

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

MARCH 10, 2021

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. Reed Rankin - Present
5. Neil Comeau - Present
6. Dan Rankin - Present
7. Dianne Allen – Present
8. Kim Thoms - Present

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- i. Kerry motions to approve the Agenda with amendment to add executive session. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion is carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- i. Gary would like Jim Hale's title as Air Port Manager be added to the discussion on the Wireless internet pole placement.
- ii. Gary motions to approve February 10, 2021 minutes; -Neil seconds; All in favor. Motion is carried.

V. – Dan closes regular meeting to open public meeting.

- i. Gary motions to close the regular council. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
2. Amy is present to give an overview on the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. She states that this is a procedural hearing. The Council is only going to decide if the Town will submit these changes to the comprehensive plan this year or to wait until the next docket in 2023. If the Council decides to go forward with submitting these changes this year, the next step would be to give it back to the Planning Commission.
3. Gary is concerned that having public meeting during COVID is going to hinder the public from being able to participate. These meetings used to be held at the Community Center and there would be a lot of community members that would show up to discuss their concerns. Amy suggests doing a virtual open

house that would allow the public to still participate. The other option would be able to wait until 2023. Gary asks if it is decided to wait until 2023, would the Town need to reapply. Amy states that, no the Town will not have to reapply.

4. Kerry asks if any of the public showed up to the February Planning Commission meeting. Dianne states that no public showed up.
5. Dan reads a letter that was delivered to the office on March 9th in regards to the rezoning. The Boyd's at 3 River's Fabrication does not want to see this change due to their business. They do state that there are others, including themselves, that would like to see their own property rezoned.
6. Amy reviews the application proposal.
7. Gary asks how many houses would be able to be built if that land is rezoned. Amy states that it will all depend on the development review if that is what is proposed later.
8. Gary asks if the Town has an easement through that property to the water line and if that would cut down on the buildable land within the 20 acres. Dan states that yes, it will. Gary asks if the Town would have to move their waterline and Dan says yes, it is possible.
9. Neil asks if Council decides to move forward and thinks that there is not enough public comment if it could be pushed to 2023. Amy says no, they would not be able to change it. But Dan reminds the council that only the process will move forward.
10. Jon Allen discusses his concerns with such a large piece of property being rezoned and that the Mayor has a personal interest in this property. Amy reminds the Council and the public that this will still need to be put through a full process and that the application will have to go through the school district and the fire district. Also that anyone in the United States has the right to submit such proposals to make such changes to their land.
11. Gary would like to state that there isn't favoritism so to speak because Council members are elected and Council then appoints people to boards/commissions to facilitate these processes.
12. JoAnn agrees with Gary.
13. Grant Weed purely a legislative decision-making process, which gives Council the sole discretion to approve such applications or not.
14. Jim asks to clarify the buildable lot size. Amy says that it depends on the septic system but there will be a full review during the planning process.
15. Cindy Anderson states that they would feel like this change would be for the betterment of the Town and Kristi Reece does state that Meece Trust is invested in this property and application as well.
16. Does council want to consider an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan this year or move the proposed amendment to the mandated update done in 2023?
17. Applicant Pugh Ridge Reload, LLC has submitted an application for a Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposing to change the Comprehensive Plan designation of their property from Light Industrial/ Manufacturing to Single Family Residential.

VI. Dan closes the public Comment

VII. Dan Closes the Public Meeting

- i. – motions to close the public meeting. – seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. CONTINUED BUSINESS

1. Resolution No. 329 - Town Council accept the Comp Plan and Development Regulations Annual Docket, with Plan Amendment and Changes

- i. Gary would like to see this pushed to the 2023 Docket due to COVID which will not allow an in person open house. Neil does not think that COVID should hold up an application. Gary would still like to hear from the people at in person meetings.
 - ii. Gary motions to push Resolution No. 329 accepting the Comp Plan Regulations Annual Docket with Plan Amendment and Changes to the 2023 Docket.. Kerry seconds. Neil says no. Reed abstains. Motion is carried.
2. Promissory Note - Loan from Forterra NW to the Town of Darrington for the purchase of the Grandy Lakes Property
 - i. Grant Weed is present to give an overview of the process of purchasing the Grandy Lakes Property. The loan amount is \$350,000. Interest only at rate of 3.5%. Total to be paid off by CERB funding when it becomes available but no later than March 2024.
 - ii. Gary asks Grant to explain paragraph 12 of the loan agreement. It is an instrument that will secure the loan and what the recourse would be if payments were not made.
 - iii. Gary authorizes the Mayor to enter into the Loan agreement and the Promissory Note for the acquisition of the Grandy Lakes Property. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
3. Ground Lease – Between the Town of Darrington and Darrington Wood Innovation Center, LLC
 - i. Grant explains the ground lease.
 - ii. Neil motions to approve the Ground Lease with Forterra and the Darrington Wood Innovation Center, subject to final revision acceptable to the Mayor and Town attorney. Billie seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
4. Financial Assistance Award from the U.S. Dept of Commerce (EDA grant)
 - i. This is the final funding needed to do the infrastructure work.
 - ii. Reed motions to approve the Financial Assistance Award of \$6,000,000 from U.S. Dept of Commerce Economic Adjustment Assistance Program (EDA) grant and for the Mayor to sign. Billie seconds. All in favor. Motion is carried.
5. Closing Paper Work and documents associated with the purchase of the Grandy Lakes Property
 - i. Grant explains some of the closing fees.
 - ii. Reed asks if Grant has any cautions for the Council about the project. Grant says that this is the biggest, most complex transaction that the Town has probably ever had, but he recommends that if the Council would like to discuss risks and benefits more that it be done in an executive session.
 - iii. Reed motions to authorize the mayor to execute any closing documentation in order to close the transaction. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Sno Co and Town concerning Acquisition of Property with Conservation Futures Funds – grant of conservation easement
 - i. Grant explains the Interlocal Agreement.
 - ii. Reed motions to authorize the Mayor to execute the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

7. Gary asks if the Town has heard back from the DIA. Dianne states that they were sent the application but she has not heard from them.

IX. NEW BUSINESS-DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

1. AWC 2021 Scholarship Application – AWC Center for Quality Communities is offering up to six \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school students.
 - i. It is unclear if both applications can be submitted or if only one.
 - ii. Gary motions to submit Morgen Schoneman as the #1 choice, with Amanda Brown as #2. Reed agrees. Neil disagrees. Billie and Kerry is leaning towards Amanda.
 - iii. Dianne confirms that there can only be one application submitted per city. Also, Amanda Brown's application may not be complete if she is not 18. If the applicant is under 18, the application needs a parent/guardian signature and Amanda's does not have one.
 - iv. Gary retracts his motion.
 - v. Neil motions to accept and forward Amanda Brown's application on to AWC as long as she is 18 or older, if she isn't, accept and forward Morgen Schoneman's application. Kerry seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Interlocal Agreement with Snohomish County Fire marshal Services – currently no contract
 - i. Gary asks how much it is going to cost. Dan states that it would be the going rate and that other cities have the same agreement with Snohomish County Fire Marshal Services. The ILA may not even be ready until April. Currently, the Town does not have a contract.
 - ii. Gary would like to see this postponed until the ILA is available.

3. Contract with Stonewood Structural (Scott Nyseth) – peer review of structural plans
 - i. Allison with Forterra explains why the DWIC project needs a peer review.
 - ii. Dan states that it is like hiring an additional building official.
 - iii. Gary asks who will be paying for the peer review. Dan explains that the Town would pay but bill DWIC LLC for the cost of the contract.
 - iv. Grant asks if the consultant is on the consultant roster with MRSC? If they are, they have already been vested.
 - v. Gary asks if this item can be held until the March 25th meeting. Allison says that it is fine to wait until the March 25th meeting for approval.
 - vi. Gary makes a motion to table this item until the March 25th meeting so we can find out if we need to advertise for this contract or not. Reed seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

X. MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Town of Darrington website and Town of Darrington Government Facebook page have shared COVID Vaccination information.

XI. COUNCIL/BOARD/COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS

XII. VISITORS

Jon Allen would like some clarification on the 20 acres. Is the long-term plan of that piece to be residential housing? Dan states that there is no plan at this time and not until it has been through the 2023 docket.

Jon Allen asks if property taxes include taxes that go to the library which has not been open since March of last year. Dan does explain that some services have been available throughout the pandemic. He asks if the Council feels if it is a justifiable cost of the community members. Dan would not like the Council to act on such things as a body, but he can ask them outside of council.

JoAnn asks if the Street Fair can close Darrington St. from Elwell to Sauk on Saturday, July 17th for the 4th Annual Street Fair. JoAnn does understand that this event is contingent on COVID restrictions. Kerry asks for what time. JoAnn states that the street will be closed from 7am – 6pm. Gary motions to approve closing down Darrington St from Elwell to Sauk Ave on Saturday, July 17th from 7am-6pm as long as the Street Fair abides by all State and County COVID mandates. Neil seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Dianne does state that the council in the past has put rules out about submitting items to be put on the agenda. The street fair item was late getting put on the agenda, the Council is creating precedent to late submittals.

XIII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE APPROVAL

1. Accounts Payable/Monthly Payments

- i. Kerry motions to approve accounts payable payments. Billie seconds. All in favor. Motion is carried.

XIV. ADJOURN

Reed motions to adjourn March 10, 2021 Town Council Meeting at 9:08 PM; Billie seconds; all in favor; motion carried.

Dan O. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dianne Allen, Clerk/Treasurer