

**Town of Twisp
Council Minutes
09/25/07
7:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Mayor Pro-Tem Hickman - Adjourned at 8:40 pm.

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

Council members absent: Mayor Nations

Request for additions or changes:

Change: Council Member Estes requested an update on the Water Moratorium issue.

Addition: Old Business: None
 New Business: None

Council Member Estes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

James and Georgiana Kramer discussed needing a Conditional Use Permit for keeping chickens. The Kramer's explained to council that they currently keep 4 chickens on their property on 2nd Avenue. They stated that they had received a violation notice regarding the chickens and wanted Council to know that the chicken that was allegedly in the road was not one of their chickens. Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms explained to the Kramers that the current process for keeping chickens in town is to go through the Condition Use Permit (CUP) process. Janice Kasala, a former chicken owner, with interest in the outcome of this issue stated that the CUP process has a non-refundable cost of \$500. Council Member Estes stated that he approves of the CUP process because it gives the neighbors a chance to state their opinion of having chickens living next to them however he feels that maybe the CUP rate should be reviewed.

Mr. and Mrs. Kramer asked for an extension of the date to be rid of their chickens, until the Town determines if they will change the process or the zoning code.

Action: Clerk/Treasurer Storms will contact the Mayor to request the violation notice deadline of getting rid of the Kramer's chickens be extended.

MINUTES

Council Member Brown moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gary McConnell, Public Works Superintendent

Public Works Superintendent McConnell provided Council with a written report in their Council packets. Council Member Gehring asked McConnell what Well Head Protection meant. McConnell stated that it is a plan that spells out how to avoid town-owned well contamination. McConnell offered to provide Council Member Gehring with a copy of the Well Head Protection Plan. Council Member Hallowell also requested a copy of the plan.

McConnell gave Council a brief update regarding the new Public Works truck and the installation of the snowplow and related equipment. McConnell reported that the initial plan was to have Larry Smith provide the labor in trade for the old one-ton truck with the Town paying for a hydraulic kit and parts. McConnell explained that Smith had not started on the project and it could snow anytime and the public works department would be in a bind without that equipment. McConnell contacted Bruce Woods and asked for him to prepare an estimate for the work to be done. Mr. Wood's estimate was as follows: \$1,800 for the hydraulic kit and \$3,000 for the labor of installing the kit.

Action: Public Works Superintendent McConnell will provide both Council Member Gehring and Hallowell a copy of the Well Head Protection Plan.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to go forward with the ordering of the parts and that the total expense be reflected in a proposed budget revision. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brown and passed unanimously.

Dale Hutson, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Hutson showed off one of the thirteen complete sets of fire gear that the Twisp Fire Department received when awarded a recent equipment grant. Hutson stated that the gear is a lot lighter and protects from the heat better than their old gear. Hutson feels that the department is set up well to protect the volunteers while they work.

Hutson discussed a follow-up meeting between Council Members Hickman and Estes regarding the proposed contract between the County Fire Department and the Town of Twisp Fire Department. Hutson stated that he would check with his volunteers and set up an evening meeting.

Action: Fire Chief Hutson will set up an evening meeting between his volunteers and the Council Committee.

Rick Balam, Police Chief

Chief Balam was not present.

Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported to Council that the Town's 2007 budgeted revenue for business licenses was \$13,120 and to date the town has received \$12,602.50 in business license fees with

an additional \$275 in late fees. Storms stated that there are two businesses that have not renewed yet. Storms urged Council to speak up if they had ideas of how the Town could be of more service to the businesses.

Storms reported that the dog licensing efforts had far exceeded her expectations of revenue to the Town and that she appreciated the cooperation from Mr. and Mrs. Timbers, owners of the Horseshoe Trailer Park, tracking dog licenses of tenants. Storms mentioned that the incidents relating to dogs were down.

SR 20 Grant Update: Storms relayed to Council that a deal had been reached between Gray & Osborne, the Washington State Department of Transportation and the contractor Wilder Construction regarding a change order for the SR20 Project. Storms stated that the curb issue at Hometown Pizza and the drainage issue at the Twisp Feed Store should be resolved by October 17, 2007.

Glover Street Grant Update: Storms reported that the overlay and sidewalk project is slated to be complete by the end of October barring any weather issues. The total project is approximately \$231,959.

Glover Street (3rd to 6th): Storms reported that our grant application was submitted by the due date of August 31, 2007. Storms explained to Council that receiving this grant is a long shot because of the requested amount, but she feels confident about our scoring potential if they would raise the per project maximum.

Reservoir Grant Application: Storms reported to Council that the Town was refused a loan through the Drinking Water Fund for a booster pump to provide ample pressure to Painters Addition. Storms explained that the Town can use that refusal to their advantage and apply for a low interest USDA loan and possibly supplement any shortage with the help of CDBG. Both applications need to be prepared and submitted in early November 2007.

Storms reported on the Methow Valley Irrigation District (MVID) water transfer status. Storms explained that the Town had previously been working with the Okanogan County Conservancy Board but are now working directly with the Department of Ecology (DOE). Storms reported that within the next two weeks, Town Attorney Scott DeTro would have more information to share.

Storms requested a meeting with the Mayor and the Finance Committee be set for the first week of October to review the 2008 budget. Storms mentioned that she is working on the revised 2007 budget as well.

Action: Storms will set up a budget meeting the first week in October with Mayor Nations and Council Members Brown and Hickman.

Storms reported that the Town had received three proposals for the Twisp Municipal Airport Project. Storms requested a meeting be set up to review and rate the proposals with Airport Manager Morgan Smith, Public Works Superintendent McConnell and the Council Committee.

Action: Administrative Assistant Jackie Moriarty will set up an evening meeting for rating and reviewing the airport proposals.

OLD BUSINESS

Methow Watershed Memorandum of Agreement

Administrative Assistant Moriarty discussed the Methow Watershed Council (MWC) Memorandum of Agreement. Moriarty explained that the content of the agreement between the MWC and the Town of Twisp was discussed at length when the Town was deciding whether to become the Lead Agency for the Methow Watershed and that the agreement clearly outlines what are the responsibilities of the Town and the MWC.

MOTION:

Council Member Estes moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Methow Watershed Council and the Town of Twisp and to authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

Methow Watershed Agreement for Services

Administrative Assistant Moriarty discussed the Methow Watershed Agreement for Services. Moriarty explained that this agreement outlines the duties of the secretarial position. Moriarty explained that she, as the current secretary, was put on a one year probation and if at the end of that one year the MWC is happy with her work the agreement will continue or the MWC can contract with someone else.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to approve the Agreement for Services between the Methow Watershed Council and the Town of Twisp. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Association of Washington Cities Meeting Update

Council Member Hallowell reported to the Council in regards to the Association of Washington (AWC) Cities Meeting she recently attended. Hallowell stated that the information provided about AWC Services to cities was great and recapped the meeting as follows: Streamline Sales Tax – Hallowell reported that it may increase our tax revenue and promote out-of-state businesses to relocate in Washington; Hotel/Motel Tax – Hallowell explained that a revision may be made in regards to how the Hotel/Motel Tax revenue can be spent; Jail Medical Fees – Hallowell explained that currently the jurisdiction in which an individual is arrested is responsible for that person's medical care while they are in jail. This is being reviewed because of the hardship it can cause small departments; Puget Sound Cleanup – Hallowell stated they discussed the target 2020 cleanup project for Puget Sound; DOE Waste Management Grant – Hallowell reported that only one City applied for the DOE Waste Management Grant; and Infrastructure Projects – Hallowell stated this was a big topic that would take a look at the deteriorating infrastructure in Washington Cities. Council Member Hallowell conveyed that the legislature would only be holding a 60 day session instead of the usual 180 day session this year and that AWC didn't expect a lot of success passing new legislation.

Council Member Hallowell discussed a new council member training session that AWC provides. Mayor Pro-Tem Hickman highly recommended the training stating that she and others had attended.

Library Discussion

Council Member Estes stated that he liked what the Library personnel had done with the Library in spite of their limited space and could see the need to expand. Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed the shortfall in monetary coverage for the library rent. Storms stated that the shortage will be \$1,607.50 for 2008. Storms will review the contract with the Community Center and report back to council.

Action: Clerk/Treasurer will report back to Council after reviewing the contract with the Community Center.

Council Retreat Discussion

Clerk/Treasurer Storms asked Council if they would be interested in having a Council retreat similar to the one held last year in Chelan. Council Member Estes questioned whether the location had to be so far away. Estes stated that he liked Campbell’s Resort but just wondered if it could be held closer to home. Council agreed on the dates of November 9th and 10th and asked Clerk/Treasurer Storms to get prices from at least three locations.

Action: Clerk/Treasurer Storms will research prices and availability as requested by Council for the Council retreat.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Billy Fletcher, a Twisp resident, was present to discuss the water moratorium. Mr. Fletcher explained to Council that he has a residence in Town for sale that he would like to divide and needs to know that he can have a water connection on the second section of the property before a sale will take place. Clerk/Treasurer Storms gave Mr. Fletcher a brief update in regards to the Town’s effort to transfer water rights from the MVID to the Town. Storms stated that the Town could not give Mr. Fletcher a solid date when water would be available, and could only relay the timeline in which the Town is working with the DOE and MVID. Storms urged Fletcher to keep in mind that even if the water transfer was approved by DOE there would be an appeal opportunity comment period in which outside organizations and people could appeal the DOE decision which could drag the process out further.

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/warrants are approved for payment by a majority vote on this 25th day of September, 2007:

Voucher/Warrant	#24668 - #24692	\$48,233.06	Prepared 09/25/07
ACH Cashmere Valley Bank	#991007	\$1,254.99	Prepared 09/25/07

There was no payroll done during this time period.

MOTION:

Council Member Brown moved to approve the current accounts payable 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 8:40 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hickman

Attest:

Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms