

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

MAY 13, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor calls meeting to order at 7 PM

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Reed motions to approve April 8, 2020 minutes; Neil seconds; All in favor; Motion carried.

V. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Trust Water Agreement – Mayor update

- i. The Mayor has been doing outreach to the Tribal Nations within the Skagit River watershed. Swinomish has made a request for copies of permit applications from Ecology. The mayor has also talked to the Sauk-Suiattle's water specialist
- ii. Gary asks if the Town has contacted the City of Burlington. No, not yet. The Town is waiting to get information from Ecology.
- iii. The consultant for Ecology is working on the mapping for the distribution. Until the Town knows if the City of Burlington is eligible for these water rights, it would be best to wait to talk to the City of Burlington.
- iv. Kevin Ashe would like clarification on the City of Burlington's request. Burlington would like to know if the Town would be willing to lease some of the water rights in the short term, until they sell. It would be for irrigation.
- v. Kevin would like to know how long the water rights would sit in the bank until they would be leased out. Burlington is willing to lease until the water rights sell.
- vi. Kevin would like to know why discussions with the Tribes have been happening. Tribes are the most senior water rights holder, and most things go through them for approval. These discussions are making them aware of the Town's plans for the water bank. It was recommended by the Town's consultant to reach out to the Tribes. Upper Skagit, Swinomish and the Sauk-Suiattle are the three Tribes that the Town has reached out to.

2. Gary asks about the changes to the flood map.

- i. Dianne spoke to Amy and she believes that it will be back on the agenda in June. Everything is on hold due to COVID-19.

VI. NEW BUSINESS-DISCUSSION ITEM(s)

1. Letters from Mayors of Snohomish County sent to Governor and the media. Mayor signed.
 - i. This letter was sent to Council several weeks ago and was authorized for the Mayor to sign.
 - ii. Neil makes a motion to approve the Mayor signing the letters sent to the Governor and Media. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. State Liberty Capital Improvement Program – Asheley Bryson needs to know for a June 15th application deadline.
 - i. The grant is for capital improvements and she is looking to get funding for paving the parking area at the back of the building, improvements to the parking lot in the front of the building and improvements to the bathrooms. There will be a match, but the Town does not know what the match would be yet. There is a possibility that there is USDA Funding available for the match. The Town has also reached out to the Fire Department to see if they would like to help with the match. They will be taking it to their board.
 - ii. Gary is concerned that if the Town agrees to this, would the Town know the amount the match would be before the Town goes forward. Yes, the Town will know when Ashley picks up the application.
 - iii. Reed motions to allow Sno-Isle Library to apply for State Library Capital Improvement Program grant. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. 4th of July parade and fireworks
 - i. Dan discussed today with the Snohomish county health district about other jurisdictions and there is a lot of wait and see mentality. The Health District is going to get back to the Mayor about the standards of reopening the public bathrooms, such as how often they need to be cleaned and such.
 - ii. There is a concern with the firework show. If other jurisdictions cancel their shows and the Town does not, there is a change that there will be a lot more people in Town to see the show.
 - iii. Gary is concerned that if the parks bathrooms are closed and if there will be no port a potty's, there should be no parade.
 - iv. Gary is concerned that if there is not a fireworks display, that there will be more people than normal lighting off fireworks at their residences.
 - v. Dianne has not contacted the company that is scheduled to do the fireworks yet. She will call tomorrow to verify if they are still planning on doing their shows and see when the deadline is to cancel if that is what is decided.
 - vi. It will be hard to keep people in their cars.
 - vii. Reed would just like to point out that the cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish county have risen again and that things may not be as open as people would like it to be.

4. CERB grant for CLT Complex
 - i. The Town has applied to an EDA Grant that will need a match, and the CERB grant would be that match.
 - ii. Gary would like to know if there would be guaranteed supplies for the CLT plant for the next 20 years. He is concerned about paying the grant loan back. Dan says that the data that they have is showing that yes, there will be supplies. Gary is still concerned that yes, there will be resources, but will the CLT plant be able to acquire what it needs.

- iii. Gary would like to know what will happen if the economy falls or the plant can not get supplies/ resources, the Town still has to pay this loan back, and if the plant shuts down, how does the Town pay the loan back. The grant is revenue generated payback, therefore, if the revenue does not achieve what is needed to make the payments, the Town would have to make arrangements for the payback or ask for loan forgiveness. If the Economy tanks, it would be for everyone, not just CLT and timber.
- iv. Gary would like to know how many jobs this plant would create and what would the wages be. The average wage would be \$25-\$28 an hour and create 160ish jobs.
- v. There is an agreement for the lease of the property that would cover loan payments.
- vi. Will the lease be signed before we accept the CERB money? The Town's obligation to the grant funds are not locked in until the Town accepts and uses the funds. Yes, the lease will be signed before the Town accepts and/or uses any of the grant funds.
- vii. Gary would like to know who and what we would owe if the Town backs out. The Town would owe Forterra about \$32,000 for land acquisition and the appraisal process for the land.
- viii. Reed motions to approve the application for CERB grant and for Mayor to sign. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Conservation Futures Grant

- i. This funding will be to aid in the purchase price of the overall property for the CLT Plant. It will reduce the grant amount needed from CERB.
- ii. Gary motions to approve the application for the Conservation Futures Grant and for the Mayor to sign. Billie seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Amendment to Waste Management contract to add commercial and multi-family recyclables.

- i. This has been an oversight with the contract for Waste Management. The Town currently offers these recycling options, this amendment would add it to the contract, guaranteeing that Waste Management has to provide the service.
- ii. Gary motions to approve the amendment to Waste Management contract and for mayor to sign. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

7. Jessica Coleman has resigned from Planning Commission

- i. Jessica would like to say that the Town of Darrington has been wonderful to work with. Gary and Dan thank Jessica for what she has done for the commission.
- ii. Neil motions to approve to advertise for planning commission vacant seat. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Department of Health- Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Implementation

- i. Neil would like to know what the Town is responsible for with this partnership. The Town would contribute with knowledge of the community, services, resources and help with partnerships with local service providers, law enforcement, fire responders and businesses. The Town will take on securing local support for prevention, treatment and recovery activities in rural service area, support collaboration and engagement with local law enforcement and first responders. Amplify public health messaging around anti-stigma education campaign, ongoing drug take-back, and how to find evidence-based treatment options for SUD/OD and engage with business community in rural service area to increase employment and housing opportunities for individuals in recovery from SUD/OD.

- ii. Neil motions for approval of DOH Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Implementation and for the mayor to sign. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
9. Cemetery Board has cancelled the Memorial Day events at the Cemetery.
 - i. Costco has donated flowers for the Cemetery.
10. Kevin would like the Town to know that, with the IGA being the only open public restroom in the Town and with the increase in traffic through the Town, they are concerned with how their septic system will handle the increase in usage and would like to work with other businesses and the Town to open more bathrooms. There are three port a potty's, two at the cemetery and one at the airport, but they are well out of sight and Kevin would like to know if they can be moved. The concern is what the standards with cleanings would be for having such facilities available.
11. Gary would like to know if it is possible to have an in-person council meeting next month. Dan believes that government opening is part of phase two. Once the state reaches phase two, allowing government to open with social distancing and proper PPE, then the Town would look at holding an in-person meeting.

VII. MAYOR'S REPORT

1. There is a leadership meeting that meets twice a week to discuss the impact of COVID-19. These meetings have been going really well. After the current pandemic, Dan is hoping to continue with these meetings, at least once a quarter.
2. COVID-19 is rising in the county, the Town is still at <5 with <5 recovered.
3. Town Hall is open, with the lobby doors locked to the public, Monday through Wednesday, 9a-3p. All services are still available.

VIII. COUNCIL/BOARD/COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

IX. VISITORS

1. Don Martinson would like to thank Dianne to email him the zoom information so he could join the meeting tonight.

X. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL

1. Accounts Payable/ Monthly Payments.
 - i. Neil motions to approve the accounts payable/ monthly payments. Billie seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

XI. ADJOURN

Gary motions to adjourn May 13, 2020 Town Council Meeting at 8:25 PM; Neil seconds; all in favor; motion carried.

Dan O. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Allen, Clerk/Treasurer