

**Town of Twisp**  
**Council Minutes – Regular Meeting**  
**06-12-2007**  
**7:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by Mayor Vern Nations -- Adjourned at 9:03 PM

Council Members Present: Vicki Hallowell  
Clint Estes  
Stephanie Hickman  
Tom Gehring  
Shari Brown

Council members absent:

Request for additions or changes:

Change: Delete Personnel Policy Discussion  
Additions: Old Business: Forest Service Property  
New Business: Executive Session for personnel issues

Council Member Hallowell led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Public Comment Period:**

- Gil Webber, attorney for Joni Hager. Ms. Hager purchased property on Riverside Ave.
  - She has a mobile home she would like to place on the lot.
  - She wants Council to allow her to apply for a building permit, put in a foundation, electrical, water line, sewer, etc., but not start services because of Moratorium.
  - There is not a water meter on this lot.
  - There is a hand dug well which is not developed.
  - Not being given a permit creates a hardship.
  - Not asking for variance from the moratorium at this time.

**Action:** Vern will review this issue with Town Attorney Scott DeTro
  
- Marty Aaenson, Start up and location of shooting range in valley.
  - Marty had been caring for Pearrygin shooting range.
  - Pearrygin shooting range was shut down by Fish and Game Dept.
  - Proposed new location is off of Hwy 20 near Tice Ranch.
  - Shooting Range Foundation is a 501C non-profit organization.
  - Foundation address is 310 S. Glover St. Twisp.
  - Gave out brochures. 75 members in club.
  - NRA technical adviser viewed and gave suggestions pertaining to new location.
  - Danger from lead in bullets in water table is not a factor per Forest Service report.
  - Would want the range to be neighborhood and environmentally friendly.
  - The accounting firm for the foundation is Bart Bradshaw.
  - Roger Townsend is a certified firearms safety instructor and works with Marty.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

**Passed:** Council Member Brown moved and Council Member Hickman seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

**Passed:** Council Member Hickman moved and Council Member Estes seconded a motion to approve the minutes of May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Mayor Nation's Update to Council:**

- New curb on Hwy 20: 99% of people are satisfied now that pre-leveling is completed.
- Chip sealing will be completed soon and will raise the street level another ½ inch.
- July 9<sup>th</sup> backside of curb at Hometown Pizza will be filled to correct the slope problem.
- Election, Council positions:
  - Position 1, Vicki Hallowell running unopposed.
  - Position 3, Stephanie Hickman running unopposed.
  - Position 4, Tom Gehring running unopposed.
  - Position 5, Andy Mills and Tina Derenzo are running for the position.
  - Mayor, Vern Nations running unopposed.
- Draft Water Comprehensive Plan is available for Council review.
  - Gray & Osborne will attend at a later date and answer questions.

### **Department Heads & Committee Reports:**

#### ➤ **Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer**

- Annual report (2006) is completed.
  - Please come to her with any questions about the report.
  - Earned \$13,000 in interest last year instead of spending money on warrant fees.
  - Auditor will start audit week of June 25.
- Community Facilities (without utilities) report.
  - Council rated facilities at previous retreat.
- Business license renewals will go out soon.
  - License year runs July 01 to June 30.
- Building Official
  - Winthrop is advertising for a new official.
  - Wants Twisp to again contract for 8 hrs. of official's time.
  - We are using a company called The Building Department for building official services in the mean time.
  - Pay rate is \$50 an hour at this time.
  - The Building Department company would get a percentage of permit fees if we signed with them as a permanent arrangement.
  - Official Steve Gabriel from Building Department has a good working relationship with Town and permittees.

#### ➤ **Dale Hutson, Fire Chief**

- Not in attendance

- **Gary McConnell, Public Works Superintendent**
    - State DOT wants to have meeting about snow removal.
      - Action:** Vern, Stephanie and Vicki will pick a date & meet with them
    - Pool is filled & swim team is using it.
      - Pool is still leaking: 5,000 to 7,000 gallons per day. Will experiment with problem before calling American Leak back to Twisp.
  
  - **Rick Balam, Police Chief**
    - Gary Denham is the lateral new hire.
      - 17 years experience with law enforcement.
      - Certified in Washington State.
      - Interviewed and tested well.
    - Parking: W. Twisp Ave.
      - Street is not wide enough for angle parking.
    - Traffic Court tickets
      - There were some problems with court procedures from 2005 forward.
      - Court Clerk Moriarty is working on tickets and court procedures.
    - Second Durango has been purchased.
      - He is equipping the vehicle.
      - Will be in service soon.
    - Emergency Management Plan with County.
      - Last draft is being edited for local Methow Valley plan.
      - Will bring draft to Council soon.
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**Old Business:**

- Bill Simmons 2007 pool concession contract with changes from May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Council meeting.
  - **Passed:** Council Member Estes moved and Council Member Brown seconded the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the concession agreement. Motion passed unanimously.
- Parking Issues
  - W. Twisp Ave. parking
    - Not wide enough for diagonal parking
    - Ordinance # 532 only applies parallel parking to south side.
  - Delivery trucks at Twisp Feed Store are a concern.
  - Changing certain streets to one-way streets is something the Council agrees should be looked at further.
  - Council discussed parking lot on N. Glover, one-way streets, signage & striping.
  - Parking spots could be created at Commons Park if one tree was removed.
    - Action:** Gary will talk to Dwight Filer about Commons Park tree.
    - Action:** Rick will redraft Parking Ordinance and bring it to Council.
  
- Joint Resolution 07-399 Transferring Lead Agency Status from Okanogan County to Town of Twisp for Methow Watershed Council.
  - Watershed Councils are able to change water law.
  - There are 2 cfm of water set aside for municipal use from the Early Winter Reach & the Watershed Council is trying to get a portion of that reallocated.

- Looking for a representative to attend the Watershed Council meetings.
- **Passed:** Council Member Brown moved and Council Member Hallowell seconded the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Okanogan County Joint Resolution 07-399. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

- Forest Service Complex
  - Confluence Gallery members hosted a meeting pertaining to buying the complex.
  - Residential homes at the complex are older and in need of repair.
  - Forest Service will auction the complex next March or April as one parcel.
  - If Town’s water moratorium was lifted, Forest Service might sell complex in parcels.
  - A partnership of private and public entities could be used to buy the property.
  - May find a grant to investigate how to develop this economic venture.
  - **Action:** Council Members Gehring and Hallowell and Clerk Storms will attend the next brain storming meeting June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Public Comment**

- Keith & Tina Comstock
  - Proposed that if the Town take out the junipers on S. Glover that are on both their property and the Town property, then additional parking could be created..
    - **Action:** Gary will measure the street to see if diagonal parking is feasible.

**Executive Session**

- Mayor Nations adjourned into executive session at 8:35 p.m. for approximately 25 minutes to discuss personnel matters.
  - Mayor Nations reconvened into regular session at 9:00 p.m.

**Routine Approvals:**

The bills and previous payroll were briefly discussed.

Council Member Brown moved and Council Member Hickman seconded the motion to approve the current accounts payable, and payroll and payroll taxes (See attached back up for more details) and disburse payment. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Brown moved and Council Member Estes seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms

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Mayor Vern Nations