

Interlaken Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 16 June 2020, 7:00 PM – 9:06 PM
Meeting Conducted Remotely with Zoom Video Conferencing Software
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/140964567>
Meeting ID: 516 337 9977
Password: 84049

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Greg Harrigan called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Roll Call – Members Present via Remote Conferencing:

Greg Harrigan, Mayor
Justin Hibbard, Council Member
Chuck O’Nan, Council Member
Sue O’Nan, Council Member

Marge Bowen, Council Member was absent

Susanna Littel, Steve Wilson, Planning Commission members were present
Bart Smith, Town Clerk was present

3. Presentations: None.

4. Public Comment, presented via remote conferencing and email:

Joe Smith, 347 Luzern Way. Joe asked if it was an option to hire a legitimate enforcement officer to take pressure off Interlaken officials and residents to do town enforcement. Mayor Harrigan noted that the town had previously investigated hiring off-duty police and found that the accompanying costs were prohibitive. In addition to the officer’s salary, the town would have to provide a vehicle, insurance, a computer, and pay for a subscription to the police database and scanner data. The town will continue to research ways to improve enforcement.

5. Consent Agenda: None.

6. Approval of Agenda or Changes

Motion: Council Member Sue O’Nan moved to approve the agenda.

Second: Council Member Chuck O’Nan seconded the motion.

Discussion: no discussion

Vote: The motion was approved with the Council Members unanimously voting Aye.

7. Approval of 05/19/2020 Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Mayor Harrigan noted that the requirement for dumpster blankets was not mentioned in the minutes. Smith agreed to add that requirement to the building permit applications.

Motion: Council Member Sue O’Nan moved to approve the 5/19/20 Council Meeting minutes.

Second: Council Member Chuck O’Nan seconded the motion.

Discussion: no discussion

Vote: The motion was approved with the Council Members unanimously voting Aye.

8. Discussion of Planning Commission Proposed Revisions to Land Use Titles 9 and 11

Mayor Harrigan suggested that the council wait to vote on any proposed land use revisions until the appropriate language is codified and reviewed by an outside party with experience in land use code, and recommended we investigate our options with MAG. Susanna Littel and Steve Wilson both agreed. Clerk Smith will reach out to MAG for help.

9. Discussion of Proposed Ordinance No. 09 Employee Compensation

Clerk Smith presented the proposed Ordinance No. 09 “An Ordinance Establishing Compensation for Interlaken Town Elected and Appointed Officers.” The council discussed the proposed ordinance and agreed upon its relevance and value. In particular, the ordinance establishes compensation for Planning Commission member review of Building Permit Applications as \$150 per application. Currently, the planning commission spends many hours reviewing applications without compensation. See the attached draft ordinance.

Motion: Council Member Sue O’Nan moved to approve the Town Ordinance No. 09 “An Ordinance Establishing Compensation for Interlaken Town Elected and Appointed Officers.”.

Second: Council Member Chuck O’Nan seconded the motion.

Discussion: no discussion

Vote: The motion was approved with the Council Members unanimously voting Aye.

10. Discussion – Approval of FY2021 Town Budget

The proposed budget was identical to the tentatively approved budget passed by the council at the last council meeting on 5/19/20. Mayor Harrigan suggested we spend more aggressively on upgrading our water meters to provide digital readout capability, on line 123e “Meter Upgrades.” Clerk Smith agreed to update meter status and develop a plan for upgrades. Mayor Harrigan noted that there was no public comment presented at the budget hearing earlier in the evening. There was no further discussion by the council. See the attached budget and explanation documents.

Motion: Council Member Sue O’Nan moved to approve the proposed FY2021 budget as presented.

Second: Council Member Chuck O’Nan seconded the motion.

Discussion: no discussion

Vote: The motion was approved with the Council Members unanimously voting Aye.

11. Hearing Officer Discussion and Appointment

The town attorney, Tim Bywater, recommended J. Richard Catten as a candidate for the town’s hearing officer. See Mr. Catten’s attached resume.

Motion: Mayor Harrigan moved to approve the appointment of J. Richard Catten as the town’s hearing officer.

Second: Council Member Hibbard seconded the motion.

Discussion: no discussion

Vote: The motion was approved with the Council Members unanimously voting Aye.

12. Dumpsters Update – DPW Site Status

Midway City moved the town dumpsters from their location in the Valais Park parking lot to an area just south of the restrooms, just off Interlaken Drive. This was done in order to provide handicap parking for the park. Clerk Smith met with Celeste Johnson, Michael Henke, Wes Johnson, Jack Zenger, Paul Berg, and members of the Midway City council on 6/10/20 to discuss options for relocating the dumpsters. A meeting report is attached. The council discussed the issue. Chuck O’Nan asked about relocating the dumpsters to the old site off Interlaken Drive or near the entrance of BHR.

Both sites are not on public property and not available. Harrigan noted that the town will proceed with excavation of a site next to the pump house as a temporary location, which presents the best choice for a short-term solution. He felt the area between Edelweiss and Interlaken Drive, on Mr. Zenger's property, would be the best long-term solution. He noted that there is value in an easement as well as access to water and electricity for maintaining the site. Sue O'Nan asked if the new development will have access to the dumpsters from the Interlaken Drive entrance. Smith noted that the only access will be from Interlaken Drive above that entrance.

13. Asphalt and Shoulder Repair Work Update

Chuck reported that he is in contact with Mike from Eckles and that they will start repair work in the week of 7/6/20. The manhole cover area that needs repair is not on the list, due to a prohibitive cost of \$3600. We need to hire a concrete contractor for this job. They will also crack seal lower Interlaken Drive. The shoulders are in need of weed clearing as well. The town will contract for that work and reach out to SuperDave. Harrigan reported that we have a contractor scheduled to begin shoulder work and work on the DPW site.

14. Mailbox Proposal for Interlaken

Katy Camisa researched options for adding mailboxes for Interlaken residents. The council was very grateful. See her attached report. It was decided to table this issue until the town gets a better estimate of cost and interest from residents.

15. Pump House Generator Grant Status

Marge Bowen presented an email from Brad Bartholomew with a grant update. We have not yet been approved but are still under consideration. See the attached email for more details. Harrigan noted that we are ready to proceed as soon as the grant funding is received.

16. Town Signage Discussion

The council discussed ongoing issues with speeding traffic, illegal fireworks, parking violations, and other safety issues facing the town. Harrigan suggested the town invest in signage that would discourage kids partying in town and using fireworks, especially up at Eiger Pt. and on Big Matterhorn – No Trespassing-Private Property, no fires or fireworks. Way and near the water tank in the State Park. Steve Connor has requested a stop sign be placed on Jungfrau to discourage speeding downhill approaching the intersection with Bern Way. Chuck O'Nan noted that placing a stop sign on a downhill incline will be a problem in winter. In addition, very few drivers stop at the existing stop sign on Bern Way at that intersection. Sue O'Nan noted that this would not make the intersection safer. The town could consider a speed bump, a stop sign, or painted stripes to slow traffic. Harrigan suggested a temporary sign be placed there until a permanent solution is found. Harrigan also noted that Chris Burkley requested a dangerous corner sign be placed at the top of Big Matterhorn Circle, similar to those on upper Bern Way. Harrigan suggested the council continue the discussion at the next meeting.

17. Other Business

Susanna Littell, Planning Commission Chair, reported that the PC recommends approval of the Parsons new construction project on Big Matterhorn. There are no outstanding comments.

Motion: Council Member Sue O'Nan moved to approve the permit application for Parsons.

Second: Council Member Hibbard seconded the motion.

Discussion: no discussion

Vote: The motion was approved with the Council Members unanimously voting Aye.

Sue O’Nan requested that the clerk send out an email calling for volunteers for a neighborhood watch program. Justin will help with social media for the program.

Harrigan requested that the clerk put together a summary of time and expense for chipper day, including a bill from SuperDave. Harrigan also requested the town order a siren and badging for emergency responses.

18. Council Comments: None.

19. Adjournment

Council Member Hibbard moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Sue O’Nan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.

The next Town Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 6 at 6:30 pm. Depending on health and safety issues due to the COVID-19 virus, the meeting may be held as an online video conference, instead of the usual pump house location.