

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brian Prigel at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Clinton Bryan, Sandi Dickey, Betty Barnes, Laura Mann, Catherine Kiewit. City Administrator Jan Brending and Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Oliver Pochert, Bruce Brending, Jesse Burkhardt.

Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2009

Changes to the minutes of the September 15, 2009 city council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 5th paragraph should read as follows: “Page 2, 3rd paragraph last sentence should read ‘Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it carried with the following vote: Barnes – Abstain, Bryan – Aye, Dickey – Aye, Kiewit – Aye, Mann – Abstain.’”

Page 1, 9th paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows: “Michelle Halbin said that they found cities in Washington that do allow small animals such as domesticated fowl such as ducks and chickens.”

Page 2, add the following after the 13th paragraph: “Clinton Bryan said the city should pressure test the line and it is an easy and economic way to test for a leak.”

Betty Barnes moved to approve the minutes of the September 15 city council meeting as amended. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2009-004, Establishing 2010 Salary Schedule

Jan Brending said the proposed salary schedule for 2010 is the same schedule as 2009. She said the city has traditionally used the July to July Portland Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-U) published by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. Brending said this is the number used by the City of White Salmon through their union contract. She said the number is a negative number this year and she is proposing that no cost of living increase be provided in 2010. Brending said all staff have been made aware of the recommendation. She noted that many cities and counties in Washington have frozen salaries in 2009 and in some cases reduced salaries to accommodate declining revenues.

Betty Barnes moved to pass Resolution 2009-004 establishing the 2010 salary schedule. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Equipment Bid – Mobile Laptop Computer System – Bid Results and Recommendation

Jan Brending said the city is receiving grant funds from the Department of Commerce/Department of Justice. She said the city applied to purchase 3 laptop computers. Brending the city received three bids: Adaptive Computers (Dell Computer) - \$5,193.00, Day Wireless (Motorola Computer) - \$5,178.80, and Day Wireless (Itronix Computer) - \$4,269.50. She said the bids do not include sales tax of 7.5%.

Brending said she has spoken with the granting agency and the police chief about the possibility of amending the grant application and purchasing different equipment for the police department. She said the grant funds would allow for the purchase of 2 computers not 3 unless the police department or Bingen was willing to add additional funds.

Bruce Brending said he has evaluated the bids and has looked at the additional costs it will take to put the laptops into use. He said Klickitat County has submitted a grant application that would provide computers to the entire county including all three cities. Brending said the county’s application has not been denied or approved yet. He said the purchase of 2 laptop computers does not necessarily provide as a high of a benefit as he would like. He said that he is considering amending the application to purchase the new generation of tazers for the entire department. Brending said the new tazers have newer technology and provide for 3 shots before having to change cartridges. He said he will meet with the department and discuss the issue with them prior to making a decision.

Laura Mann asked Bruce Brending if the department currently has tazers.

Brending said yes all officers carry tazers. He said several of the tazers have failed.

Catherine Kiewit asked if local companies were contacted for the bid.

Jan Brending said notices of the equipment bid were submitted to all of the local companies and advertised on line.

Catherine Kiewit said she prefers to support local firms but noted the low bid is approximately \$1,000 different from the local company.

Jan Brending said she would like authorization to purchase two laptop computers if the police department wishes to pursue the purchase of the laptops.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the purchase of Itronix laptop computers from Day Wireless based on their bid of \$4,269.50. Betty Barnes seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Personal Service Contract – Skate Park Design Services

Brian Prigel said the park committee interviewed three companies. He said the results were pretty clearcut with one company very professional. Prigel said the three companies interviewed were Grindline Skateparks, Dreamland Skateparks, and Site Design. He said the committee is recommending signing a contract with Grindline Skateparks for a price of \$18,500 which includes a geotechnical survey and existing conditions survey.

Jan Brending said Grindline and Dreamland are considered two of the premier skate park design firms in the world.

Laura Mann moved to authorize a contract with Grindline Skateparks for \$18,500. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Catherine Kiewit said she noticed that in the proposal that most parks cost more than the city had budgeted.

Jan Brending said that is true. She said the city is asking for a phased design and that the first phase may be a streetscape design which could cost less.

Clinton Bryan said that Grindline provided a lot of good information including how to address funding issues.

Proposed Personal Services Contract – Critical Areas Ordinance Update

Jan Brending said the city is required to update its critical area ordinance by December 20, 2010. She said the state will provide \$4,375 in grant funds to assist with the update. Brending said Dotty DeVaney has been working with White Salmon in updating their ordinance. She said she has asked DeVaney to submit a proposal to the city for assistance. Brending provided a copy of DeVaney's proposal for the cost of \$7,500. She said she has worked with DeVaney in the past and respects her as a land use planner. Brending said her work with White Salmon will assist Bingen in getting its ordinance updated.

Laura Mann moved to authorize a personal services contract with DeVaney consulting to assist in updating Bingen's critical areas ordinance for the amount of \$7,500. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with White Salmon – Treatment Plant ERU Rate

Jan Brending presented an amendment to the interlocal agreement with White Salmon which sets the ERU rate for funding the treatment plant. She said the current rate is \$10.25 per ERU and the amendment changes that rate to \$10.50 retroactive to January 1, 2009 and the provides for a 10% increase in the rate in 2010. Brending said the proposed amendment is on White Salmon's city council agenda for tomorrow evening.

Betty Barnes moved to authorize the mayor to sign the interlocal agreement with White Salmon setting the treatment plant ERU rate and authorizing to change the percentage increase from 10% to 5% if White Salmon prefers a lower rate. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Ordinance 6.02, Household Pets and Proposed Amendment to Ordinance 6.08, Livestock – Discussion

Jan Brending presented a draft household pets ordinance and proposed amendments to the livestock ordinance.

Brian Prigel suggested that under section 6.02.040 when unlimited numbers of certain types of pets are allowed they should be kept in the confines of the primary residence.

Staff, council and the public discussed the proposed ordinance and amendments with the following changes suggested to the proposed language:

Section 6.02.030, Definitions, add guinea pigs, rats, ferrets to list of animals considered household pets and add geese, chickens, and peacocks to the sentence that reads “Roosters are not considered household pets.”

Section 6.02.040, Household pets, item 1, combine a and b by deleting the list so that the section means that only an accumulative total of three household pets are allowed except for the unlimited numbers of certain types of pets that are allowed to be kept if kept within the confines of the primary residence.

Section 6.02.040, Household pets, item 2, add language that allows commercial establishments to keep household pets for the principal purpose of sale and profit.

Add a grandfather clause that allows owners of more than 3 household pets to keep those pets.

Add a penalty clause to both ordinances.

Add “rabbits, goats, llamas, alpacas” to the definition of livestock in the livestock ordinance.

Jan Brending said she will bring back the revised ordinances to the council for one more discussion before scheduling a public hearing.

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District – Annual Report

Jan Brending presented the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) Annual Report to the city council. She said she sits on MCEDD’s board as the representative for the three Klickitat County cities. Brending provided a brief overview of MCEDD’s activities.

Hunger Action Month

Jan Brending provided information to the city council regarding Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce request that the city designate November as “Hunger Action Month.” She said the mayor has the authority to issue proclamations however the city usually handles these types of things through a resolution that the city council approves.

Laura Mann moved to issue a resolution declaring November “Hunger Action Month.” Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor’s Update and Council Comments

City Hall Exterior Wood Trim

Brian Prigel said the exterior wood trim needs to be addressed as soon as possible.

Street Sweeping

Laura Mann said that she spoke to Jon Cole regarding street sweeping. She said that SDS has only been doing South Maple Street south of the railroad tracks. Mann said SDS would entertain a contract for the street sweeper at \$60 without a driver (use of the sweeper) or \$75 with a their driver.

Brian Prigel said he did some work for a company that has a street sweeper and thought that they might be able to do it for \$60 per hour.

It was agreed to investigate the idea of contracting for street sweepings. The council suggested that a good street sweeping before winter is needed.

Highway 14 Water Leak

Jan Brending said the public works crew pressure tested the water line underneath Highway 14. She said it is their belief that the line is not leaking or if there is a leak it is very small and would not have been what caused water to come up through the asphalt.

Jan Brending said she does not recommend replacing the line at this time. She said it will be highlighted in the scope of work of the leak detection survey.

Parking Space on Steuben West of Oak

Laura Mann said she has received some concerns that the parking space on the north side of Steuben just west of the Oak Street intersection causes some sight line problems. She suggested the parking space be designated for compact cars only.

Bruce Brending said it is difficult to enforce a “compact car only” designation.

Catherine Kiewit suggested making the parking space available for motorcycles only. Jan Brending said she will present an ordinance amendment at the next council meeting.

Parking Signage

Betty Barnes said there are some parking signs that need to be added or adjusted.

Jan Brending said she needs to provide some information to the public works crew for the signage adjustments.

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 October 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 11600-11644 totaling \$76341.60. Current – \$61591.98; Street - \$2649.13; Water - \$4318.73; Sewer - \$448.45; Treatment Plant - \$6361.31; Sewer Construction & Maintenance - \$972.00.

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 October 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks 11584-11596 totaling \$18546.18. Current - \$7874.89; Street - \$1945.22; Water – \$2735.56; Sewer - \$723.25; Bingen Treatment Plant - \$18546.19.

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 October 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 11585, 11597-11599 totaling \$3567.31. Current – \$3391.10; 1973/95 W/S Bond Redemption - \$176.21.

At 9:10 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor