

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

JANUARY 8, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor calls meeting to order at 7 PM

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. Swearing in of Councilman Neil Comeau

- i. Dianne swears in new councilmember Neil Comeau.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- i. Gary motions to approve the Agenda. Billie Lee seconds. All in favor. Motion carried

V. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Gary motions to approve December 26, 2019 minutes; Reed seconds; All in favor; Motion carried.

VI. GUEST SPEAKERS

1. Glacier Peak Institute – Oak Rankin

- i. Oak discusses having the youth and other groups come down to start building a trail system in the Sauk River Park on the east side of Petty Ave and Alvord St.
- ii. The River's Network is helping with funding, but it will mostly be volunteer work.
- iii. Gary would like to see plans for a parking lot or a designated parking area to help with congestion. The preliminary plans do not include a parking area at the moment.
- iv. There is already concern with the public accessing the Park and damaging private property.
- v. Discussion was had.
- vi. Kerry makes a motion to give permission for trails development and garbage clean up. Billie Lee seconds. All in favor. Gary would still like to see the parking area/lot plan. Reed abstained. Motion carried.

VII. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Resolution GR 311: Town of Darrington supporting the paving of the gravel segment of the Mountain Loop Highway- Minutes

- i. Kevin discusses resolution 311 and the support of option 3 from the feasibility study. The feasibility study has been completed but nothing has been publicly announced yet, there are other groups that they are waiting on.
- ii. Gary asks about the width of 18 feet to 32 feet that has been stated in the information on option 3. Kevin states that that gives the county a little wiggle room on their speed limit options.
- iii. Gary makes a motion to table the Resolution. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Discussion of The Town of Darrington becoming 2nd amendment Sanctuary Town
 - i. Kevin discusses making the Town a 2nd amendment Sanctuary Town to protect the citizens of the Town of Darrington from legislature that could potentially be passed that would infringe on the citizen's second amendment rights. He would be willing to work with the council on the issue and how to go forward.
 - ii. Gary is worried about how this would affect the Town when it comes to government funding. Kevin thinks that if the council makes a statement, but not necessarily a resolution, that it should not affect the Town procuring government funding.
 - iii. Discussion was had.
 - iv. Gary and Billie Lee will work with Kevin.
3. Kevin brings up an article in the paper that discusses more land being taken from timber land and the timber industry, specifically Hampton Lumber, because of the Marbled Murrelet.
 - i. Kevin would like the Town to get out in front of this issue. Gary is also concerned especially because Hampton Lumber is a major employer for the Town.
 - ii. Kevin is trying to get in touch with the head of the DNR, Hilary Franz. Kevin would like the Council to make the State aware of the issue and how it would affect the community.
 - iii. Reed would like to know what Kevin would propose the council to do. He would like to see the county join the lawsuit that is currently going on with Skagit County with this issue and setting up a meeting with Hilary Franz. Gary would also like to see the head of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest at the meeting as well.
 - iv. Oak believes that several school districts have joined in the lawsuit because of how this issue is affect the school funding.
 - v. Discussion was had.
 - vi. The mayor is already working on this at a higher level.
4. Approval to accept the CDBG Montague Waterline Project as complete.
 - i. Reed motions to approve and accept the CDBG Montague Waterline Project as complete. Billie Lee seconds. All in favor. Motion carried
5. Approval to accept the CDBG Mt. Loop Highway Waterline Project as complete.
 - i. Neil motions to approve and accept the CDBG Mt. Loop Highway Waterline Project as complete. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Approval to accept the CDBG Well #3 Fencing Project as complete
 - i. Gary motions to approve and accept the CDBG Well #3 Fencing Project as complete. Billie Lee seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1. Disbursement and Expenditure Policy per Auditors recommendation.
 - i. Gary would like to know what automatic clearing house. Dianne explains that it is used for payroll liabilities. These must be done online.
 - ii. Gary asks about the last paragraph, that states that if bills are due before a council meeting that that payment will be made before the council meeting, what if the council does not approve. Dianne explains that this applies only to court disbursements that must be paid

regardless of council approval and payroll. Gary believes that this vague statement could be interpreted that all other payments can be paid without council approval. Discussion was had.

- iii. Reed motions to approve the Disbursement and Expenditure Policy. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Employee / Citizen Recognition Policy per Auditors Recommendations.

- i. Neil motions to approve the Employee / Citizen Recognition Policy. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Representation of the Town of Darrington on various boards and committees.

- i. There are a few places that need to be filled since the change in Council Members. There are some boards and committees that need representation.
- ii. Discussion was had.

4. Adding Second Council Meeting to the Month.

- i. It has been discussed bringing back the second meeting of the month, however frequently, as a round table meetings, or even regular meetings. This may help some of the new council members.
- ii. Gary suggests have the second council meeting every other month. Neil ask the structure of the meeting. Gary would like to have workshops, which are non-voting meetings.
- iii. It is decided that there would be workshops every other month starting in February, on the 4th Wednesday of the month, starting at 5pm unless a time change is needed due to council member schedules.
- iv. An item for further discussion at these workshops is electing a Major Pro Tem.
- v. For the February 2nd Council Meeting, it is discussed having a council retreat.

IX. VISITORS

1. Todd Ronning asks why the pot plant doesn't pay quarterly B&O Tax? They do pay B&O taxes.
2. Larry Ducharme would like to encourage the council to participate in the meeting could potentially be set up with Hilary Franz, head of the DNR.

X. Close Regular Council Meeting

- i. Neil motions to close the Regular Council Meeting at 9:47 PM. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

XI. Open Executive Meeting- Property Acquisition

XII. Close Executive Meeting.

- i. Gary makes a motion to close the Executive Meeting. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

XIII. Open Regular Council Meeting

- i. Neil motions to open the Regular Council Meeting at 9:07 PM. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

XIV. Possible motion to approve

- i. Kerry makes a motion to direct the mayor to proceed with negotiations with Forterra concerning the funding for the DNR property appraisal. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- ii. Gary makes a motion to negotiate with Grandy Lake and Forterra to assume control of the Grandy Lake Property. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

XV. MAYOR'S REPORT

XVI. COUNCIL/BOARD/COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

XVII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL

- i. Accounts Payable/ Monthly Payments.
2. Gary motions to approve the Accounts Payable/ Monthly Payments. Kerry seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

XVIII. ADJOURN

Neil motions to adjourn January 8, 2020 Town Council Meeting at 9:42 PM; Reed seconds; all in favor; motion carried.

Dan O. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Allen, Clerk/Treasurer

