

Town of Twisp

Council Minutes – 7-12-22

Mayor Ing-Moody called the video conference meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Council Member Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

Executive Session – Acquisition (30 Minutes)

Public Comment:

N/A

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that it has been a particularly busy few weeks due to staffing shortages. Between sickness and multiple open positions there have been minimal staff available across all departments. She complimented all Town staff for their diligence in making sure all essential Town services and functions are being attended to, and personally thanked them for their tremendous efforts and all they do. She asked for the continued patience and support from the community to understand any delays caused by the staffing shortage at this time and encouraged that community members reach out to her directly if an urgent matter arises.

Staff Reports:

Chief Budrow reported that the Police Clerk position remains open and that multiple interviews have been scheduled. He is hopeful that a suitable candidate for the position will emerge through this process. He also wanted to remind all to hydrate as we're reaching into hot summer temperatures.

Director Denham reported that Public Works is very short staffed this week, with only one Operator working. He complimented his whole staff and their ability to work in constant communication to get the job done. The treatment plant has experienced more mechanical issues, and PW staff are working with the supplier to get repairs made and temporary equipment in place to keep operations moving forward. Design of the Wastewater Treatment Plant progresses, and Director Denham is very satisfied with the work T-O Engineers are doing on all Town projects. T-O is working on developing a strategy for next year's TIB grant applications following priorities that the Council adopted in the Transportation Improvement Plan.

The Town officially received a letter from Ecology, listing the WWTP project on their final offer list for funding of an eleven-million-dollar package. Given the number of sewer system improvements planned for next year, T-O is working to maximize funding opportunities by combining street work and sewer projects together where possible. TIB grant limits have increased to the five-hundred-thousand-dollar range, which opens a wider variety of potential projects for the Town. Repairs have been made at the pool and the heater is now properly functioning.

Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer reported that as the only staff member in the Clerk's office right now, he is working to ensure all tasks and duties are covered while remaining responsive to community members and their needs as they arise. He appreciates the patience and understanding of the community during this time as he and the Mayor work to fill the open positions and have new employees trained in the weeks to come.

Committee, Commission and Board Reports:

Council Member Smith reported that the Finance Committee has met with the Konrads and their development team regarding the proposed annexation at the south end of Twisp. Discussions were had on a draft pre-annexation agreement. The committee is awaiting a review and response from the developing party and will continue to work at the committee level until an agreement is ready for Council Adoption.

Council Member Studen reported on the Friends of the Pool Meeting. The meeting hosted a speaker with expert knowledge on capital campaigns. Efforts to begin raising money for a new pool facility and an associated recreation district are underway. This has led to the realization that the FOP as it exists is to support the current pool facility, and that efforts to raise money for a new facility need to be separated from the group to avoid confusion as to where fundraising and efforts are directed.

Council Member Studen reported on the OCOG meeting. Discussions were had about the Okanogan County Multi-Hazard Mitigation plan. The plan is in final draft form and will be sent out to cities/towns in the county for review and comment. He also reported that the Coordinated Public Transportation and Human Services Plan would be discussed on 7/19/22.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/Action: Okanogan County Commissioner Candidate Introduction – Jon Neal:

Mayor Ing-Moody introduced Jon Neal; current Mayor of Oroville and candidate for Okanogan County Commissioner District #3.

Mr. Neal thanked the council for the opportunity to introduce himself. He gave his background as a lifetime resident of Okanogan County and detailed his twenty-one years of public service including: six years as Mayor of Oroville, 15 years as a volunteer fire fighter, current OCOG Chair, and current TranGo Board member. He feels that District #3, the north end of Okanogan County, has not been fairly represented in the past, and bringing fair representation for the area is his main reason for running for the office. Priority issues he hopes to address if elected are increasing property taxes for longtime residents, housing, planning, effective forest management, wildfires, and water rights.

Mayor Ing-Moody thanked Mr. Neal for introducing himself to the council stating that the Town does not officially endorse any candidates but does appreciate knowing who the candidates are who are running for office. She asked Council if they had any questions for the Commissioner candidate.

Council Member Studen asked Mr. Neal what he believes sets him apart from the other candidates for the office.

Mr. Neal responded that his experience in local government is what sets him apart. He feels he'll be able to step into the role of County Commissioner and immediately get to work with minimal training. He also brings existing relationships and familiarity with public officials across the county and beyond.

Mr. Neal again thanked the Council for having him and invited anyone with questions to contact him directly via phone (509-560-0900), email (jbtb56@msn.com), or Facebook.

Discussion/Action: Parks & Recreation Commission Interview/Appointment – Andrew Brandstetter:

Mayor Ing-Moody introduced Andrew Brandstetter as a candidate for the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Mr. Brandstetter thanked the Council for having him and proceeded to give his background and reasons for wanting to be on the Commission. He and his wife moved to the Methow Valley in 2019 and have found it to be a very welcoming community. His interest in serving on the commission developed during the recent public input sessions for the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan. He attended a few of the meetings and wanted to be involved, particularly in working towards construction of a skatepark. His primary goal in joining the Commission would be to see that project through, but he's also happy to support other identified or directed priorities.

The Council thanked Mr. Brandstetter for his interest. There was discussion on his availability to make the scheduled meetings due to his work schedule, but it was determined that it did not appear to be an obstacle to him joining the Commission or their work.

Council Member Studen made a motion to appoint Andrew Brandstetter to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Council Member Easton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Resolution #22-694 - Personnel Policy Update:

Council Member Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution #22-694. Council Member Easton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Twisp Chipseal Project:

Director Denham gave an overview of the project, contracting with Okanogan County Public Works to chipseal multiple roads in the Town. This project will be self-funded through revenues from the Transportation Benefit District. This treatment should have a lifespan of ten years. There was discussion about some discrepancy between the roadways presented on the map provided and those listed on the estimate provided, however Director Denham clarified the process that the county uses and committed to follow up to ensure that all public roads in the project area are included in the project.

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the CRAB form for services with Okanogan County Public Works as presented. Council Member Caswell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action: Community Athletics Programs Non-Discrimination Policy:

Mayor Ing-Moody reported that it had come to the Town's attention that there was not a policy in place for Town athletics facilities as it relates to non-discrimination policies and use by third parties. The presented policy adopts current State law, and adds no additional requirements from the Town.

Council Member Easton made a motion to approve the Community Athletics Programs Non-Discrimination Policy as presented. Council Member Auburn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- Accounts Payable/Payroll

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 July 2022.

Payroll	EFT # 1493-1537,1539 Warrant # 14467-14476, 36608	70,222.56	7/12/22
Accounts Payable	Warrant # 36608-36645	410,704.20	7/12/22
Accounts Payable	EFT #		

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

Executive Session: Acquisition (30 Minutes):

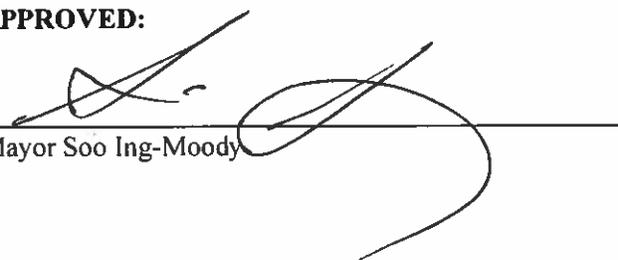
The Council began the Executive Session at 6:45 pm.
At 7:15 Clerk/Treasurer Kilmer rejoined the main session to alert attendees that the executive session would be extended an additional 15 minutes.
The Council rejoined the main session at 7:30pm.

No action was taken.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

APPROVED:



Mayor Soo Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Randy Kilmer