if necessary. Mr. Edson also voiced his concern regarding the replacement of the water line that runs down the hill at this time. Edson would like the Town to research being able to run that water line down May Street as an alternative to down the hill.

Council Member Gehring spoke briefly regarding composting and chipping. Mayor Nations suggested collecting lawn debris and then having a commercial chipper come in and do all of it at the same time.

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 10th day of June, 2008:

FP Francotyp-Postalia Inc.	ACH - #9608	\$500.00	06/09/08
Vouchers/Checks	#25394 - #25426	\$26,788.12	06/10/08
Vouchers/Checks	#25427 - #25434	\$7,800.00	06/15/08
Payroll	#11845 - #11866	\$18,691.02	05/31/08

MOTION:

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

There being no further business to come before the Council, Council Member Gehring moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mayor Vern Nations

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms