

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES – February 5, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 pm. Council Members Present: Catherine Kiewit, Laura Mann, Phil Jones, Isolde Schroder, Ryan O'Connor (via telephone), Student Council Member Cesar Robles. Staff Members Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Cheyenne Willey, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt, City Attorney Chris Lanz. Audience Present: Ken Park, Tammara Tippel.

Public Comment

Tammara Tippel, Northshore Community Foundation

Tippel introduced herself as the executive director of the Mt Adams Chamber of Commerce. She explained to the council that the Northshore Community Foundation was created in 2016 and that the board of directors mirrored that of the Chamber.

Tippel said she had submitted an application to the City of Bingen to use Daubenspeck Park for the annual Art and Wine Fusion event.

Tippel said she had also been working on securing funds through donations for a large bronze sculpture of late Bingen resident Guillermo Fisch. She said she intended for the sculpture to be unveiled at the Art and Wine Fusion event, and then have the statue placed permanently on City property. Tippel said the goal was to have art installations unveiled yearly to hopefully pull together an art walk.

Tippel said she would return for the Will be at the February 19, 2019 City Council meeting, and she looked forward to communicating about this further.

Mayor Barnes asked Tippel about available scholarships.

Tippel said the scholarships were for the local youth, and not necessarily meant to send them to university, but to support them in their artistic endeavors.

Councilmember Kiewit asked how long the Northshore community foundation has existed.

Tippel said the Foundation was formed in 2016, and that she had been hired that year. She said she had taken new directions, refreshed things, and created the nonprofit.

Councilmember Kiewit clarified that the Foundation was complimentary to the Chamber.

Tippel explained that the Chamber is a 501(c)6, and the Foundation is 501(c)3 for donation purposes.

Councilmember Kiewit asked if any future executive director would be responsible for the Foundation.

Tippel said the Director and Board for the two entities are mirrored, but that there are separate bylaws and accounts. She encouraged anyone to be involved, and noted that they were always looking for volunteers.

Mayor Barnes said it was important to note that travelers passing through Bingen might not know Guillermo Fisch specifically.

Tippel agreed and said that the statue would imply the joyous spirit of “Willy” Fisch.

Mayor Barnes asked the Council to think the proposal over, to be readdressed at the meeting of February 19, 2019.

Councilmember Mann asked if the Northshore Community Foundation included the City of White Salmon.

Tippel said the project is not just art sculpture project, but that it will really be a draw for the City of Bingen. She said this is the first project the foundation had been approached about, and that the statue will hopefully grab attention. She suggested a walking brochure and self-guided tour. She noted that she didn't foresee that all happening in one year, but called it a vision for the future that hopefully Bingen will embrace. She added that no, the Foundation isn't limited to Bingen.

Councilmember Mann clarified that the statue project was proposed to the Foundation by another entity, so the project was being spearheaded by the Foundation but coming from another entity.

Tippel said yes, it is in partnership with a community group.

Lloyd DeKay, White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District

DeKay spoke to the council about the placement of the new pool. He said Bingen had come to mind as a possible placement option. He noted that the idea was his own and did not come from the Park District as a whole.

Councilmember Kiewit asked if White Salmon was no longer an idea placement option.

DeKay said the White Salmon lot was not ideal because it was a tight fit for the design, with no room for any expansion. He said there were also issues with C of White Salmon, since they were looking for a place to rebuild the Youth Center.

Councilmember Schroder asked if any thought had gone to the Port of Klickitat.

DeKay said he had thought of that but that it would be hard for children to access it.

Councilmember Schroder pointed out that it would be easy with the coming roundabout on SR 14.

DeKay said that the roundabout and underpass would make it easy for drivers but not for children.

Councilmember Mann asked if the pool would be operational for the summer of 2019.

DeKay said hopefully it would be. He said it had not been funded in 2019 but that the Park District was in talks with the City of White Salmon.

Councilmember Mann said she thought things had been squared with the City of White Salmon regarding the land for the pool.

Dekay said that land was traded but with only a thought of the pool in mind. He said the Park District was being asked to commit soon.

Mayor Barnes mentioned that part of the original plan was for the Park District to take out the original pool. She asked if that was still the plan.

Dekay said it was the City's responsibility to decommission the original pool and to build a bus barn in its place.

Mayor Barnes asked hypothetically, if the City of Bingen were to consider the empty lot by Daubenspeck Park as a pool location, would the Park District pay for the land. She noted that the land had been purchased for use as a community center, and that this may work with that goal in mind.

Dekay said that would have to be discussed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2019

Corrections were noted as follows:

Page xx, paragraph xx
“”

Council Member Mann moved to approve the meeting minutes of the December 15, 2019 regular council meeting as corrected. Council Member Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2019-01-692

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing for Proposed Ordinance 2019-01-692 Amending BMC 5.04 Business Licenses.

Clerk Treasurer Willey reminded the Council that this ordinance amendment was a State requirement. She explained that under the amended ordinance, businesses based outside of the Bingen City limits making less than \$2,000 per year would be exempt from having to pay the fee for their business license. Willey said they would still need to file an application for a license and would still be held to all other sections of the ordinance, but would just be issued a license for a fee of \$0.00.

Willey noted that Councilmember Jones had returned his copy of the proposed ordinance with many grammatical and clerical errors corrected. Willey explained that the errors he had corrected were in the section of code already established previously by the Council.

Councilmember Mann asked how to verify the income threshold.

Willey said the language provided by the State, did not provide for any verification process, and that it was up to the business owner to provide documentation of meeting the exemption to qualify.

Proposed Ordinance 2019-01-692

Councilmember Kiewit moved to adopt Proposed Ordinance 2019-01-692 Amending BMC 5.04 Business Licenses as amended. Councilmember Schroder seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Proposed Resolution 2019-001 - Interfund Loan to Water Reserve from Sewer Reserve

Mayor Barnes noted that this Interfund loan would allow the City to move forward with the USDA Rural Development loan.

Councilmember Mann questioned the language of the resolution and the use of the words “maximum repayment.”

Clerk Treasurer Willey explained that the phrase was standard and that it provided the structure of the loan repayment schedule. She noted that both USDA and the State Auditor’s office required that the term of the loan be 3 years or less.

Councilmember Kiewit requested that the date of August 22 be clarified.

Councilmember Mann moved to adopt Proposed Resolution 2019-001 Interfund Loan to Water Reserve from Sewer Reserve as amended. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Proposed Resolution 2019-002 – Water Service Connection Charges – Fire Flow

Clerk Treasurer Willey explained that the copy of the Proposed Resolution in front of Council was an updated version as the lettered list in the original had been redundant, and there needed to be clarification that all sections of the resolution must be adhered to.

Councilmember Kiewit asked if the City had appropriate flow to allow a 4” sprinkler connection and simultaneously provide for enough flow at the fire hydrant.

Public Works Superintendent Spratt said yes, the hydrant and 4” connection are made off of a 6” water main with plenty of pressure.

Councilmember Mann questioned the language of the resolution regarding the Council’s authority to review the cost.

Mayor Barnes said the resolution verifies the agreement to not meter the use which would then make a connection charge not applicable. She noted The Society Hotel would not be paying a monthly rate for the 4” sprinkler connection provided the stipulations of the resolution were met.

Mayor Barnes noted that this resolution represents the proper procedure for a fire flow connection, and noted that other fire flow connections have had detector check meters installed.

Councilmember Kiewit asked if The Society Hotel would be charged for water used through the 4” connection for fire flow.

Mayor Barnes said no, it would be treated the same way as having a fire truck respond and use water from a hydrant. Barnes said the only purpose of the detector check meter was to allow the City to verify that no water was being used other than for fire flow purposes.

Councilmember Schroder moved to adopt Proposed Resolution 2019-001 Water Service Connection Charges – Fire Flow. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Proposed Agreement – Skamania County 2019 Building Official Services

Clerk Treasurer Willey noted that the rates were the same as the rates from 2018, as proposed by Skamania County.

Councilmember Kiewit moved to approve the Proposed Agreement with **Skamania County for 2019 Building Official Services**. Councilmember Mann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Park Reservation Requirements – Discussion

Clerk Treasurer Willey provided examples of other park use forms from other cities. She said the City of Hood River had many good elements to their special event form.

Mayor Barnes said the Hood River form in its entirety was overkill but that it had good ideas nonetheless.

Willey said she liked most of the second page including the provisions for emergency plans and a map of proposed booth spaces. She said the main goal was to protect the park and be able to adjust for different types of uses, which is why she was suggesting a tiered structure for reservation deposits.

Councilmember Mann asked how soon the council should be prepared to address the matter.

Willey said sooner rather than later, as she wanted to make sure both large scale events planned for 2019 were treated equally.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Radars Speed Signs

Councilmember Schroder said she met with Chief Hepner and Officer Daniels of the BWSPD regarding White Salmon's recently purchased radar speed signs. She said it was her recommendation that the City of Bingen purchase two, to be placed on East SR 14 and on Oak Street/SR 141.

Clerk Treasurer Willey noted that the budget provided for at least two of the signs, and possibly three.

Councilmember Jones moved to purchase two radar speed signs from Elan City. Councilmember Schroder seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Quiet Zone

The emphatic support from the community in favor of the quiet zone was discussed.

Mayor Barnes said she misdirected the council previously, and that they should absolutely issue letters of support on behalf of the City if they felt so inclined, in addition to personal letters of support.

Clerk Treasurer Willey suggested the council declare their support with a resolution.

Tree Lights

Public Works Superintendent Spratt said the lights on the downtown trees would be taken down at the end of February, schedule permitting.

Staff Reports

Public Works Superintendent Spratt informed the Council that Ryan Kreps of Radcomp Technologies had purchased a Fire Engine at auction and had donated it to the Bingen Fire Department. Spratt said the

truck was a 2000 E-One Saulsbury. He said it did need some small repairs but seemed to be a great purchase. He noted that the engine was originally from the Phoenix Fire Department in Arizona, then was purchased by the Four Mile Fire Protection District in Colorado, then purchased by Ryan Kreps.

The City Council stepped into the fire station to view the new fire engine.

The council directed Clerk Treasurer Willey to draft a letter of thanks to Ryan Kreps.

Executive Session

Mayor Barnes announced at 8:25 pm that the City Council will go into Executive Session for 20 minutes to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 8:45 p.m. the Council resumed regular session.

Mayor Barnes announced at 8:50 pm that the City Council will go into Executive Session for 25 minutes to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 9:15 p.m. the Council resumed regular session.

The council instructed City Attorney Lanz to do further research regarding matters discussed in executive session.

Councilmember Mann moved to authorize Mayor Barnes to further discuss and sign the proposed collective bargaining unit agreement at her discretion. Councilmember Mann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Councilmember Mann moved to direct Clerk Treasurer Willey to prepare an RFP for the services of a land use planner to update the comprehensive plan and address upcoming land development. Councilmember Schroder seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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 February 5, 2019.

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

Payroll Checks 20523-20527 and Payroll EFT (Dated 1/31/19) totaling \$30,028.02. General Fund - \$13,420.76, Street Fund - \$4,692.05, Water Fund - \$3,301.48, Sewer Fund - \$586.62, Treatment Plant Fund - \$8,027.11.

Checks 20531-20558 (Dated 2/5/19) totaling \$81,712.01. General Fund - \$61,370.78, Street Fund - \$2,477.58, General Equipment Fund - \$29.97, Water Fund - \$11,124.68, Sewer Fund - \$372.19, Treatment Plant Fund - \$5,561.81, Sewer Capital Reserve Fund - \$775.00.

The council adjourned at 9:20 pm.

City Clerk

Mayor