

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 2/9/2021

Mayor Ing-Moody called the video conference meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members present via phone/video: Hans Smith
Mark Easton
Alan Caswell
Hannah Cordes
Aaron Studen

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Easton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

N/A

Public Comment:

Mayor-Ing Moody read aloud the following public comment:

Thank you for the opportunity. As you all noticed this winter snow was the order of the day. Our sidewalk responsibility were taxing at best. We go to work at 8am, leaving us two hours to get our two-block section of sidewalk cleaned. Which isn't always easy to fit in. As we all know any new street project comes with sidewalks and in turn more snow removal for the town. Which for me, begs the question why I should continue to be held responsible for snow removal when the none of these new adjoining property owners are. I'm literally thinking of buying a piece of equipment to help with the chore when the town already has the perfect unit, and it would take 5 more minutes for my small section to be done along with. Thank you for your time and consideration. Clint Estes, Quality Lube and Repair.

Mayor Ing-Moody asked Clerk Treasurer Kilmer and Deputy Clerk Grennell if any other public comment had been received prior to the meeting. They both verified that nothing else had been received.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that there is an upcoming vaccination clinic on Saturday February 13th from 8am-2pm at Liberty Bell High School. She said there is another one on March 13th and you must pre-register online with Family Health Centers. She said that Okanogan County Department of Health is working on developing a centralized way to register for the vaccine due to some registration issues they have been having with people registering at multiple locations for vaccines. She said the Auditors are still here for the routine audit and has been mainly working with the clerk's office, which has meant a lot of additional work for Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer. Ing-Moody also stated that AWC City Action Days are coming up and all training will be virtual. She shared that this year, the Governor will be present and she will have the opportunity as AWC President to interview him on various matters of interest to city government. She invited the Council to attend and shared that the event does provide them with Certificate of Municipal Leadership credits.

Staff Reports:

Director Denham stated that the Sports Complex bid is coming up in a couple of weeks. He also said that the Twisp Ave water/sewer line project seems to be going well. He gave an update on the Civic Building, stating that they have extending the bid opening by one week as they have had a good response of general contractors pulling plans from Architects West. He is expecting to get some bids at opening. He said one of the blowers at the Wastewater Treatment Plant broke down and is now fixed. Director Denham stated that Public Works has been spending approximately 95 hours a week just with snow removal including plowing, sanding, sidewalks, widening streets and the airport. He said it's been a heavy task this year and they have been doing all they can to keep the streets open and safe.

Commission/Committee/Board Reports:

Council Member Cordes attended the recent Tree Board meeting where they discussed Arbor Day Planning. They are working hard to pick a date, plan what activities they will host and hopefully will give away some trees. They are hoping to direct people to local nurseries. They discussed that the shade trees on Glover Street need to be pruned and they would like help from local businesses to water them. She said they also discussed the student intern that will be available for projects this summer and how they might be of assistance to the Tree Board.

Council Member Cordes also stated that she attended the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting where they continue to work on the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Ing-Moody chaired the OCOG meeting last night. She said that at every meeting since the beginning of the pandemic, they have received updates from Public Health, Emergency Management, and the Sheriff's Office. OCOG has begun to discuss county-wide water issues as a result of the new Crown Columbia application to Department of Ecology (DOE). Local jurisdictions along with most all non-profit groups in the county are concerned with the potential adverse impacts to our county should water from the area be sold to outside interests. She shared that after speaking with the Department of Ecology, she was told that DOE would be consulting with local governments prior to making a decision. She informed the council that the Town will have to consider what our opposition to having water sold out of basin will be prior to sharing our concerns with DOE

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/Action: Interview/Appointment Parks & Recreation Commission Member:

Mayor Ing-Moody and Council Members conducted interviews for Parks and Recreation Commission applicants John Lindsey and Joshua Gewirtz for Position #5. The mayor and council thanked both candidates for their interest in serving.

Council Member Studen moved to appoint Joshua Gewirtz to Position #5 for the Parks and Recreation Commission. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Interview/Appointment – Methow Watershed Council Members:

The council and mayor had questions for the candidates, Alyssa Jumars and Greg Knott, as is customary. Council Member Easton moved to appoint Alyssa Jumars to Position #4 for Methow Watershed Council.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed with Council Member Smith abstaining.

Council Member Studen moved to appoint Greg Knott to Position #1, and Mike Fort to Position #2 for Methow Watershed Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordes and passed with Council Member Smith abstaining.

Discussion/Action: Resolution #21-676 - 2020 Northtown Water System:

Council Member Caswell moved to approve Resolution #21-676 Northtown Water System as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Ordinance #768 – TMC Chapter 2.25.060, 5.25.100:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that this is to fix the Twisp Municipal Code to reflect consistent wording in various areas of the TMC.

Council Member Smith moved to approve Ordinance #768 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Easton and passed unanimously.

Discussion: Public Hearing for Board of Adjustments:

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that according to latest conversations, it looks like Okanogan County might be moving to phase 2 in the reopening plan by meeting 3 of the 4 metrics. She said that she has been asked if holding Public Hearings virtually would be allowed as to move business along. There is a request to hold a Board of Adjustment meeting for a variance application that is pending.

Council Member Smith said that he has researched public meetings and hearings with MRSC and has determined that you are allowed to hold public meetings if you provide a way to take public comment and provide a call-in option along with the online option. He said that it depends how you want to receive the public comment, whether you ask for it in writing before hand or take it from callers during the meeting. He said currently what is being done for Council Meetings where the public can submit comments written in advance should work for a public hearing as well.

Mayor Ing-Moody stated that each commenter must be required to state their full name and address as well as their comment in order to be considered and that the intent of allowing those potentially affected by a decision to have equal opportunity to express their views.

Staff will consider some options of how public hearings might be able to proceed and bring suggestions back at a future meeting for council to consider.

Discussion/Action: Retention of Legal Counsel Regarding PERC Petition:

Council Member Studen moved to approve retaining Summit Law Group as legal counsel for the PERC petition as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable/Payroll
- Minutes: 1/26/21

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 9th of February 2021.

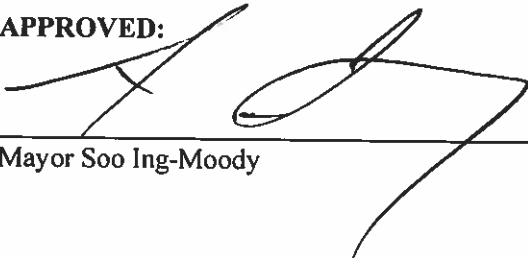
Payroll	EFT# 288-301, 309-312, 335	63479.89	1/31/21
Accounts Payable	EFT # 355-358	1646.68	2/9/21
Accounts Payable	Warrant# 35982-36012	45893.50	2/9/21
Accounts Payable	Warrant# 36013-36018	7088.10	2/9/21

Council Member Smith moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Caswell and passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing – Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer