

**Town of Twisp
Council Minutes 11/12/08
7:00 PM**

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

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Stephanie Hickman
Tom Gehring
Vicki Hallowell
Tina di Rienzo

Council members absent: Mayor Vern Nations and Clint Estes.

Additions and/or Changes to the Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Gehring led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2009 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Mayor Pro-Tem Hickman opened the public hearing regarding the 2009 preliminary budget at 7:04 pm. Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that Mayor Nations would like to schedule a meeting with the Finance Committee (Hickman and di Rienzo) to review the budget. Clerk/Treasurer Storms presented the preliminary budget and briefly discussed each section and answered questions from the Council Members. Storms specifically discussed the planned renovations for Town Hall and the proposed 3% Cost-of-living wage increase for employees.

There was no public input.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hickman closed the public hearing at 7:35 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Tana di Rienzo, property owner on Hughes Lane, was present to discuss a buffer issue concerning Lloyd Logging and the residential area on Hughes Lane. Ms. Di Rienzo shared details with Council of a neighborhood dispute that resulted in Lloyd Logging clearing away a green belt that separated Ms. di Rienzo's residential property from the noise, odor and view of machinery and activity at Lloyd Logging's property. Ms. di Rienzo questioned how Lloyd Logging could remove the buffer when according to her research the current zoning ordinance required the buffer. Clerk/Treasurer Storms stated she would forward this issue to the Town Planner and get a response back to Ms. Di Rienzo.

Action: Clerk/Treasurer Storms will forward the issue to Highland's Planner Sarah Schrock.

MINUTES

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to approve the October 28, 2008 minutes with revisions. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

MAYOR NATIONS UPDATE

Not present.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rick Balam, Police Chief

Chief Balam went over the monthly Police Department stats and answered questions.

Chief Balam shared that he and his department were instrumental in solving a string of burglaries that stretched throughout the Northwest, including Twisp.

Chief Balam reported that Lori Rodio was currently working on getting hulk vehicles removed from property all over Town and getting the trees trimmed that obstruct views or are hanging over Town streets.

Chief Balam proudly reported that the Twisp Police Department currently has the highest rate of property recovery and crimes solved in Okanogan County.

Chief Balam reported new radio repeater equipment has been installed in the area making radio communication better. Balam shared written material and a map with Council showing the areas improved by the new equipment.

Randy Johnson, Public Works Superintendent

Superintendent Johnson went over his departmental report provided to Council and answered questions.

Superintendent Johnson discussed a bid he had received from Don Johnson, J2 Services, LLC. regarding a surveillance system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Johnson reported that the bid came in at \$1,367.79 and that the Association of Washington Cities grant he received was for \$1,000. Johnson reported the bid amount includes 4 cameras, a 14" monitor, audio capabilities, installation and testing. Council agreed to have Johnson move forward with this project.

Superintendent Johnson reported he had received two bids for the installation and electrical work for a garage door at the WWTP to enclose a building to store the jet washer. A bid of \$5,544.36 from Methow General Services and a bid from Tim Sprague Construction of \$6,838.03 were received. Council agreed to have Superintendent Johnson move forward with Methow General Services.

Superintendent Johnson discussed a request from Carl Hubert asking for his utility account to be placed in inactive status for his property at 612 Burger Street. The manufactured home that was

previously at this location was recently moved and there is currently no structure. Mr. Hubert is requesting that he not be charged for water and sewer. After a brief discussion and clarification by Clerk/Treasurer Storms regarding inactive account status the Council decided that Mr. Hubert would need to be more specific about his future intentions for the property.

Action: Staff was directed to contact Mr. Hubert and have him define his intentions more clearly on the request form.

Colleen Storms, Clerk/Treasurer

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that she, Council Member Hallowell and Superintendent Johnson had recently attended the Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council Conference (IACC) in Wenatchee. Clerk/Treasurer Storms was happy to report that even with the decline in the economy, grants for infrastructure should still be available. She said there is some hope that states will receive monies from the federal government to stimulate the economy and build local infrastructure. Storms reported that they made some new contacts as well as discussed current projects with some of our funding agencies.

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed the Department of Ecology (DOE) grant for the water source meters and telemetry equipment. Superintendent Johnson explained to the Council that he had received an invoice from H.D. Fowler for some of the equipment and after speaking to Storms they concluded that the equipment was possibly ordered prematurely. Storms shared that she, Mayor Nations and Superintendent Johnson were going to have a phone conference on November 14, 2008 with H.D. Fowler and DOE to try and resolve the issue.

Keith Comstock, Fire Chief

Chief Comstock reported that the department has been spending a significant amount of time training and he was proud to report that his volunteers are excelling in their training efforts. Comstock shared that the department is working on small Fire Hall maintenance projects; things Comstock reported that needed to be done for a long time to get the department into good order.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #08-432 – ALL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN

Chief Balam presented and discussed Resolution #08-432 regarding the All Hazards Mitigation Plan. Balam reported that Scott Miller, Okanogan County Emergency Management Coordinator was unable to address the Council and requested that Balam represent him in his absence. Chief Balam explained that the All Hazards Mitigation Plan set out guidelines for the assessment and handling of fires, floods, other major disasters and/or toxic incidents that may occur in the Methow Valley. Balam shared that partnering with Okanogan County makes Twisp eligible for county, state and federal funds immediately in case of an emergency. Balam reported that our current Methow Valley Emergency Management Plan works in conjunction with the All Hazards Mitigation Plan. The cost of partnering with the County for Emergency Management in general is based on a per capita calculation.

Chief Balam went over several possible scenarios based on Council Members questions. Chief Balam recommended passage of this Resolution.

MOTION:

Council Member di Rienzo moved to approve Resolution #08-432 regarding participation in the All Hazard Mitigation Plan with Okanogan County. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

ADDENDUM TO THE 2008 HIGHLANDS ASSOCIATES AGREEMENT

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that the Town entered into an agreement with Highland Associates for 2008 for a maximum amount of \$20,280. As of September of 2008 we had expended \$19,220.50. Kurt Danison, Highland Associates has proposed an increase of \$3,185 for 2008 to cover what he has projected will be needed for the rest of the year. Storms attributes part of the increase to the fact the new Town Planner has set regular business hours at Town Hall. She said the set hours are working out well for staff and citizens though. Storms shared that she and Mayor Nations will review the proposed 2009 agreement with Highlands Associates prior to presenting it to Council.

MOTION:

Council Member Hallowell moved to approve the addendum to the 2008 Highlands Associates Agreement in the amount of \$3,185. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this 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 12th day of November, 2008:

Checks/Vouchers	#25818 - #25819	\$6,829.43	10/31/08
Cashmere Valley Bank	ACH	\$1,254.99	11/01/08
Checks/Vouchers	#25820 - #25824	\$5,049.09	11/03/08
AWC	ACH	\$7,899.85	
NCNB	ACH	\$8,930.23	
Checks/Vouchers	#25825 - #25866	\$29,520.63	11/12/08
FP Francotyp-Postalia Inc.	ACH	\$500.00	11/12/08
Payroll	#25867 - #25874	\$7,810.00	11/15/08

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 di Rienzo 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 di Rienzo and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mayor Pro-Tem Stephanie Hickman

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms