

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

JULY 8, 2020

I. SCORING/AWARDING OF BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION RELIEF GRANT

1. All applicants that were complete, are eligible for the grant funding.
2. There are 7 business/organizations that have applied, only 6 were completed.
3. Gary would like to see the dead line for the grant extended to allow other businesses an opportunity to receive relief funding. Dianne suggests doing another round, previously awarded businesses would not be able to reapply, if more businesses applied than funding allows, it would come back down to scoring. Reed agrees on extending, but he would like to see that those that have applied by the first deadline receive their funding. Billie and Neil agree that those that have turned in their applicants should receive their funding.
4. Dianne suggests that the remaining could be used as donations to the food bank and to North Counties to help residences with their bills. There is a deadline for spending/rewarding the money, which is September.
5. Neil suggests another round for businesses and would like to see the rest go to North Counties for the residences.
6. There are no objections to rewarding the funding to the 6 businesses that were completed. Dianne will send out notices to the remaining businesses with a 2-week extension. The notice will let the businesses know that they could apply for \$750 with a max of \$1,000 depending on the number of applicants.

II. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing on the Proposed updates and changes to the Municipal Code Chapter 18.08 Critical Areas Regulation and Chapter 18.10 Frequent Flooded Areas (floodplain Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Maps).
 - i. Dan opens the public hearing at 6:31pm.
2. Amy is present to discuss these updates.
3. For the flood plain, this will make the changes from the interim ordinance permanent, strike out 15.32 in building code and replacing it with the critical areas code 18.10.
4. Amy explains the changes to the Critical Areas Regulation.
5. Gary asks about paragraph C under environmental sensitive areas. Amy explains that that paragraph was already in code and set for the Town. It gives the Council the right to pass the ordinances that designate the critical areas map. Gary would like to know if in the future it is up to the planning and council to make these decisions and no one within the office. Amy states that it looks like this language gives the Town Clerk the authority to submit these changes once they are approved.

III. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

- i. Dan closes the Public hearing at 6:45pm

IV. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor calls meeting to order at 7 PM

V. ROLL CALL

- i. Gary Willis - Here
- ii. Kerry Frable - Here
- iii. Billie Burtenshaw - Here
- iv. Reed Rankin - Here
- v. Neil Comeau - Here
- vi. Dan Ranking – Here
- vii. Amy Lucas and Kristin Lavelle are also present

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VII. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Reed motions to approve June 10, 2020 minutes; Neil seconds; All in favor; Motion carried.

VIII. CONTINUED BUSINESS

~~1. Final approval from Dept. of Ecology on Shoreline Master Plan~~

- ~~i. —motions to approve Ordinance ###. —seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.~~
- ii. Dianne has not received final paperwork, subject tabled.

2. Updates and changes to Municipal Code Chapter 10.08 Critical Areas Regulation and Chapter 18.10 Frequent Flood Areas (Floodplain Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Map's) and UGA.

- i. Gary motions to approve Ordinance 754 (floodplain). Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried
- ii. Neil motions to approve Ordinance 755 (critical areas). Billie seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- iii. Kerry motions to approve Resolution 756 (UGA). Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Dan let the council know that the Conservation futures grant application went in, and heard Friday that the Town was awarded pending going to council. This will help with building a trail connecting Whitehorse Community park and the Whitehorse Trail.

4. There is an explanation session with CERB tomorrow, and from there, they will be chosen to go in front of the board either July 16th or in September.
5. Gary asks about the water bank. There is discussion going back and forth from Tom McDonald and Dept. of Ecology, they are asking for some changes from Tom and he is spearheading that. Burlington is still interested with leasing water rights. We have a semi approval but they are still trying to finalize it. Dan has not talked with Burlington yet, he wanted to wait until the Town was further ahead than the Town is now.
6. Gary would like to know where the Town is at with their water line projects. Dianne explains that everything was going forward with the projects but everything has been postponed because of the furloughs that their office has been going through. Typically, the Town gets awarded and funded about this time of the year, but it looks like the Town should be getting them in a couple of months which in turn pushes out the bidding process.
7. Gary asks about the Sheriff's contract. Dan and Dianne have a meeting on July 16th with the sheriff's office to discuss and negotiate the contract. Gary would like to see part of the council be a part of the negotiations. Gary would like to see what it would cost to get a sargent back in Town. Just having a part time sargent would double the price of the contract. Dianne asks if any of the Council Members would like to attend the meeting. Billie would like to be there. Billie asks when the contract has to be signed by, January 1st, and would like to see if there can be a meeting with the Sheriff, hoping that a sheriff officer can come to a council meeting and talk with the public. With COVID, there cannot be another council member present, there will be 5 people. It is decided that Kerry will be at the meeting and Billie will be an alternate if Dan cannot make it.
8. Gary asks why there are other agencies in the Town that will set up public meetings, but council cannot. The county is still operating under Phase 2 which only allows 5 people to gather. Once the county is in Phase 3, the council should be able to meet in person. Gary disagrees that Darrington, which has always stayed in the <5 category, should be mandated to use masks, being penalized when the Town has stayed ahead of the COVID cases unlike other cities and Towns in the county. Dan would like to continue to encourage the community to wear masks and adhere to social distancing.

IX. NEW BUSINESS-DISCUSSION ITEM(s)

1. The placement of utility/infrastructure poles in the Town of Darrington Right of way.
 - i. The Darrington Internet Association is moving forward to bringing internet to the Town of Darrington. The Association has been able to make it up the valley with their equipment attached to telephone poles. The Association would like to create a contract or get permission to put poles in the Town's right of way. Typically, other Towns charge for having this sort of equipment put in their right of ways. There are a lot of things to consider when allowing to have poles put into the Town's right of ways, such as if they revert to the Town for maintenance and such. Gary would like to get more information and ask some questions before going forward with this. Gary would like to see the Association

propose their plan. Kerry asks if they would set new poles or attach to existing poles. The Association would like to set new poles. Gary and Kerry would be willing to meet with Drew to get some questions answered.

2. Census Discussion

- i. Census reporting also effects our taxes, revenues, opportunities for grants and there won't be a chance to change it for 10 years. Dan asks if the Council has any ideas to inspire the community to participate in the Census, either online or with the resource center. Gary asks about door to door with COVID. Dan says that the door to door has been put on hold. Reed saw on the AWC website on ways that cities and towns can encourage to participate in the Census. Gary asks if there has been anything posted on social media and the Town website explaining the importance of Census. The town has posted on their Facebook page and the town website when information has been provided. Dianne asks if the food bank has fliers, Gary will ask. Neil suggest to continuously post on social media and Gary suggests letters be put in the utility billing. Kristin states that about a month and a half ago, there was a census person hanging knockers and she was concerned because online the site wanted a code and she didn't have one. Billie said that she did her census online and just used her address because she didn't have a code either. Dan, Neil and Reed will work on getting more information for the community.

X. MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Dan has been in the office a lot, and has been really focused on the CERB Grant application, and before it was the Futures Conservation Grant. This has been occupying most of his time and energy. Land acquisition is moving a little bit. He has started the process of looking at a lease or a right of way in the chance that the acquisition of 28 acers does not go through.

XI. COUNCIL/BOARD/COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

1. Kerry has been out to Whitehorse Park and has noticed that it looks really nice out there. After talking to Steve, he has discovered that the Town has been the only ones keeping up on the maintenance and would like to know why no one else who is apart of the contract has not been helping. Dianne says that it is because they are having equipment issues. Dan has reached out to the school superintendent and has not gotten very far with the school.
2. Gary would like to complement the public works crew on their up keep of the town, especially with the mowing.
3. Dan says that the county is almost ready to start with the refurbishing of the Whitehorse park.

4. Gary would like to know why there is a non ADA porta potty at the cemetery but there is one at the Airport. Dianne tried to get an ADA porta potty for the cemetery, but the cost was too much. The public works crew will be swapping the ADA porta potty from the Airport with one of the non ADA one from the Cemetery, but they have not had a change to make that change yet.
5. Reed asks about the information Dianne sent out about housing. Dianne had thought it had good information that the council would like to see and sent as an FYI.
6. Kerry asks if the Town has hired someone to clean the bathrooms at Old School Park. Yes, the Town has hired someone to clean the bathrooms twice a day. They also disinfects the port a potties at the cemetery and airport, picking up any garbage and big messes that they come across.

XII. VISITORS

XIII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL

1. Accounts Payable/ Monthly Payments.

- i. Gary asks about the Honey Bucket payment. The payment was for 2 months and there was a special clean for the airport bathroom.
- ii. Gary asks who Polar Bear Mechanical is. Dianne had to void that check because it was supposed to be for PUD.
- iii. Gary asks about PUD's zero check. That check had also been voided with the confusion with Polar Bear Mechanical.
- iv. Gary asks why the Town pays Waste Management Skagit. Waste Management Skagit is who services the dumpster at the airport.
- v. Billie motions to approve the accounts payable payments. Neil seconds.
- vi. Gary – Approves
- vii. Kerry – Approves
- viii. Billie – Approves
- ix. Reed – Approves
- x. Neil – Approves
- xi. All in favor. Motion carried.

XIV. ADJOURN

Neil motions to adjourn July 8, 2020 Town Council Meeting at 8:15 PM; Billie seconds; all in favor; motion carried.

Dan O. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Allen, Clerk/Treasurer