

**Town of Twisp  
Council Minutes 11/27/07  
5:30 PM**

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Mayor Nations

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

Council members absent:

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DISCUSSION**

Kurt Danison and Don Willson, Highlands Associates, were present to facilitate discussion on the Comprehensive Plan. Danison reported that a draft of Comprehensive Plan is due by 12/31/07 to remain in compliance with the grant the Town received to revise the plan. Danison relayed to the Council that the plan does not have to be passed as a whole and can modify at anytime. Danison urged Council to remember that the Comprehensive Plan is not meant to be specific and that more specific language will be in the zoning ordinance.

Council discussed the Commercial Riverfront designation, Danison reminded Council that it will be the developer's responsibility to improve roads and gain access to or purchase right-of-ways to support their development. Council Member Estes felt that the Commercial Riverfront designation should be less prescriptive and suggested deleting the specific uses listed in parenthesis. Danison suggested that referring to tourist activities instead of tourist accommodations may make that section clearer.

Council Member Gehring discussed the possibility of a pedestrian bridge and the development of a trail. Danison explained that an agreement for a trail system would need to be reached either deeding the trail and property to the Town or it would remain privately owned and maintained.

Council discussed the steep slope areas particularly on SR20 across from the Eagles referenced in the previous Comprehensive Plan as a conservancy area and now as a critical area in Land Use Element. Danison stated that development in these areas is highly restricted.

Council Member Gehring asked why the Planning Commission felt the south side of SR20 should be designated as commercial in the Urban Growth Area (UGA). Kurt explained that at this time UGA zoning holds little weight with county. Terry Larson stated that the zoning chosen by the Planning Commission in the UGA was well thought out and in his opinion is responsible zoning because commercial uses are consistent with the airport which is on the south side, unlike residential that is not best near airport zoning.

Mayor Nations discussed property cleanup in areas not developed and the Town's environmental responsibilities for these properties; especially where remnants of industrial uses exist. Kurt responded that a SEPA review would be the way of addressing this type of issue.

Danison stated that developing a Public Facilities & Utilities Element would entail taking the current Town facility plans and referencing them in summary and updating the information in the old plan.

Estes suggested buffering Mark's business by commercial uses and then layering in the residential uses towards the river. Clerk/Treasurer Storms asked council to give Danison feedback about specific changes they need to see to pass the plan.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**2008 FINAL BUDGET**

Mayor Nations called the public hearing to order at 7:03 pm to discuss the 2008 Final Budget for the Town of Twisp. Clerk/Treasurer Storms briefly updated the Council on a few changes that had been made to the preliminary budget. A new fund that was added was for the Forest Service Property project, Storms stated she had put in \$2,500 for start-up money along with the donation and a grant they are seeking; the fund should have around \$62,500 in expenditures in 2008 that are known now. The Fire Department training budget was discussed and may possibly need increasing with the new Chief's input.

Storms requested passage of Ordinance #585 showing a total amount of the 2008 budget as \$2,932,880. Mayor Nations asked that the Council wait to consider passage of the budget until Police Chief Balam and Public Works Superintendent McConnell were present to give input.

**Action: Clerk/Treasurer Storms will show an increase in the Fire Department's 2008 budget.**

**Action: Clerk/Treasurer Storms will bring more specific numbers regarding utility rates to the next meeting.**

There was no public input.

Mayor Nations closed the public hearing at 7:15 pm.

Request for additions or changes:

Change: None

Addition: Old Business: Council Member Estes requested discussion is held on contracting with Okanogan County District #6 for fire services.

New Business: Clerk/Treasurer requested consideration of Ordinance #584 regarding Highway Access Management.

Council Member Hickman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mark Edson – Mr. Edson thanked the Council for discussing the issue of protecting existing businesses in future planning. Mr. Edson questioned the use of the interior lot line on the South side of his business. Don Willson responded to this question from Mr. Edson.

Brian Radosevich – Mr. Radosevich questioned why the Planning Commission wants to change Burton Street from a Multi-Family designation to a Single Family designation. Don Willson explained that the Planning Commission took a look at the current uses on Burton Street and saw that there were no Multi-Family dwellings presently and decided to change it based on the current uses. Mr. Radosevich stated that the Town of Twisp would need to purchase his property, which he'd planned to use for multi-family construction, so that he could buy elsewhere and pursue his family's goals for the future.

### **MINUTES**

Remove "the" in the second paragraph of the second page.

### **MOTION:**

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the November 13, 2007 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed. Council Member Hickman abstained.

### **MAYOR NATIONS UPDATE**

No report at this time.

### **DEPARTMENT HEADS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Rick Balam, Police Chief**

Not present.

#### **Gary McConnell, Public Works Superintendent**

Not present.

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

No report.

### **OKANOGAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #6 CONTRACT FOR FIRE SERVICES**

Mayor Nations started discussion by stating he had done some staffing changes at the Twisp Fire Hall. Mayor Nations stated that Keith Comstock was now the Fire Chief and that Dale Hutson was now the Assistant Fire Chief. Mayor Nations asked that a training procedure be put into place, that Chief Comstock do an inventory of equipment and that all (including officers) fire volunteers participate in local training. Chief Comstock explained that communication was an issue between the Town and District #6 and in his opinion more work would need to be done before a consolidation could take place.

**MOTION:**

Council Member Hallowell moved not to contract with Okanogan County District #6 for fire services for the time frame of one year pending more research. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously.

**Keith Comstock, Fire Chief**

No report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**GLOVER STREET OVERLAY PROJECT – GRANT CLOSE OUT**

Don Popoff, RH2 Engineers, was present to request final acceptance of the Glover Street Overlay Project. Mr. Popoff briefly discussed the history of the project and stated that the job had been completed within budget and on time. He expressed that the only negative was not having the funding to extend the work further.

**MOTION:**

Council Member Estes moved to close out the Glover Street Project Grant and to accept the job as completed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hickman and passed unanimously.

**GLOVER STREET – PROJECT #2**

Mr. Popoff announced to Council that the Town had received approximately \$822,000, which includes the Town’s 5% match, to finish the remainder of Glover Street out to SR20. Popoff thanked both Storms and McConnell for their participation in receiving this grant. Popoff also explained that the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) would like to see the Town obtain grant money to place signage directing people to Glover Street as the downtown corridor, and monies for beautification along Glover Street if possible.

**2<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE/TWISP RIVER ROAD PROJECT**

Mr. Popoff discussed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue/Twisp River Rd. project stating that the funding received is partially Federal money (86.5%) and partially State TIB match (13.5%). Popoff reported that the grant money the Town has now (\$795,000) will pay for engineering the total project out to the Methow Valley Clinic, however, the remaining money will only improve the road approximately 1300 feet from SR20. Popoff reported that he and town staff are currently trying to obtain more funding for the total project construction out to the clinic.

Mr. Popoff reported that if the 2008 bids for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue/Twisp River Rd. project come in high we will re-bid again in 2009 and combine it with the Glover Street project to try to bring costs down on both.

**FUTURE STREET PROJECTS**

Clerk/Treasurer Storms reported that in a recent meeting Gloria Bennett with TIB had hinted that there may be money available in the future to improve Twisp Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets.

**ORDINANCE #584 – HIGHWAY ACCESS MANAGEMENT**

Clerk/Treasurer Storms discussed Ordinance #584 regarding adopting by reference (RCW 47.50) highway access management requirements. Storms explained that the Town is required to regulate the ingress and egress on SR20 within the incorporated areas of the Town and to adopt either the State standards or standards equally as strict.

**MOTION:**

Council Member Estes moved to approve Ordinance #584 providing for highway access management, access permits and administrative process pursuant to RCW 47.50. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell and passed unanimously.

**FIRE LIGHT AT INTERSECTION OF HWY 20 AND TWISP RIVER RD.**

Mayor Nations reported that Howard Betty had requested that the placement of a fire light at the intersection of SR20 and Twisp River Road would be helpful during an emergency for traffic safety. Purchasing green emergency lights for volunteer’s vehicles was also discussed. Mayor Nations asked Chief Comstock to research prices and report back to the Council.

**Action: Chief Comstock will report back to the Council with lighting prices.**

**SET DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING(S)**

Council discussed the December Council meeting schedule. Mayor Nations and Council Member Hickman will be absent for the Tuesday, December 11, 2007 meeting and the second meeting of the month falls on Christmas Day.

**MOTION:**

Council Member Estes moved to hold a special Council meeting on December 17, 2007 and to cancel the December 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> meetings. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

**COLLECTION AGENCY CONTRACT**

Administrative Assistant Jackie Moriarty requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Armada Corp. for collection services. Moriarty reported that the services are needed for the collection of Municipal Court Infractions and water and sewer bills when all other avenues of collection have been exhausted. Moriarty requested proposals from three agencies, receiving two. Armada Corp. met the town’s needs the best.

**MOTION:**

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Armada Corp. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hallowell 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 vouchers/checks are approved for payment by a majority vote on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007:

<b>Voucher/Checks</b>	<b>24839-24867</b>	<b>\$51,441.51</b>	<b>11/27/07</b>
<b>ACH – Franco Postalia</b>		<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>11/14/07</b>
<b>ACH – Cashmere Valley Bank</b>		<b>\$1,254.99</b>	<b>12/01/07</b>
<b>Payroll</b>	<b>None</b>		

**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 Hallowell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Estes and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

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Mayor Vern Nations

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms