

TOWN OF MALDEN
FEBRUARY 22, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

***(These minutes are draft until Council approval at the March 8th Regular Meeting)**

**THE MEETING WAS PLANNED TO BE RECORDED ON FACEBOOK LIVE. DUE TO
TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES THIS DID NOT OCCUR**

Mayor Dan Harwood opened the regular meeting at 7:10pm. Councilmembers in attendance were Bob Law, Lori Dickinson and Scott Shauf. Councilmember Ben Hale attended by phone. Maintenance staff, Ernie Brown and Clerk/Treasurer Micki Harnois were also present.

Bob L. moved to excuse Councilmember Janelle Turner who was absent due to illness. Lori D. seconded, motion carried. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Scott S. moved to approve the agenda, Bob L. seconded, motion carried.

Lori D. moved to approve the February 8, 2022 regular meeting minutes. Scott S. seconded.

Mayor Dan pointed out a few incorrect items in the minutes: 1) under temporary fire station add “two-200 amp services for running an air compressor and heating systems”, 2) under building code section there was a typo, and under council comments add “cell tower booster”. motion was carried.

Announcements: Mayor Dan announced that the Malden Community Church will be holding a church service on February 27th.

Committe Reports:

LTRO Committee update. Boardmember John Lentz stated that the LTRO had a very productive public meeting last week. Clerk Micki announced that all six WAM homes are near completion.

Old Business-

Municipal Buildings- Temporary Fire Station- Mayor Dan reported that there is a delay in the wiring as the framing has to still be inspected by Whitman County. There will be a 24 inch exhaust fan in the restroom/shower. The plans for the municipal building will be received soon.

Community Building. Bob Law, Vanessa Place and Mayor Dan met with the contract architect and have come to a consensus on the floor plan.

FEMA update- FEMA is doing the environment review for the municipal building site. Data from the Labor Day 2020 fire have been managed by Washington State Emergency Management. Due to work overload from other disaster cases, they are passing this information on to FEMA representatives.

Wildfire Resiliency Plan (EWU)-Mayor Dan said that the students are drafting a powerpoint presentation with their findings and will present to the residents on completion.

Code Enforcement- Councilmember Ben H. visited with a private security company about doing the code enforcement for the town. They informed him that they don't come down in this area. He is going to have a discussion with a former code enforcement officer in St. John. Ben suggested that if he has no luck finding someone to fill this position, that possibly a committee be formed to do the enforcement. Possibly the committee will consist of two councilmembers and a couple of community members.

Public Comments- No public comment.

New Business

Nuisance Ordinance-Clerk Micki read the letter that was received from GinnyRumiser, Whitman County Building Inspector. It states that those living in their RVs as a residence are violating Washington State Building Codes unless a person is in the process of building a home on their property, a guest who is staying for harvest work or those doing construction of the permanent residence. The County will red tag those RVs that are illegal as a residence. Micki further explained the code enforcement process which is contained in the adopted Nuisance Ordinance. Bob L asked if the town can charge the violator for code enforcement fees.

Development Regulations Clerk Micki explained the draft Development Regulations that were written by SCJ Alliance (planning consultants).

Tree City Ordinance Clerk Micki explained the draft tree ordinance that is needed if the town wants to pursue becoming a Tree City USA. She also mentioned that John Lentz submitted additional standards for council review.

Warrant Register-Checks# 8174 through 8179- Claims-\$1,994.75. Lori D. moved to approve the warrants, Bob L. seconded. Motion carried.

Department Reports

Clerk: Micki H. said that the Whitman County Building Inspector's letter will be inserted in the March water bill. She also requested that if anyone has old town papers that made it through the fire, to submit to the town to help with records. We will make a copy.

Water: John Goyke will be doing an energy audit in March.

Streets: No report

Park: No report

Fire: Fire Chief Chance Backest said that the brush truck will be going to town tomorrow. Radio head sets will be installed and these are already paid for. The only training coming up is on March 12, 2022 when there will be EFIB training.

Public Comment- No comment

Council Report-No report.

Mayor Comments-No report.

Bob L. moved to adjourn, Scott S. seconded, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm.

ATTESTED BY:

Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor