

TOWN OF MALDEN

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

For January 19, 2021

The Council had the meeting by Zoom due to Governor COVID restrictions.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. by Mayor Dan Harwood.

Attending Councilmembers: Tami Van Dyke, Robert Law, Scott Hokenson, and Lori Dickerson

Scott H. moved to approve the December 15, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Lori D seconded the motion, motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Harwood announced that the town hall will be closed on Monday, February 15th in observance of Presidents Day.

Mayor Harwood and Scott H discussed their recent phone visit with Governor Inslee regarding relief funds. The request for federal money through FEMA is on the president's desk ready for approval. This will be for both public and individual assistance funds. The opportunity will also occur to apply for SBA disaster loans at 1% interest. This is especially helpful for those who can't rebuild because of not having insurance. Updates will be on the town's Facebook page and the town website.

Case managers are working with people who were affected by the disaster. They are hoping to reach everyone in need. Disbursements are now being distributed on a three-tier system: households with children, homeowners and renters and landlords.

Bill Tensfeld, Whitman County Emergency Management talked about the four Lowe's stores in the Spokane area and Coeur d' Alene that donated tools for the Malden tool library. This includes saws, racks, ladders, etc.

Mayor Harwood stated that there was no news on the proposed annexation. The landowner is waiting for his legal description.

The Council did a review of a proposed nuisance ordinance. Concerns are in regard to unsafe buildings, animal regulations and junk vehicle. They would like to see the buildings be demolished by August 31st. Scott H stated that there have been 31 home sites that were cleaned up and 47 vacant parcels were clean. He stated that if funds come through FEMA there will be an opportunity for more asbestos testing and cleanup

Tammi V moved that the Warrants be paid and Scott H seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rachael Blakely suggested that the Council look at St John's animal ordinance. She wants barking dogs to be addressed.

Colleen Cross asked how the public can reach councilmembers to talk to them.

Ben Hale stated that clean up should occur all through the town.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Scott H mentioned that the town has a Facebook page and also the public can continue to communicate at the council meetings.

Lori D asked if a page could be designed on the website for the town council.

Robert L wanted to recognize the long hours that Mayor Dan has been donating.

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MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Dan is working with our state legislators to get fiber to all houses.
Washington State Parks Department is putting in a trailhead in Malden on the Palouse to Cascade trail.
Washington State Department of Commerce is offering a grant to help the town with a priority project.
Having properties surveyed in town is high on the list as it will be an important tool when owners start to rebuild.

Motion to adjourn was made by Robert L and Scott H seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 8:28pm.

ATTEST BY:

Micki Harnois, Clerk/Treasurer

Dan Harwood, Mayor