

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 21, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Clinton Bryan, Catherine Kiewit, Sandi Dickey, Laura Mann. Council members absent: Guillermo Fisch. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Anthony Connors were present. Audience: Amanda Hoey, Jim Andring

Approval of Minutes – September 7, 2010

Changes to the minutes of the September 7, 2010 regular city council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 10th paragraph should read as follows: “Betty Barnes said the city council has reduced charges related to water usage and sewer overages when there has been no intentional use of the water as long as the property owner has shown they are fixing the leak.”

Page 2, 12th paragraph, 2nd second sentence should read as follows: “It was agreed that condition 1 be revised to read ‘All storage of materials must be contained within structures. No outside storage is permitted.’”

Page 3, 2nd paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows: “Betty Barnes explained the city changed the way it bills for water in January.”

Page 3, 10th paragraph should read as follows: “Catherine Kiewit said that if the meter size can be reduced it should help with the billing.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2010 regular city council meeting as amended. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, Amanda Hoey and Jan Brending

Jan Brending said she represents the three cities in Klickitat County on the board of the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD). She said she has begun providing the cities the monthly MCEDD newsletter and MCEDD’s annual report to the three cities. Brending introduced Amanda Hoey, Executive Director for MCEDD.

Amanda Hoey provided an overview of what MCEDD does and the services it provides. Hoey informed the city council that Klickitat County had previously paid the dues for all three cities in the county. She said, however, that the county has informed MCEDD that it will not longer pay the dues beginning July 1, 2010.

Jan Brending said Bingen’s dues for participating in MCEDD is \$209 for the year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011). She said most cities pay the dues after the first of the year (January 1, 2011). Brending said she recommends that the dues be included in the 2011 budget.

There was a consensus of the city council to include MCEDD dues of \$209 in the 2011 budget.

Proposed SDS Boundary Line Adjustment (Exchange of Land between City and SDS)

Betty Barnes reviewed the proposed boundary line adjustment between SDS and the City of Bingen. She said she met with SDS and city employees to review the proposed adjustment. Barnes said she believes the adjustment is appropriate and that SDS has agreed to do a number of items in order to make the adjustment happen.

Jan Brending suggested that an agreement with SDS be developed by the attorney’s and recorded once it has been signed. She said this should be done before the final plat of the boundary line adjustment is recorded.

Clinton Bryan moved to authorize the city to move forward with the proposed boundary line adjustment. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Request for Authorization to Seek Bids for Removal of Dead or Dying Trees

Jan Brending said this request resulted out of a request from the city council to remove a dead pine tree at Pine and Humboldt. She said several staff members made suggestions for additional trees to be removed. Brending said she would like to send letters out to the property owner within the 300 block of

N. Maple and the property owner at the corner of Elm and Steuben letting them that trees will be removed.

Clinton Bryan said there are large walnut trees on E. Humboldt that need to be limbed up because they are hanging over the road and making it nearly impassable. Jan Brending said the trees are located on private property and she will write letters to the property owners about limbing the trees.

Brending noted that she will request Public Works to remove the distressed tree at the park since it is very small and probably does not require a contractor.

Laura Mann moved to issue a small works roster for the removal of dead and/or dying trees – requiring a line item bid for each tree. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Jim Andring asked if the city could have a contractor do the work for a resident and then have the resident pay the city back.

Jan Brending said no.

Request for Authorization to Paint Curb Yellow Designating No Parking

Betty Barnes said that she has heard some concerns from local citizens regarding the intersection of N. Ash and Highway 141. She said that when cars are parked on the west side of the 400 block of N. Ash it causes a dangerous situation for vehicles turning off of Highway 141 onto N. Ash.

The city council discussed the issue and possible solutions. It was suggested that a letter be written to the property owner letting them know that due to safety concerns the city will mark the curb from Highway 141 to the end of the first drive with yellow paint. The letter will also note that it is illegal to park blocking sidewalks or to park in front of driveways.

Catherine Kiewit moved to paint the curb yellow from Highway 141 to the end of the first driveway and write a letter to the property owner explaining the need and safety concerns. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Authorization to Send Charles Long to Civil Service Training

Betty Barnes said she is asking authorization to pay for Charles Long, Bingen's representative on the White Salmon Civil Service Commission, to attend civil service training in October.

Jan Brending said that in the future funding will be provided in the city's budget to cover these costs.

Clinton Bryan moved to authorize to pay for sending Bingen's civil service commission representative to training in Yakima. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Request to Authorize Change Order Retroactive, Skate Park Construction

Betty Barnes said Grindline Skateparks has submitted a change order in the amount of \$2,105.31 (not including taxes). She said the changes are required due to the construction of the new basketball court which changed the elevations slightly and caused a grading conflict. Barnes said she approved the change order because waiting would have resulted in a delay in excavation.

Laura Mann moved to approve Change Order 001A in the amount of \$2,105.31 (not including taxes). Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Fall Yard and Garden Debris Pick Up

Betty Barnes said it is time to discuss how the city will conduct the fall yard and garden debris pick up. She recommended that wording in the notices be such that the pickup is intended for normal fall pruning and leaf pickup.

The city council and staff discussed the issue. It was agreed that shrubs and branches will be limited to 2 inches or less in diameter and that all leaves must be bagged. The city council agreed that the pickup will take place the first and second weeks of November. The city council agreed that David Spratt, Public Works Superintendent, will have discretion in deciding how debris can be picked up from any specific property.

Betty Barnes suggested that it might be possible to use the juvenile crew to help assist with the pickup.

Old Business

Skatepark Fundraising

Betty Barnes announced that the city has received notice that the Rotary Club of White Salmon/Bingen will be donating \$10,000 towards the skatepark. She said she was notified that the Huckleberry Pancake Breakfast was very successful and that the Bingen Fire Department will be getting a portion of the proceeds which will then be donated towards the skatepark.

Betty Barnes noted that Rapid Readymix is providing a 20% discount on the concrete. She said that Insitu will keep open their matching donation to encourage additional community donations.

Huckleberry Festival

Betty Barnes said the city council previously discussed who is responsible for maintaining the gazebo at the park. She said Jan Brending did some research and there is no documentation that it is the responsibility of the Huckleberry Festival Committee. Barnes said she is recommending the city take responsibility for the gazebo as it is located in the park.

There was a consensus of the council that maintenance of the gazebo is the responsibility of the city.

Betty Barnes said the Huckleberry Festival wants the city to provide soap in the restrooms for the festival.

Laura Mann asked for a discussion in the future regarding the maintenance and condition of the restrooms in the park.

Interlocal Agreement for Law Enforcement

Betty Barnes said the council has a copy of the letter from the City of White Salmon written by Pat Munyan. She asked if the council would like to table the discussion since it is missing one member and will provide time for the council to review the information provided tonight.

Catherine Kiewit asked if Pat Munyan is representing the mayor and council of White Salmon.

Betty Barnes said yes.

Sandi Dickey said she would like time to digest the information and would like to table the discussion.

Betty Barnes said she will talk to Pat Munyan before the next meeting to get some clarification of the letter. She said Bingen has received a counter offer and noted that Bingen has taken the position that it is not negotiating.

Catherine Kiewit said she feels the offer from Bingen was generous and was not something Bingen had to do but volunteered to do.

Betty Barnes said she feels that White Salmon wants Bingen to pay more but receive nothing in return.

The council agreed to table further discussion until the meeting on October 4.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Insitu Campus

Betty Barnes said that council members all received a copy of the joint letter from SDS and Dickey Farms to the Port of Klickitat regarding the withdrawal of lands from a campus proposal for Insitu.

Laura Mann said representatives from Boeing did meet with Jason Spadero, SDS and Dave Sauter, Klickitat County Commissioner. She said that Insitu would like to be in Bingen as its first choice and are looking at the two proposals at the port and one proposal in Hood River. Mann said it appears that Insitu will likely maintain a presence in Hood River even if a campus is built in Bingen. She said that Jason Spadero feels the results of the meeting were positive.

Betty Barnes said she will be meeting with Steve Sliwa, Insitu tomorrow. She said that council members have received a copy of a newspaper article (out of the Seattle area) dated September 9 that stated Insitu was going to stay in Bingen.

Fire District 3 Funding

Betty Barnes said she spoke with a representative from Fire District 3 regarding funding. She said she had read that White Salmon would be receiving \$30,000 per year for first response. Barnes said Fire District 3 is also considering providing Bingen \$10,000 per year for response. She said a three-year

agreement is being considered and will be brought to the city council. Barnes noted that she suggested an appropriate funding level might be \$25,000 for White Salmon and \$15,000 for Bingen.

First Independent Bank

Jan Brending said that First Independent Bank is closing its Bingen branch. She said she will be drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit banking services. Brending said she will work with the budget committee to review the RFP and then review the proposals when they come in. She said a recommendation will be made to the full city council for action.

Audit

Jan Brending said the auditors will be in the officers on Monday, September 27 to audit 2008 and 2009. She said they expect to be in Bingen for two weeks.

Properties with Junk

Jan Brending said the city council has received a letter from the Klickitat County Department of Health regarding the properties on West Humboldt and West Franklin. She said the renter at the property on West Humboldt has made significant progress on cleaning up the property. Brending said the property owner at 311 West Franklin is also working on the property.

The city council discussed the property at 311 West Franklin. Jan Brending said she will meet with Tad Connors to discuss the next steps.

Dry Creek Sewer Project

Jan Brending said she has issued a Notice to Proceed for the Dry Creek Sewer Project and expects the project to start on September 30. She noted that Tom Reser may not move ahead with his project this year. Brending said she feels it is important to get the city's project done so that it does not impede Reser's future improvements.

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 September 21, 2010. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 12581-12596 totaling \$9921.05. Current – \$1549.84; Street - \$2082.76; Water - \$2786.74; Sewer - \$112.15; Treatment Plant - \$3389.56.

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 September 21, 2010. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks EFT, 12575-12580 totaling \$13158.00. Current – \$5547.20; Street - \$1511.17; Water - \$1798.06; Sewer - \$285.55; Treatment Plant - \$4016.02.

At 9:05 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor