

## **BINGEN CITY COUNCIL**

### **DRAFT MINUTES – March 19, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 pm. Council Members Present: Laura Mann, Catherine Kiewit, Phil Jones, Ryan O'Connor (via telephone), and Student Council Member Cesar Robles. Staff Members Present: City Clerk Cheyenne Willey, City Attorney Chris Lanz. Audience Present: Ken Park, Ryan Walters, Mario Heredia

#### **Bingen White Salmon Police Department Update**

*Police Chief Mike Hepner*

Chief Hepner stated to the Council that the BWSPD was investigating the Daubenspeck Park camera system, which police officers could not check because they seemed to be dysfunctional; the cause of the lack of operation is unknown. Councilmember Mann requested that better lights be placed on the cameras for spotting, to which City Clerk Willey said that infrared would be okay. She also added that the next step to replacing the cameras would be to connect and troubleshoot with Radcomp. Chief Hepner reported to the Council that there weren't many calls in the City, and that the City gets a good patrol. Councilmember Mann asked if the Daubenspeck Park daily closing hours will change to 10 PM to 5 AM; Chief Hepner agreed with Mann and added that it would be rare to see boys playing basketball or anyone peacefully enjoying the park around this time. Hepner mentioned that once the park is closed, by ordinance, officers are given opportunity to make contact. Having park close at 10 PM, Hepner made clear, gives a chance for police to contact, especially given recent vandalism in the area.

#### **Grey and Osborne Update**

*Ryan Walters*

Mr. Walters formally announced that Ken Alexander went to Hawaii and brought gifts for the Council as a final goodbye. Walters updated the Council on the latest projects: the Humboldt Street Project and the Wastewater Facilities Improvements Project. Walters noted that short-term assets were unaccounted for, and that the USDA Rural Development grant was placed. He added that he had ventured to Seattle and met with engineers leading the project, among those Doug Welch, Chad Newton, and Keith Stewart. Walters stated that there were about 30 plan aspects and updates that would need to be finalized and approved by both the Department of Ecology and Wastewater Treatment Plant Director Tom Hons. He mentioned that the collection system is about 90% progress, and that budget approval would need to go through Nancy LAST NAME. Walters added that permits were submitted to WSDOT which should be approved sometime soon; the project seems to be on track. For the Humboldt Street project, Walters added that Mike Meskimen was waiting on WSDOT to finalize permits, but that Meskimen wanted to meet once more with the City to touch base. Walters said that the project was slightly over the allotted budget, and that a water main was added for moving, but that a contract amendment would not be needed. He said that a small contract amendment might be needed for design fees, but that a USDA Rural Development grant could be used for payment. Walters concluded that construction could begin in June of 2019. Councilmember Mann asked how long it would take for construction to finish, to which Walters responded that it would take about a month to two to get the project underway and about two more for street improvements, totaling to four months. She also added that the Society Hotel would be opening within this timeframe and that they should be reminded to avoid irritation. Mann questioned why the Wastewater Facilities Improvements Project would need approval/consultation with Everybody's

Brewing. Walters stated that the consultation doesn't push the improvement schedule, but merely adds business input. Ultimately, Mann questioned if in addition to approval from the Department of Ecology and Wastewater Treatment Plant Director Tom Hons, if approval would be needed from the City of White Salmon. Councilmember Kiewit added that if so, it should be clarified and expedited so there aren't any delays.

### **Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing**

*Mario Heredia*

CDBG Representative Mario Heredia gave a brief summary on the Community Development Block Grants which had impacted the City. Heredia noted that both Klickitat County and Skamania County had participated, with a total count of 18 homes and 40 individuals of various denominations. He stated that various loans were used to support development, and if a recipient had sold the home, he/she would have to return the money to the program. Among the improvements, Heredia added, were wall heater installations, window repairs, floor repairs, siding repairs, and septic repairs, to name a few. Heredia stated that grants were given to individuals based on Area Median Income (AMI) and thanked the City for helping with the project. He also mentioned that a new grant would be offered to residents of Wasco and Hood River counties. This year, Heredia quoted, the CDBG had no trouble reaching residents of Bingen, but it wasn't as popular in Skamania County, even with advertising. In addition to this, Heredia added that the difficulty of reaching residents also was based on various requirements like income limits, home value requirements, home equity, and city income average (similar to AMI). City Clerk Willey added that most people that would qualify for the program are renters and cannot qualify for the program because they do not own their own home. Heredia added to this by saying that he sees a lot of homes that need repairs, but their respective owners are uninformed about the program. Councilmember Mann suggested the CDBG do another advertisement through newspaper or radio for publicity.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 5, 2019**

Corrections were noted as follows:

*Page 1, Paragraph 6:*

“Councilmember Mann said she would like a pedestal for it to be visible; **Kiewit** ~~she~~ added that Hood River has pedestal bases that can be moved...”

*Page 2, Paragraph 2:*

“Willey stated that the main changes in the document would ~~likely be the diversification of alcohol permission in the park, the implementation of a new ordinance for deposits, and a deposit refusal clause should damage not be cleaned up after an event.~~”

“~~Willey also stated that the cost of damage could be mirrored to billing in the case that a deposit does not cover full damage. The council resolved to having cleaning addressed under the deposit and damage billed separately.~~”

*Page 2, Paragraph 3:*

“The council moved to ~~nominate approve applicant Student Council Member~~ Cesar Robles for the scholarship.”

*Page 2, Paragraph 4:*

“Mayor Barnes noted that the **Klickitat County Economic Development Board had been dispersing funds for the past five years** ~~ORGANIZATION was not hoarding funds~~, but instead giving emergency funds to those who need it.”

*Page 2, Paragraph 5:*

“Councilmember Kiewit added that she was thankful for WSDOT closing truck traffic on Highway 14 **during weather-related closures on I-84 in lieu of late winter**, as Bingen ‘is not a highway.’”

*Page 2, Paragraph 6:*

“Councilmember Mann said that she was in contact with **Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager Public Works member** Tom Hons regarding White Salmon’s water ordinances...”

Councilmember Mann moved to approve the meeting minutes of the March 5, 2019 regular council meeting as corrected. Council Member Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

#### **Public Hearing – BMC 2019-02-693 Chapter 9.08**

City Clerk Willey opened the discussion by referring to City Attorney Lanz for wording on the code; Lanz provided clarity on listing exceptions after the primary non-alcoholic clause.

Councilmember Mann inquired if Section A wanted to be filled in, to which City Clerk Willey wanted to adopt a policy for that portion. She noted that MRSC had a policies and procedures manual that she would be more preferential to adopt, as ordinances govern citizens, but policies and procedures govern City procedures. Councilmember O’Connor asked if the park reservation deposits were also part of the ordinance; City Clerk Willey responded by saying that it is unknown and she is working on developing this, particularly as a placeholder for a deposit schedule.

Councilmember Kiewit requested that the two sections be combined in order to avoid over referencing; City Clerk Willey affirmed she would adapt it to Chapter 9.24. Willey stated that she would combine the documents to cover camping hours and various other matters with relation to the park. Councilmember O’Connor added that the order would then make more sense and asked if there were other instances where the code followed an unclear structure; City Clerk Willey responded by saying that there are several other sections in the code that exist. The hearing culminated with Councilmember Jones’s inquiry about adding dogs to this chapter; City Clerk Willey stated that there are already regulations in the Bingen Municipal Code, and that any changes would require many other changes in other areas of the code.

#### **Public Hearing – BMC 2019-03-694 Chapter 9.24**

Councilmember Kiewit requested that the language in the chapter should be changed to reflect the ambiguity between camping in the park and temporarily sleeping in such; she proposed that camping in the park be disallowed except as authorized by the City for events only. City Clerk Willey explained that the language in the chapter was pulled from other ordinances. Councilmember Kiewit then suggested that Chapter 9.24.060 either be made clearer or cut out completely so it is not as redundant. Councilmember Mann inquired if the litter portion to be updated and made clearer. City Clerk Willey added that making sections too specific can create unwanted exceptions for citizens.

Councilmember Mann moved to combine BMC 2019-02-693 Chapter 9.08 and BMC 2019-03-694 Chapter 9.24 into BMC 2019-02-693 Chapter 9.08 as edited and corrected. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Mayor's Update and Council Comments**

### *Mayor's Update*

Mayor Barnes informed the Council that there weren't any particular updates, but that there would be a Community Pride meeting occurring in the following weeks. Barnes also extended an invitation to any councilmember who desires to attend an AWC Small Communities meeting.

### *Water Meters*

Mayor Barnes notified the Council that new master meters arrived and that the City will begin learning how to use them physically and with software. Barnes explained that Public Works members would go out with handheld meters and return to City Hall for the information to be downloaded from one program and exported to another. City Clerk Willey added that then Deputy Clerk Riggleman would inspect the data. Overall, Barnes states, this system will be easier for the Public Works department and more robust for use.

### *Weed Control*

Councilmember Kiewit inquired as to why the City paid for weed control, to which City Clerk Willey responded that the City pays \$6.21 every year without any jurisdiction as to how much weed control the City pays for.

### *Quiet Zone*

Councilmember O'Connor informed the Council that there is no end date for the Quiet Zone letter collection period, and that letters are still being collected online and physically. He added that the committee has not set a final date but the letters will be taken with the application.

### *Street Cleaning*

Councilmember Mann asked if Public Works Chief David Spratt could be asked about street cleaning if it wasn't already on his list. Mann added that anyone who is doing construction and leaving debris should keep streets clean. She noted that the Society Hotel construction has left debris in right of way, and asked how to distinguish whether the City or constructors would have to clean. City Clerk Willey added that if new sewer lines are placed, then the constructor must clean up the road, but that this is addressed awkwardly and it is hard to determine. Councilmember Kiewit asked if the International Building Code determines cleanup procedures on City streets; City Clerk Willey said that the IBC only applies to the property.

### *Miscellaneous*

Councilmember Kiewit added that she would like to reserve time in the second meeting in April for an annual stock of projects. Councilmember Mann agreed and asked if subdivision phase development would need to be addressed. Mann added that she liked the idea of reporting things that need to be addressed so the staff knows what it is dealing with. She proposed that the meeting be started an hour earlier with advance public notice.

Councilmember Kiewit explained that she received an email from a Bingen resident who built a deck on their property without an application; she added that there were setbacks in addition to a denied variance. She informed the Council that the resident removed their deck and now desires the deck again; Kiewit said that the resident obtained a permit and is now mad that it wasn't granted earlier.

**Voucher Approval**

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 March 19, 2019.

The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list:

Payroll Checks 20621-20624 and Payroll EFT (Dated 3/15/2019) totaling \$14,837.28 General Fund - \$6,523.68, Street Fund - \$2,444.43 Water Fund - \$1,681.10, Sewer Fund - \$315.87, Treatment Plant Fund - \$3,872.20.

Checks 20625-20644 totaling \$23,346.07. General Fund - \$3,347.37, Street Fund - \$558.06, Street Fund - \$558.06, Water Fund - \$695.30, Sewer Fund - \$231.33, Treatment Plant Fund - \$1,111.42, Sewer Capital Reserve Fund - \$17,402.59.

The council adjourned at 8:23 pm.

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City Clerk

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Mayor