

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 15, 2008

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

Public Comment

Bruce Brending, Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Bruce Brending reported that sometime between Thursday and Saturday, approximately 20 vehicles were keyed. He said the vandalism was random and there was no one particular person targeted or one particular area. Brending said the dollar damages are from \$18,000 to \$19,000.

Sandi Dickey noted that there were 3 to 4 skateboarders in the vicinity of Dickey's when some graffiti was done.

Bruce Brending said he does believe that some skateboarders are responsible for some of the graffiti that has been taking place.

Brian Prigel asked if a lateral officer has been hired to fill the recent vacancy.

Bruce Brending said the department is conducting the background and scheduling the polygraph and psychological exams. He said it looks promising that the individual can be hired.

Laura Mann said it was nice to receive the departments schedule to see how tough it has been for coverage. She suggested that maybe neighborhood watches might be helpful and getting information out to the public to keep their eyes open for suspicious behavior.

Bruce Brending said those are good ideas. He said the department actually does house checks when someone is on vacation.

Parade Magazine

Jesse Burkhardt said that Brian Prigel was recently featured in the Parade Magazine.

Approval of Minutes – April 1, 2008

Sandi Dickey moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2008 city council meeting. Tim Hearn seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

400 W. Steuben Storm Water Project – Engineering and Cost Estimate Review

Jan Brending said Bell Design has completed the engineering for the 400 W. Steuben Storm Water project and has provided the city with a cost estimate. She said the estimate is \$27,217.59 higher than the preliminary estimate. Brending recommended delaying action on going out to bid until proposed 2008 budget amendments are prepared and reviewed. She said the city needs to look at what it has authorized so far this year – particularly related to streets as that is where the funding will likely come from.

Old Business

Water Rights Change Applications – Review of Status

Brian Prigel reviewed the status of the water rights change applications. He said the applications were approved by the Klickitat County Conservancy Board and then sent to the Department of Ecology. Prigel said the Department of Ecology had some concerns regarding the applications and recommended the Conservancy Board withdraw the decisions that additional information could be provided. He said the Conservancy Board has withdrawn the decisions. Prigel said the Department of Ecology has recommended the city hire a hydrogeologist to answer several questions and provide some additional information.

Jan Brending said she requested proposals from two consulting firms on the city's professional services roster. She said she has spoken in length with Tim Flynn, Aspect Consulting. Brending said Tim Flynn is currently working with the City of White Salmon and is familiar with the issues that have been raised by the Department of Ecology.

Brian Prigel said he recommends the city hire a hydrogeologist to obtain additional information.

Laura Mann moved to direct staff to draft a contract with Aspect Consulting with the refined scope of work with the cost not to exceed \$4,500 and give authorization to the mayor to sign the contract. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and City Council Member Comments

Richard Cortese Update

Jan Brending and Tad Connors provided a review of the City of White Salmon's special meeting regarding settling the Richard Cortese case. The City of White Salmon voted to adopt an ordinance that provides for establishing the position of Director of Public Safety. The City of White Salmon took testimony regarding the three possible options: take the case to court, settle the case with establishing a Director of Public Safety position, or replace Bruce Brending with Richard Cortese as police chief. The City of White Salmon will likely develop a draft settlement document, job description and proposed contract for review at a future council meeting.

Dallesport Sewer and Treatment Plant

Jan Brending said she continues to meet with Klickitat County and the PUD regarding the Dallesport Treatment Plant. She said the goal is to hand over the operation of the plant on June 30. Brending said she is working on some transition issues and trying to make sure that everything is in order. She said the plant operator at Dallesport is out ill and the plant is being covered by James Buckland and Tom Hons.

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 April 15, 2008. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 9947 through 9982 totaling \$21,821.41 and payroll checks 9929 through 9946 and 9983 totaling \$13,777.19 and manual checks 9929 for a total of 12,509.20 for a grand total of \$48,107.80. Current - \$10,437.62; Street - \$3,791.49; Street Construction & Maintenance - \$3,055.84; Water - \$8,461.09; Sewer - \$3,527.34; Bingen Treatment Plant - 7,150.60 Dallesport Treatment Plant - \$11,683.82.

At 8:10 p.m. adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor