

**Town of Twisp
Council Minutes 07/14/09**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Hickman.

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

Council Members absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES

Mayor Hickman adjourned into executive session at 6:00 p.m. for approximately 60 minutes to interview applicants for planning commission. At the end of 60 minutes, 10 more minutes were added to the executive session.

Mayor Hickman reconvened into regular session at 7:10 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Estes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING - RESOLUTION #09-443 – SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) public hearing was opened at 7:12 p.m. Sarah Schrock asked why Evergreen Loup, a private road, was on the plan. P.W. Supt. Randy Johnson explained that Evergreen Loup and all other streets in Twisp are now on the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) priority list for eligibility for TIB monies and that is where she saw Evergreen Loup. Town streets have to be listed for four years before they are eligible for TIB monies.

Council Member Gehring asked where the town was in the TIP process. Mayor Hickman noted if the plan is approved by Council tonight the process is complete for the year.

There were no other comments on the Transportation Improvement Plan.

The public hearing was closed at 7:17 p.m.

MOTION:

No motion at this time.

REQUEST for ADDITIONS &/or CHANGES to the AGENDA:

Additions: Well # 2 Repairs

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Andrew Schuh was present to represent his grandmother Arline Watson of 219 N. Glover and Massey Wills Lane. A portion of Mrs. Watson's home and a shed are located on Massey Wills Lane on one side and an unnamed alleyway on another side of her property. The family is requesting that Massey Wills Lane be vacated. Andrew sent a letter to that effect on 07-03-09. He was encouraged by Town Planner Sarah Schrock to petition the town for the vacation. It was noted that a vacation would split the vacated property between property owners on both sides of the vacation.

Hannah Kinzle was present to ask to have Massey Wills Lane vacated. She lives at 218 N. Glover, adjoining Massey Wills Lane. Per a survey that neighbor Vern Garrison paid for, her property has encroached onto Massey Wills Lane.

Marjorie Wilkinson was present to voice her and her husband's approval for the Massey Wills Lane vacation and state they would like their half of Massey Wills Lane that would be conveyed to them through the vacation to go to Arline Watson, their neighbor.

Action: Follow-up on issue of vacation of Massey Wills Lane.

Mark Edson was present to ask if the M.V. Community Center bell tower height variance and placement of the tower had gone through town channels. He was assured that procedures were followed. He also commented on the Salsa Mexican Grill and its loud music on July 4, 2009. His business is located to the south of the restaurant and he could hear the music with a grinder running and wearing ear protectors. He has a decibel tester he could use to experiment with noise levels for the Town if asked. The Town should enforce the noise ordinance to protect the residents that live near the Salsa.

Peter Martin, Salsa Mexican Grill manager was present to comment on July 4th police intervention because of loud music complaints. May 5th Salsa music event resulted in near-by residents complaining about the late hour of the music (until 12:00 a.m.) and the loudness. A letter from Town of Twisp code enforcement stated music could be played until 10:00 pm. Twisp Officer Sheehan answered a noise complaint about the Salsa on July 4, 2009 at 8:00 pm and explained the music should not be heard 75' from the source or it was too loud. Mr. Martin then moved the music inside the building for the rest of the evening. He states he lost revenue because of the different interpretations of the noise ordinance. He would like to meet with nearby residents and law enforcement to work out any problems with outside music events.

Mr. Martin stated the sound man who programmed the 4th of July music event in the Twisp Park and Salsa's event said the equipment was programmed to the same decibel levels. His question was, why the event in the park was not a noise issue also?

Marjorie Wilkinson stated if noise level testing was going to happen for the Salsa and music events, it should also happen for the Twisp River Pub and other music events.

Council Members want to review the Nuisance Ordinance. They mentioned the 75' was possibly just for vehicles traveling on our streets projecting loud music and not music events.

Action: Review the Nuisance Ordinance.

Action: Review the Salsa Mexican Grill business license for application for outdoor music events.

Bill Bates, owner of BJ's Branding Iron was present and had read the letter from the Town of Twisp code enforcement to the Salsa. He felt Officer Sheehan was on a "power trip" in enforcing the 75' noise level and stating the music needed to stop. There are frequent music events at the Twisp River Pub and a drum club that meets outside at the M.V. Community Center weekly. It is a noisy town. Salsa should be reimbursed by the Town for having to shut down early on July 4, 2009. Officer Sheehan closed down Mick & Miki's one night, the patrons went to BJ's and BJ's got a ticket for over-serving. He said Officer Sheehan is out of line.

Council Member Gehring asked Mr. Bates if he heard the music at the Salsa? Mr. Bates had not. The noise levels should be measured for all. Council Member Gehring said that he disagreed with Mr. Bates' assessment as Bates was not present and therefore Gehring disagreed with his judgments against Officer Sheehan.

Council Member Mulgrew was at the Salsa on July 4, 2009 and you could still hear the music loudly after it was moved inside.

Margorie Wilkinson noted since the Town increased the size of the town parking lot at N. Glover St. and E. Twisp Ave. heavy rains create a huge puddle between Jordan and Watson properties. The increased size covered up an old irrigation ditch that channeled water runoff.

Action: Mayor, Police Chief and Mr. Martin will meet. Re: Noise ord.

MINUTES

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to approve the June 23, 2009 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed. Council Member di Rienzo abstained.

STAFF REPORTS

Rick Balam, Police Chief

Not present

Randy Johnson, Public Works Superintendent

Superintendent Johnson reported the following:

The 4th of July, 2009 events went well. Garbage was picked up by participants. Contractor KRCI will supply a 2" thickness to the chip seal on the repaired roads in the Hilltop project which is much better than the 1" thickness presently on the roads. RH2 engineer Don Popoff will replace RH2 engineer Karen Kornher for the Town. Working on sewer plant computer read issues. Working with RH2 on biosolids numbers and why there are spikes in the reads. Working to get UV touch pad up and running.

Glover St. new catch basins worked well in the extreme rain storm of July 6, 2009.
New catch basin near Quality Lube will be repaired. It didn't handle the rain.
Alder St. & 5th Ave. catch basin and Cascade Pipe private catch basin did not keep up with water from the rain storm. Cascade Pipe gets run-off from forest service compound.
A load of cold mix will be here this week for road patching.
P.W. crew is removing downed or dangerous trees from May St.
The rain storm caused some erosion on the Hilltop project. KRCI will fill those spots.
A protection barrier will be needed on Hwy 20 where the Hilltop project starts up the hill.
Larry Brown Construction has hired local contractor Mark Seguin to complete the intersection corners of Glover St. project with fill and crushed gravel and to place the restoration sod on private property where damage had occurred.
Glover St. street lights are ordered.
There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the project in August.
Well #2 shaft, bearing and some well casing will need \$10,000.00 in repairs. Foremost Pump has pulled the shaft and will repair it.
Well #3 has been running for six weeks.
Working to get flow meters for the wells to satisfy DOE with electronic reads while we have the grant money.

Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer

Not present

Keith Comstock, Fire Chief

Chief Comstock stated the F.D. had eight calls (rescue/medical) in June. There were no fireworks issues on July 4, 2009. There are new firefighter recruits. The ten current firefighters are all up on their training certificates.

Sarah Schrock, Town Planner

Planner Schrock reported the Methow Valley Community Center variance for height for the bell tower placement was approved.

Schrock reported that the 21 day appeal process for the three Isabella Short Plats will be up on July 24th.

Schrock reported that she completed the yearly review for Paco's Tacos Conditional Use Permit. The establishment is operating within the conditions of the permit and the permit will continue.

Schrock reported that Community Covenant Church pastor Greg Oliver brought to her attention the erosion that is taking place on the Methow River on Town property that abuts the church property. It is town property that is undeveloped and has been talked about for a trail in a trail system. Methow Restoration Council is doing a study in the middle reach of the Methow River and would study the issue for us. They would watch for possible human activity up or down the river that is causing the issue or it could be a natural phenomena that needs to be left alone.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to have a letter written to the Methow Restoration Council asking them to study the erosion issue on our northern river bank and give us a report at a later date. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

Action: The Staff will write a letter to MRC.

Schrock reported a conversation with Chris Johnson of the Salmon Recovery Board. He asked the Town a year ago if the Town wanted to annex and take responsibility for the Twisp River Road Salmon Recovery property. The property is mentioned in our Comprehensive Plan as part of a trail system.

Action: The Council will review the subject at the next meeting.

PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UPDATE

PDA Board Member Gehring reported that the executive director position will soon be filled. He reported that purchase of the forest service compound property will close soon. The Board can then get to master planning the vision for the property with help from citizen input.

Keith Comstock asked if building and yard maintenance on the property would be the responsibility of the Town P.W. staff? Gehring stated that the PDA will be self-sustaining.

NEW BUSINESS

EPA CLIMATE SHOWCASE GRANT

Betsy Cushman, Executive Director of Methow Recycles was at Council to ask for approval to apply for an EPA grant for an additional recycling drop area. She already had Colleen's agreement to work on the grant together. The Town and Methow Recycles have partnered a number of times on grants for Methow Recycles. Winthrop has a drop-off site for the profitable recyclables. The Winthrop drop-off site is monitored daily for good neighbor relations. Twisp could have a similar drop-off site with this grant. Methow Recycles already has a certain amount of the money match for a grant.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to have the Town of Twisp and Methow Recycle apply for the EPA Climate Showcase Grant. The motion was seconded by Tina di Rienzo and passed unanimously.

BELL TOWER BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Adjustment approved the M.V. Community Center height variance to place a bell tower on the top of the community center on July 13, 2009. The bell tower was placed on the top of the community center on July 14, 2009. Per the discussion of June 23, 2009 the Council wanted to waive the variance fee for the community center.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to waive the variance fee of \$400.00 for the M.V. Community Center bell tower height variance. The motion was seconded by Tom Mulgrew and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Carl Hubert and Carolanne Steinebach were interviewed for planning commission positions. Interviews will be set up for Peter Day and Tarrie Darwood for the next Council meeting July 28, 2009.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to vote on planning commission members after the interviews of the other two applicants on July 28, 2009. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

METHOW VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER LEASE FOR LIBRARY SPACE

Council discussed the proposed library lease changes sent by the Library Board and the M.V. Community Center. The Council would agree to the change to Item 2. Paragraph 9 of the lease agreement stating the MVCC Board of Directors must approve any alterations, additions or improvements in or to the leased area. The Council would agree to the change to Item 3. Paragraph 11 of the lease agreement stating the MVCC board must approve of any sub-lease to any other party other than the North Central Regional Library District (NCRLD).

The Council agrees that a lease with a longer term than one year makes sense with the expense that the Library Board is going to incur with the alteration of the second room and the archway. The Council would like the rent increases to mirror the Town's agreement with NCRLD.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to send the proposed lease agreement back to the MVCC with changes to Item 1 to mirror our agreement with NCRLD for review of the agreement and to accept their changes to Item 2 and Item 3. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

Action: Staff will prepare response to MVCC.

**RESOLUTION # 09-444 – CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

The resolution before the Council is a confirmation of the terms of the continuation of appointments for the PDA Board members.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to ratify the prior and current Members of the Board of Directors of the Twisp Public Development District Authority. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION #09-443 – SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN

MOTION:

Council Member Gehring moved to pass the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes 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 14th day of July, 2009:

Checks/Vouchers	#26491 - #26495	\$25,801.98	06-30-09
Payroll	#12169 - #12201	\$27,649.95	07-01-09
FP Francotyp-Postalia, Inc.	ACH	\$500.00	07-01-09
Cashmere Valley Bank	ACH	\$1,254.99	07-01-09
Checks/Vouchers	#29496	\$142,609.30	07-02-09
Checks/Vouchers	#26497 - #26542	\$59,299.74	07-14-09
Void	#26543		07-14-09
Checks/Vouchers	#26544 - #26550	\$6,900.00	07-15-09

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to approve the current accounts payable and current payroll and benefits and to disburse payment. The motion was seconded by Council Member di Rienzo and passed. Council Member Hallowell abstained.

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 Hallowell and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

Stephanie Hickman
Mayor Stephanie Hickman

ATTEST:

Colleen G. Storms
Clerk/Treasurer Colleen G. Storms