**BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**November 15, 2022**

**Meeting Via Teleconference and In-Person**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Catherine Kiewit at 6:45 p.m.

Council members present: Phil Jones, Ryan O’Connor, Joe O’Sullivan, and Brittany Spratt

Staff present: City Administrator Krista Loney, City Attorney Christopher R Lanz.,

Audience Present: Devin Melville and Dan Nickel, The Watershed Group; Chelsea Benner, Department of Ecology; Kevin Greenwood and Mike Shannon, Hood River Bridge Bi-State Working Group; Jonathan Cohen, The Society Hotel

**Executive Session**

Council went into executive session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss pending litigation and came out of executive session at 7 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Meeting Minutes – 11/1/22**

Correction-Councilor Spratt was not in attendance at the 11/1/2022 meeting.

Councilor O’Connor made a motion to approve the November 1, 2022 meeting minutes as corrected. Councilor Jones provided the second and the motion carried. Councilor Spratt abstained as she did not attend the November 1, 2022 meeting.

**Shoreline Master Program Join Public Hearing with Ecology**

Dan Nickels and Devin Melville from The Watershed Group, as well as Chelsea Benner from the Department of Ecology, attended this joint public hearing. Mayor Kiewit opened the public hearing. No comments were submitted via email or in-person at City Hall. Dan Nickel presented a deck of 18 slides outlining the changes to Bingen’s Shoreline Master Program. There were no public comments. There were no comments or questions from Ecology. The public hearing was closed.

**Hood River Bridge Bi-State Working Group Presentation**

Kevin Greenwood and Mike Shannon from the Hood River Bi-State Working Group attended council to present information about the timeline for the new bridge construction and the formation of the new bridge authority. There will be a bi-state committee running the bridge; the Port of Hood River is “getting out of the bridge business.”

**2023 Budget Preparation – Revenue Public Hearing**

Mayor Kiewit opened the public hearing regarding ad valorem taxes and other revenue sources for the City of Bingen. Administrator Loney provided a memo, the draft 2023 budget, and ordinance 2022-10-731 which needed to be passed at this meeting and submitted to Klickitat County no later than November 30, 2022. Administrator Loney walked council through the proposed budget that had already been reviewed at the November 1 council meeting and explained that the budget includes a 1% increase over the maximum lawful levy, which is a percentage increase for 2023 of 1.385558431312%. There were no public comments. Councilor Jones made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-10-731 Ad Valorem taxes. Councilor O’Sullivan provided the second and the motion carried.

**October 2022 Treasurers Report**

Administrator Loney presented the October 2022 Treasurers report which balances to the penny. Councilor O’Connor made a motion to approve the October 2022 Treasurers report. Council Jones provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

**Staff Reports**

Administrator Loney presented the following updates:

* White Salmon has the ERU agreement, it is on their council agenda for 11/16/22
* City of Bingen submitted a grant application to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation office on 11/14 for planning money for a parks and recreation plan. This is 100% grant, no match required.
* The new banners are here!

**Mayor’s Update**

Mayor Kiewit presented the following updates:

* Bingen’s new website is live!

**Council Comments**

None.

**Voucher Approval**

Claims checks 23390-23413 (Dated 11/15/2022) totaling $107,095.20, General Fund - $40,647.46, Street Fund - $7,773.30, Community Development Fund - $119.34, Real Estate Excise Tax Fund - $6,631.13, Water Fund - $31,957.11, Sewer Fund - $5,795.64, and Treatment Plant Fund - $14,171.22

Councilor O’Connor made a motion to approve the Claims dated November 15, 2022. Councilor Jones provided the second, and it passed unanimously.

Payroll Checks 23387-23389 (Dated 11/15/2022) and Payroll EFT (Dated 11/15/2022) totaling $28,560.61; General Fund - $11,524.14, Street Fund - $4,159.70, Water Fund - $2,855.69, Sewer Fund - $535.18, and Treatment Plant Fund - $9,485.90.

Councilor Jones made a motion to approve the Payroll Claims dated November 15, 2022. Councilor Spratt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Kiewit closed the meeting at 8:56 p.m.