

# BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 7, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Prigel at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Terry Trantow, Tim Hearn, Sandi Dickey and Laura Mann. Members absent: Betty Barnes. Clerk Jan Brending and Attorney Tad Connors were present.

## **Approval of Minutes – July 17, 2007**

Laura Mann moved to approve the minutes of the July 17 city council meeting. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Bid Results and Award – Bio Solids Storage Area Upgrade**

Jan Brending reported that the city received only one bid for the bio solids storage area upgrade project: Springhill Construction for \$25,800. She said the project was advertised locally and in the Portland Daily Journal of Commerce. Brending said four bid packages were mailed out including one to the DJC plan center. She noted that Springhill bid the project last fall for \$21,489.25. Brending said she spoke to Tom Hons, Bingen plant manager, and that he still feels it is important for the project to move ahead.

Jan Brending said the 2007 budget contains \$26,000 for the budget but that includes funds for construction engineering which was budgeted at \$1,710. She said the budget will need to be increased slightly for the project if the council decides to award the bid.

Tim Hearn moved to accept the bid of Springhill Construction for \$25,800 for the bio solids storage area upgrade. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

## **Tree Removal Quotes – Recommendation and Action**

Brian Prigel said the city has learned that one of the trees in Daubenspeck Park is diseased and needs to be removed. He said the city has also identified several other trees that are located within the rights-of-way that need to come out.

Jan Brending noted that there are several differences between the two bids. She said the bid from Treeman contains one less tree than the bid from Columbia Tree Service and that Columbia Tree Service will be grinding down the stump in the park. She said the bid difference is \$450. Brending recommended the bid be awarded to Columbia Tree Service.

Brian Prigel said he wants to add a locust tree for removal that is located in the boulevard of the 200 block of North Maple.

Council members asked how the trees were identified for removal.

Jan Brending said a number of the trees were identified by property owners. She said the tree on Lincoln Street is the tree that is across from Larry Murphy's house and that it has been causing problems with a sewer line. Brending noted that she thinks it is important to contact one of the property owners again to make sure they want the trees removed as a recent conversation with her made it unclear as to what the property owner wanted done.

Tim Hearn asked if new bids would need to be obtained because the city is adding a tree.

Jan Brending said she did not think it was necessary. Tad Connors agreed.

Tim Hearn moved to award the bid to Columbia Tree Service for the removal of trees including adding the locust tree on Maple Street. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Steuben Street Crosswalks – Repair Costs**

Brian Prigel said the city has had representatives from StreetPrint review the condition of the crosswalks and provide a revised price for the repair. He said Street Print will provide the materials while the city will pay for the cost of the labor which is estimated at \$14,989.68.

Jan Brending said she has also asked for a price for providing flaggers for traffic control because she does not believe the public works crew has the time to provide flagging services for a 1-1/2 to 2 week project. She said flagging will cost approximately \$2,647.50. Brending said she recommends the funding comes from the Community Development fund.

Brian Prigel said he thinks it is important to try the material again with the hope that it will last longer, perhaps the lifetime of the asphalt. He said it appears that the problem was the compaction of the asphalt at the time of the installation of the crosswalks.

Laura Mann moved to authorize proceeding with the corrections to the crosswalks including paying for flagging services. Terry Trantow seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 1 with the following vote: Barnes – Absent, Dickey – Aye, Hearn – Nay, Mann – Aye, Trantow – Aye.

### **Treasurer's Report – June 2007**

Jan Brending presented the treasurer's report for June 2007. She said she will be preparing budget amendments within the next several months and will start working on the 2008 budget. Brending noted that one of the things the budget committee needs to look at is the salary schedule. She said she is uncomfortable working on the salary schedule as it affects her salary. Laura Mann said she will look at the schedule if Brending can provide her some information.

Terry Trantow moved to accept the June 2007 treasurer's report. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Old Business**

#### *Surplus Fire Truck*

Jan Brending reported that the city has received an e-mail from Robert Nako asking the city to revoke the sale of the surplus fire truck. She said the e-mail noted that additional information would be forwarded but that the city has not yet received it.

The city council took the e-mail request under advisement.

### **Mayor's Update**

#### *Washington CTED 2007-2009 Competitive GMA Planning Grant*

Brian Prigel said there is currently a planning grant opportunity available through Washington Community Trade and Economic Development. He said Bingen has been approached by the City of White Salmon to see if they are interested in submitting a joint application in which the two cities would conduct some joint planning such as addressing several specific components of the city's comprehensive plan.

Jan Brending provided a series of documents to the city council regarding comprehensive planning. She noted that the city's comprehensive plan was adopted in 1993. Brending said it does need to be updated but does not know if the council feels it is a priority at this time. She said a memorandum of understanding about what the two cities would accomplish with a joint planning effort and what the final products would be.

City council members said they felt it might be difficult to develop a memorandum of understanding within the short time frame necessary for the grant application. City council members agreed that updating the city's comprehensive plan is not a priority at this time and that staff resources would be better used on other projects.

#### *Klickitat County Solid Waste – Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grant Program*

Jan Brending said the Klickitat County Solid Waste Department is seeking input on its Coordinated Prevention Grant to the Department of Ecology. She said the activities identified by the county to be funded include public outreach promotion and education and household hazardous waste treatment and disposal. Brending said the city of White Salmon has written a letter identifying the need for on-going chipping and shredding program. She said she has had numerous requests about the chipping site and about disposal of yard and garden debris.

Brian Prigel suggested writing a letter supporting the application, thanking the county for the opportunity to provide input, and suggesting investigating the use of some of the funds for handling brush and yard debris. The city council agreed.

#### *Gorge Heritage Museum – Use of Building*

Jan Brending said the city has received a request from the Gorge Heritage Museum to allow the museum basement to be used by Windy Ridge Studio for quilting classes.

Tad Connors said there is no agreement between the museum and the city about additional use of the facility by others. He said there may be some issues with the insurance the museum board currently has in place. Connors recommended the city consult with its risk management agency, Canfield & Associates prior to authorizing any additional use.

The city council agreed to write a letter to the museum board stating that some discussion with the city's risk management agency and the development of an agreement must take place prior to any usage by outside parties is authorized.

*SDS Lumber Land Exchange – Survey Costs*

Brian Prigel said the city previously had agreed to split the costs associated with completing a land exchange with SDS Lumber. He said SDS has obtained a quote for the survey costs for approximately \$2,900.

Laura Mann moved to authorized moving ahead with the survey and splitting the costs with SDS Lumber. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

*Press Release –Hydrogen Sulfide in Water*

Jan Brending said the news release will be mailed to all water customers and posted on the city's web page. Laura Mann noted a minor correction in the news release.

*Park Visit*

Jan Brending asked what time the council wanted to hold the park visit at its next council meeting. She suggested meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the park because the public expects the city council meetings to begin at 7:00 p.m.

A public notice will be published in the newspaper identifying the date and time for the park visit as August 21 at 6:30 p.m.

*Flume Flag Light*

Laura Mann reported that she spoke with Ruth Winner about the light for the flume flag pole. She said SDS has ordered the light.

*Civil Service Commission*

Tim Hearn said he wanted to thank Barbara Hylton for the work she has been doing on the civil service commission, particularly in getting the minutes of the meetings to the city.

**Vouchers**

Vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 as of this date August 7, 2007. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 9057 through 9118 totaling \$\$28,402.27, manual checks 9070 through 9073, payroll checks 9119, 9058-9069 totaling \$\$27,509.33 for a grand total of \$60,425.82. Current - \$-30,196.37; Street - \$3,849.09; Community Development - \$24.89; Police Car Reserve - \$7,177.75; Fire Equipment Reserve - \$47,874.82; Street Equipment Reserve - \$394.39; Water – \$7,701.91; Sewer - \$2,067.01; Treatment Plant - \$12,626.91; Dallesport Treatment Plant – \$7,837.20; 1973/1995 Water/Sewer Bond Redemption - \$174.46; Sewer Construction & Maintenance - \$105.00; Water and Sewer Equipment Reserve - \$788.76.

The council adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor