

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

DECEMBER 26, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor calls meeting to order at 5 PM

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- i. Judy motions to approve the Agenda. Kerry seconds. All in favor. Motion carried

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Gary motions to approve November 13, 2019 minutes. Kevin seconds. All in favor. Motion carried
- ii. Kevin motions to approve December 11, 2019 minutes. Judy seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

V. OATH OF OFFICE OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Dianne swore in Council Members Kerry Frable, Billie Lee Burtenshaw, and Reed Rankin, and Mayor Dan Rankin.

VI. NEW BUSINESS- DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1. 2020 Budgets

- i. Dianne discusses some major points in the budget.
- ii. Snohomish County Sheriff has discussed with Dianne on the potential of having a part time Sargent proposed for the 2021 contract. With the increase in the contract that that would cause, Gary would like the Town to investigate other Law Enforcement options. Gary does state that he would like to see a Sargent brought into the town but is concerned about the cost associated with a contract with the County Sheriff. Discussion was had.
- iii. Gary has a few questions on the General fund
- iv. Office and operating supplies- Gary asks why it is budgeted so high. Dianne discusses that it funds computer support and that it normally does not use all the funds. She can move some of it to line items within the general fund.
- v. Planning Services – That is Amy Lucas. Grant funding has been paying her salary, but she normally charges for special projects. Gary would like to see that item line have a higher budget, move funding from Office and operating supplies.

- vi. Gary asks about adjustment out B&E balances. Dianne explains these adjustments are for if in a prior year and the ending balance are wrong and an audit says that it must be adjusted, this is where the adjustment comes from.
- vii. The fuel tax went into the street fund which will show a surplus of about \$40k going into 2020. Dianne will be adjusting the percentage of the property tax to supplement some of the other funds because of the surplus. Gary asks if the Town is planning on doing any street projects in 2020. Dianne has \$12k for snow and ice removal, based on 2019's February winter storm, the \$12k should be more than enough.
- viii. Gary asks about the 3<sup>rd</sup> person maintenance salary. It is supposed to come out of the street fund, but it is not line itemed in the fund. Dianne discusses how the payroll is set up and why she has it under assistant street maintenance. Gary would rather see the salary as a separate line item to see how their salary is being paid. Gary would like to see striping of the streets this year.
- ix. Gary disagrees that the funding for the match for the new maintenance truck should not come all out of the water fund. He would like to see some of it come out of the street and parks fund. The parks and airport did run at a deficit though.
- x. The library is at a deficit, but the contract was renegotiated. They will refund the Town at a higher rate in this new contract. They pay for a flat rate for their water usage and Dianne will bill them at the end of the year.
- xi. The land fill – The land fill will end the year with a balance. There was a transfer from the Utility tax that was set up to transfer \$5k to the landfill and Dianne is waiting until the end of the year. This will not be a loan; she is able to do a transfer between like funds. The land fill is almost ready to be closed. They are waiting on an elevation survey. Gary asks what SSIT looking for funding stand for – SSIT is the Sauk Suiattle Indian Tribe.
- xii. Parks- Parks is running at a deficit. Dianne believes that it is due to insurance. In the past, Dianne has broken up insurance between different funds based on liability for what the funds cover. Gary asks if the alumni walk could have caused the deficit- No, it did not. The parks were fertilized, and the Town gets topsoil from Granite Falls, but that should not have put the fund in a deficit. The way that the fund was budgeted at the beginning of 2019 falls in line with how the funds were used. Gary is concerned that if the Town mows the Whitehorse parks, the budget line item for that is low. The only thing that can bring income into the parks fund is changing the percentage it gets from the property tax. Gary is concerned that the fuel line item is too low as well. He is concerned that the added responsibility of mowing the Whitehorse Parks will put that over budget. Gary states that he does not see any funding for Restrooms. The cleaning and maintenance for the Restrooms comes from the general park funds. Gary would still like to see funding for the truck and the 3<sup>rd</sup> maintenance position as line items for the park fund.
- xiii. Airport – Gary asks about the line item for the restroom. It is for the on-call service for cleaning the outhouse. Gary feels that it is too high. Gary asks about the power for the airport and would like to see some of the restroom funding used for maintenance and power. Dan suggests moving some of the budget to insurance which also part of what put the airport budget in the deficit.
- xiv. Capital Improvement – Dianne discusses that this is where the grant funding for the maintenance truck is. This also where the carpeting for Town Hall was funded from. A new men's toilet will be purchased from this fund. There was an issue with getting the linoleum. The Town is waiting for the Community Center Board to have a meeting to discuss the linoleum issue.
- xv. Water- Some of the Truck funding will be moved into streets. There is not matching needing to be budgeted for CBD Grant. Dianne is working on the municipal code, and there are

several charges in the code that have not been charged to the customer. Dianne will be bringing this code to the Council next year. Dianne discusses the progress that has been made with the water accounts. Gary asks where the Town anticipates the expenses to come from for the water bank. There is discussion on where some of the funding will be coming from to get the water bank up and running and currently Dianne is not anticipating any expenses to be paid for by the Town except for attorney fees. Gary would like to see attorney fees for the water bank to be an item in the water fund, which Dianne says can be amended as needed. Gary asks where the funding would come from if a main waterline were to break. It would come out of the water reserve.

- xvi. Garbage – Not in a deficit this year. Dianne did see in the contract a 1% handling fee that had not been paid which they are paying back. Kim will be putting 1 hour of her day into garbage, and part of her salary will come out of this fund. The Town is allowed by contract to be 1 month in the rear.
  - xvii. Water Reserve – Not in a deficit this year. The tank loan will be paid off in 2022, and a new loan will be coming out of this fund for the water plan. Even with those payments, Dianne anticipates ending the year in a surplus. Dianne is still trying to get the tank pump replaced, and that replacement will be paid out of this fund. Kerry asks how much it will cost. About \$15k, maybe lower.
  - xviii. Cemetery fund- End the year with a surplus. The gathering place project will be completed this year, which will come from the cemetery reserve fund, the gathering place fund both of which will have a carry over to pay for the building. The remaining, approximately \$1k will come out of the Cemetery fund.
  - xix. Clean Air- The auditors have stated that this fund cannot be classified as an enterprise fund so this fund will be changing. The fund for the Hampton lumber collection is still good for the once a month collection. The 3<sup>rd</sup> maintenance position will be doing the collection and will be swapping days off to accommodate working the lumber collection days. Granite Falls has discussed with the Town on the benefits of doing its own composting.
  - xx. Gary ask about the ordinance on the last page of the budget packet. Dianne explains that the percentages for the property tax will change.
  - xxi. Dianne was asked to look at Cost of Living increases for the salaries and how those increases will affect the over all budget and the change is only about \$6k.
  - xxii. Gary discusses the 3<sup>rd</sup> maintenance person position. The position is still open, and Gary would like to have the Council be a part of the hiring process.
2. Kevin would like to see the Council entertain a resolution to make Darrington a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuary Town.
- i. Gary would like to make a directive to the Mayor and staff to gather more information for the Council to discuss this potential resolution.
3. Gary would like the ash tray moved to help enforce the 25foot no smoking law in front of public buildings. There is a sign posted by the entrance to the building.

## VII. APPROVAL ITEMS

### 1. 2020 Draft Budgets

- i. Judy motions to approve the 2020 Draft Budget with proposed changes. Kerry seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Motion to approve Resolution GR 311, A Resolution supporting the paving of the gravel segment of the Mountain Loop Highway
  - i. Dianne would like clarification on what option 3 is. There are two pieces of information showing different standards for option 3. Kevin discusses that the option 3 that was discussed before, was the 25MPH pavement option. Kevin said that he will discuss this with one of his contacts. Dan discusses possibly supporting the paving of sections as funding becomes available. Kevin states that that is the idea. Kevin just wanted to bring this to the attention of the new council, not necessarily vote on a resolution at this meeting.
  - ii. Tabled for clarification and further discussion.
  
3. Motion to approve change order for Mountain Loop Highway Waterline Project.
  - i. There were preexisting issues that had changed the scope of work. The project is still under budget and has been completed.
  - ii. Gary motions to approve change order for Mountain Loop Highway Waterline Project. Judy seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
  
4. Motion to approve change order for the Montague Avenue Waterline Project.
  - i. Gary motions to approve change order for Montague Avenue Waterline Project. Judy seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

## VIII. VISITORS

## IX. ADJOURN

- i. Judy makes a motion to adjourn the December 26, 2019 Town Council Meeting at 6:45 PM. Kevin seconds. All in favor. Motion carried

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Dan O. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Dianne Allen, Clerk / Treasurer