

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 - 6:00 P.M.  
DICKERMAN BUILDING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Carolyn Meadows called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members present were Chairperson Carolyn Meadows, Vice-Chairperson Joni Conner, Beverly Bakker, Carolyn Bennett and David Yonts. Mayor Larsen and Attorney George Young were present also.

**COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON – CAROLYN MEADOWS**

Chairperson Meadows welcomed everyone and stated that she was sorry that the January meeting had to be canceled due to EOC's recommendation that no public meetings be held due to severe weather conditions. On behalf of the Mayor and the Town Council she offered their condolences to Chief Wilburn on the loss of his brother.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION:**

***Discussion and Consideration of the Evaluation and Ranking of RFQ #2024.1 PPS (Continuing Professional Planning & Consulting Services).***

The ranking results were as follows: Calvin, Giordano & Associates: 452 points. JBPro: 495 points.

Council Member Conner moved to accept JB Pro's RFQ. Council Member Bakker seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote of the Council.

***Discussion and Consideration of the Audit Report.***

Brendan McKitrick, from James Moore presented the 2023 audit report as follows: Total Town Revenues: \$1.9 Million, total expenses: \$1.50 million. There were no discrepancies found in the audit.

Council Member Conner moved to accept the 2023 audit report. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

***Discussion and Consideration of Drivers Speeding on Tremont Street & Tropic Avenue. – Janet Clover***

Ms. Clover voiced her concerns over speeders on Tremont Street and requested that the stop sign at Plum be moved to the intersection of Tremont Street and Tropic Avenue. She also suggested that speed humps be installed on Tremont Street.

The Police Chief and Maintenance Supervisor will do a traffic study to determine what needs to be done.

***Discussion and Consideration of Applying for A SCOP Grant.***

The Clerk stated that in the past the Town has been turned down for this grant and a new grant cycle has begun for 2026. If awarded the grant it would be used to pave roads.

**Discussion and Consideration of the use of the Town Seal on Merchandise.** – Tony Minotti

Mr. Minotti requested the use of the Town seal for cups and magnets to be sold at his restaurants.

Attorney Young stated that he would have to research the legalities of this, so this item was tabled.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Reappointment of Thomas Campbell, Tony Minotti and Jason Matchett to the Better Place Plan Committee.**

Council Member Conner moved to approve the reappointment of Thomas Campbell, Tony Minotti and Jason Matchett to the Better Place Plan Committee. Council Member Bakker seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Reappointment of Tim Baker, Gail Guinta, Shelton Griffis & Erika Judson to the Citizen's Advisory Task Force.**

Council Member Bennett moved to approve the reappointment of Tim Baker, Gail Guinta, Shelton Griffis & Erika Judson to the Citizen's Advisory Task Force. Council Member Yonts seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Appointment of James Hanes to the Planning Commission and the Reappointment of Raymond Baxter, Judi Costanzo, Gail Guinta, Adam Hemphill, and Tonya Whitehurst.**

Council Member Conner moved to approve the Appointment of James Hanes to the Planning Commission and the reappointment of Raymond Baxter, Judi Costanzo, Gail Guinta, Adam Hemphill, and Tonya Whitehurst. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Reappointment of Grace Chlastawa, Joni Conner, Evelyn DuPont, Timothy Keyser, and Ronald Stephens to the Tree Board.**

Council Member Bakker moved to approve the Reappointment of Grace Chlastawa, Joni Conner, Evelyn DuPont, Timothy Keyser, and Ronald Stephens to the Tree Board. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of the Reappointment of Tim Baker, Barbara Cooke, Leo Granger, Jasmine Rivera, and Stacy Suarez to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.**

Council Member Bakker moved to approve the Reappointment of Tim Baker, Barbara Cooke, Leo Granger, Jasmine Rivera, and Stacy Suarez to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Council Member Bennett seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Council.

**Discussion and Consideration of Putnam County School Board Request.**

Chairperson Meadows stated that Mr. Bolling from the School Board had reached out to her requesting a letter of support in favor of the School Board selling their property at the corner of SR 20 & CR 315. She advised him that she could not speak for the Council but would put it on the agenda.

There was no action on this agenda item.

**Discussion and Consideration of Update From the Clerk on the Historical Society and the use of Interlachen Hall.**

The Clerk advised the Council that the staff is having issues with the Historical Society and recommends that the Council terminate their contract or have a special meeting with them to talk to them directly. They are accusing the maintenance department of theft, but the videos that they sent to the Town shows no evidence of this. They are calling for someone to be fired and prosecuted for stolen items that have not been substantiated. The staff feels they can no longer do their job as far as maintenance and inspections of the building. Employees do not enter the building without signing out a key.

Attorney Young recommended that the Council meet with the Historical Society to review the contract and their accusations.

Council Member Conner moved to terminate the Historical Society's Contract. Council Member Yonts seconded. The motion passed by a four to one roll call vote of the Council, with Council Member Meadows voting no.

**Discussion and Consideration of Setting a Date for a Code Enforcement Workshop.**

The Clerk stated that a workshop was needed to discuss code enforcement, the Vita-Park and moving the caboose. A workshop was set for 10:00am on March 5, 2024.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous general consent.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Member Bakker stated that the Council presented Citizenship Awards to students at Robert Jenkins Elementary School. Both the students and the parents appreciated it.

Council Member Yonts stated that he was glad that the Town Council is recognizing the students.

Council Member Conner stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual chili cook-off is this Saturday from noon-3pm, and that the pet adoption was a success with six out of twelve dogs being adopted.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Larsen had no comments.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:**

Maintenance Supervisor, Richard Glover stated that the water line work is going well, and the meters might be delivered in March.

Town Clerk, Joni Payne stated that the Town was granted an extension on the Redi Grant. Thanked Angie Glisson for coordinating the Council's cyber training and thanked the staff for their help with the audit.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

There were no citizen comments.

**ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

Attorney Young stated that in his comments earlier that he was not accusing the Historical Society of criminal misconduct, but that there is no basis for their accusations against Town staff.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.