

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

OCTOBER 14, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor calls meeting to order at 7 PM

II. ROLL CALL

1. Gary Willis - Present
2. Kerry Frable – Present
3. Billie Burtenshaw - Present
4. Neil Comeau - Present
5. Reed Rankin – Present
6. Dan Rankin - Present

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- i. Gary would like for the personnel policy be changed from number 2 on new business to number 6. He would like to have a discussion but go through the other items first.
- ii. Gary motions to approve the Agenda with amendments. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Gary motions to approve September 9, 2020 minutes; Reed seconds; All in favor; Motion carried.

V. GUEST SPEAKERS

VI. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Approval of agreement with Sound Internet Services – to place internet poles on right of way – this agreement has been sent to our attorney and has been revised.
 - i. Kerry would like to clarify that line of sight is what is important with the placement of the poles. Yes, it is important. Kerry is concerned that the trees within and surrounding the Town would eventually block the signal. Dan explains that he and Dianne are working with the Attorney to create code to help alleviate this issue of the height of the poles for the future. Dan does not believe that the current sights that they are looking at for placing the poles currently do not have trees that come close to that 60-foot height. The school uses a relay located on top of old City Hall to get their internet service and as far as Dan knows, they do not have issues with their service and the relay is not 60feet.

- ii. Garry would like to know if the Town would get rent to have their equipment placed on the mobile tower. They would be able to place their equipment on the tower and would provide free wifi to Old School Park in lieu of a lease payment.
- iii. A part of the agreement is that Sound Internet will come to Council for final approval of the placement of the poles.
- iv. Kerry motions to approve the agreement with Sound Internet Services and for the Mayor to sign. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

~~Resolution GR 320 – Updating Personnel Policies Manual – revised as to council request.~~

- ~~v. motions to approve Resolution GR 320, updating the Personnel Manual and for the Mayor to sign. seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.~~

2. Community Transit – need councilmember representative.

- i. Dan discussed with Gary about continuing to be the Town’s representative and he is willing to do so.
- ii. Neil makes a motion to have Gary continue to be the Town’s representative to Community Transit. Kerry seconds. All in favor. Gary abstains. Motion carried.

3. Resolution GR 321 – Agreement for Purchase of land from Department of Natural Resources.

- i. This item has already been discussed with Council in September, the DNR is requiring a Resolution.
- ii. Kerry motions to approve Resolution GR 321, authorizing the acquisition of land from the DNR, and for the Mayor to sign. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- iii. Kerry motions to approve the agreement for purchase between the Town of Darrington and DNR and for the Mayor to sign. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. Resolution GR 322 – Agreement for Purchase of Grandy Lakes 94- acre property with loan for purchase coming from Forterra. Loan will be paid back with funding from CERB Grant, Sno County Conservation Futures Grant and DWIC LLC’s lease agreement.

- i. Gary would like to know how high the interest will go on the loan. Dan explains that they would not put a cap on the loan interest but it is currently 4%. His hope is to pay the 3-year loan off within a year and a half with all the provided funding. The loan will allow the Town to do the work that needs to be done to continue to move forward with the project.
- ii. Gary would like to know the maximum the Town would owe if some of the funding were to not come through. The Town would owe just over 300k.
- iii. Gary would like to make sure if the funding were to fall through, the Town could then sell the land to be able to pay off the loan. Dan explains that if the funding where to fall through, the Town would still have options to use the land.
- iv. Gary motions to approve Resolution GR 322, authorizing the acquisition of land from Grandy Lake LLC, and for the Mayor to sign. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- v.

- vi. Dan explains that this will allow him to continue moving forward with these negotiations with Forterra and for the loan. Dan would also like to schedule a second meeting on the 4th Thursday of October to go over the loan agreement for Council approval, which would then allow him to move forward with the purchase by the end of November.
 - vii. Neil motions to approve the draft purchase loan from Forterra for the Grandy Lake property and for the Mayor to proceed with negotiations. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - viii. Gary would like to know if COVID will interrupt the timeline of this project at all. Allison says that they do not see that it will.
5. Approval of Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between the Town of Darrington and Snohomish County Conservation Futures. – Grant Funding for acquisition of a portion of the Grandy Lake property.
- i. Reed motions to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the Town of Darrington and Snohomish County Conservation Futures and for the Mayor to sign. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
6. Resolution GR 320 – Updating Personnel Policies Manual – revised as to council request.
- i. Gary thought that Council had discussed the date for the changes in policy in regard in allowing department director’s dependents to be eligible to participate in the Town’s insurance with the Town contributing 100% of the cost was to be changed to January 1, 2021, not back dated to January 1, 2020. It is agreed that the date needs to be changed to January 1, 2021.
 - ii. Gary still thinks that hiring on page 7, discussing alcohol and drug testing, it should be something that “will” be done, not “may” be done. Dan explains that this is not a requirement from the insurance. If the hiring committee determines that one should be done, then the Town would go forward with the testing. Gary is concerned that in the future, someone that the Town would hire someone who would be working with the lawn mowers and the water systems. Dianne explains that if there is an accident, the worker is tested immediately to determine if they were under the influence during the accident.
 - iii. Gary would like to see the changes made and table this resolution until November.
 - iv. Kerry would like to keep it as may.
 - v. Gary motions to table this Resolution until November. No second. Motion dies.
 - vi. Kerry makes a motion to approve Resolution GR 320 with the amendment to the Date 2021. Neil seconds. All in favor. Gary opposes. Roll call vote.
 - vii. Gary – no
 - viii. Kerry – yes
 - ix. Billie – computer has frozen and is unable to vote
 - x. Neil – yes
 - xi. Reed – yes
 - xii. Motion passes with majority vote.
7. Gary asks when Jerry will get started on the Cemetery building. Dianne explains that he needed to have a building permit and plans drawn. He has stated that he will have it done by Memorial Day of next year.
8. Gary asks where the Town is at with the water bank. The process is still at Ecology. The Town should hear back in November.

VII. NEW BUSINESS-DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1. November 11, 2020 Council Meeting is on Veterans Day. Do we want to reschedule or keep the date as is?
 - i. Neil would like to move the meeting to the week before. Dan asks if there is anything coming out of Planning on the 5th of November that the Council will need to consider. Dianne does not believe so. Dan just does not want to miss something coming out of planning. Dianne asks that there be a 2nd decision making Council in November to discuss budgets.
 - ii. The November 11th meeting will be moved to November 4th at 7pm. Council has decided to hold the 2nd decision making meeting on November 24th.
 - iii. Neil motions to move November 11th's Council meeting to November 4th and to have a second Council meeting on November 24th. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Approval to submit CDBG Grants – Trail Street (finish Trail from Elwell going east), Clear Creek Road – (from Montague going south), Darrington Street (from Madison Ave going west to Stillaguamish), Commercial Ave (Seeman to Darrington, 31 connections).
 - i. Dianne explains that she may not apply for all of these, she is still waiting on estimates from the engineer. This is the list that Public Works has provided in order of preference. Dianne will be applying for at minimum 2, maybe 3, depending on the cost estimates and the funding available. Dianne's number one will be the Clear Creek Road project.
 - ii. Gary motions to approve submittal of CDBG grants. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Gary is concerned with the storm drain system because the Post Office flooded and Robert was paid for mopping the Post Office. Dianne explains that the storm drain system gets cleaned twice a year. The storm drains were cleaned recently and the Public Works team has been keeping the grates clean knowing that there was an issue with the Post Office. The issue with the Post Office is that it sits lower than the road, and the surrounding parking lots. The Public Works team contacted the Post Office's maintenance team to let them know the issues that the Post Office was having to no avail. Robert was just helping clean up the water and do damage control. Dianne explains that the Public Works team provided sand bags to stop the water from entering the lobby and let the workers know that they are available if they need help in the future.

4. Kerry asks about the Community Center flooding. Dianne explains that it came into the dining room but did not make it to the kitchen. The building has flood insurance but the deductible is \$200k. Gary explains that one of the drains was plugged up and he and Larry Boyd cleaned it out. Gary states that the Community Center Board was at the building last night, October 13th, and there was damage in the kitchen. Dianne explains that the Public Works team used cold patch to create a berm and the berm prevented water from flooding into the building during yesterday's rain. Dan asks Gary if there is any conversation of going back to the concrete floor. Gary states that the Board did discuss it but they determined that it would be too much work. The Board has decided to reuse the flooring.

5. Kerry asks how training is going for the new office assistant, Ivy and the new Public Works employee, Cadin. Ivy is catching on really quick and her training is going very well. Cadin has really stepped up in is roll. In a meeting, he took initiative and asked questions in regards to the project and is very knowledgeable. Cadin did pass his Type I Water Certification earlier this month.
6. Kerry asks if any of the Public Works Crew has a CDL, and unfortunately, at the moment, no one does. There is a plan to probably have Jonathan get his CDL.

VIII. MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Dan states that most of what was discussed tonight in regards to the Wood Innovation Center is what he has been working on the most through the last month. He has had a discussion with the Attorney and Dianne about the Annexation process, and that the Town has a good claim for Municipal Annexation.
2. More discussion was had on the Annexation process and land acquisition.

IX. COUNCIL/BOARD/COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

X. VISITORS

XI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL

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

XII. ADJOURN

Billie motions to adjourn October 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting at 8:30 PM; Kerry seconds; all in favor; motion carried.

Dan O. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Allen, Clerk/Treasurer