

## **BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**DRAFT – February 4, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Phil Jones, Ryan O'Connor, Isolde Schroder. Council members absent: Catherine Kiewit. Staff present: Deputy Clerk Dena Riggelman, City Attorney Chris Lanz, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt, Chief Hepner, Officer Daniels. Audience present: Jacob Bertram, Doug Barnard, Blair & Steve Carroll, John Verlinich, Kimberly Harty, Joseph & Janet O'Sullivan.

### **Police**

Chief Hepner said that they have been busy with serious cases taking up their time and that mental health issues have gone up in the last week or so. He also said there has been parking issues on the North side of The Society Hotel on Franklin Street. He said it is a really narrow street and there are people parking on both sides which then makes the road too narrow to drive through. Heppner said he would like to turn the South side of Franklin, on that block, into No Parking so that the road can still be drivable.

Mayor Barnes said she will talk to the owner of the hotel first, to see if they can talk to their employees about not parking there.

### **Minutes of January 21, 2020 Regular Council Meeting**

Council member Schroder made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2020 council meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing – Proposed Conditional Use Permit 2020-001 Carroll**

Mayor Barnes opened the hearing on the conditional use permit application 2020-001 Carroll.

Mayor Barnes asked if any council members stood to gain anything financially from the proposal, or if any of them had discussed the proposal outside of a hearing. The council answered no.

Deputy Clerk Riggelman read the following comment into the record:

Attorney Lanz said that the original Conditional Use Permit for this property from 2009 was located and that the residential portion was allowed provided that the portion of the building used for residential purposes did not exceed 50%. Lanz said that the existing residential building left standing after the fire would count toward the 50% allowed for residential use.

Steve Carroll said that the suggestion made by council member Kiewit about making the basement portion of the commercial side larger to make up for the difference in the percentage usage sounded like a great idea.

Mayor Barnes said that the parking still needs to be addressed and the code calls for 2 spaces per dwelling unit. The council discussed the parking issues but could not come to a conclusion at the time.

Mayor Barnes asked to continue the discussion at the next council meeting and asked Steve to bring back new drawings for the proposed basement to show the ratio of 50% residential and 50% commercial.

She said that would give staff time to look at parking requirements.

#### **Public Hearing Proposed Conditional Use Permit 2020-002 Barnard**

Mayor Barnes opened the hearing on the condition use permit application 2020-002 Barnard.

Mayor Barnes asked if any council members stood to gain anything financially from the proposal, or if any of them had discussed the proposal outside of a hearing. The council answered no.

Deputy Clerk Riggleman read the following comment into the record:

Barnard said his chiropractic business is a low impact business as far as traffic. He said that he does not see a lot of people coming because his sessions are usually 1 to 2 hours each client. Barnard said there is not a lot of commercial offices available to rent.

Council member Schroder said she is torn by this conditional use and she read, out loud, BMC chapter 17.72 to show that this conditional use does not fit in the guidelines.

Council Member Schroder made a motion to deny the Proposed Conditional Use Permit 2020-002 Barnard. Council Member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Council Vacancy**

Mayor Barnes said it was amazing to see 3 applicants for the council vacancy position.

#### *Kimberly Harty*

Kimberly said she is a pilot for Spirit Airlines and has lots of time to read during flights so she can dig into the paperwork that goes with the position. She said she has lived in Bingen for 1-1/2 years and would like to keep the small town personality & heart of Bingen the way it is.

#### *Joseph O'Sullivan*

Joseph said he usually goes by Joe. He said his wife and he have lived in Bingen for 2-1/2 years and his wife owns Tokki Art Supply in Bingen. Joe said he is from a small town in Massachusetts and knows how a small town can grow too fast and he would like to keep Bingen a strong local community. Joe said he is a biology engineer and works at a distillery in Hood River.

#### *John Verlinich*

John said he works at Insitu and his wife works at The Society Hotel and that they bought a house in Bingen about 3 years ago. John said he would like to work on the water issues & repairing the ancient infrastructure in Bingen. John said the small community is great.

Mayor Barnes thanked the candidates for their interest and announced that the council would like to go into executive session to make a decision.

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Barnes announced at 8:20 p.m. that the City Council will go into Executive Session for 10 minutes to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 8:30 p.m. the Council resumed regular session.

Council member Schroder said she would like to thank the candidates for applying and suggested to those that didn't make it to keep coming to meetings to be involved and there would be upcoming council openings in the future.

Council Member Jones made a motion to appoint Joseph O'Sullivan as the new council member. Council Member Schroder seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **Old Business**

### *Status of PUD/WSDOT Lights*

Mayor Barnes said Public Works Superintendent Spratt made a map of the street lights to show who owns each light. She noted the light at corner of Maple and Steuben is owned by the city.

## **Mayor and Council**

Mayor Barnes said she met with Ruby Irving from Klickitat County Solid Waste and she said she is shorthanded right now and trying to find a replacement for the position.

Council Member Schroder said she will be absent for the February 18 council meeting but might be able to call in to the meeting.

## **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 4, 2020.

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

Payroll Checks 21287-21297 and Payroll EFT (Dated 1/31/2020) totaling \$29,584.87 General Fund - \$13,855.63, Street Fund - \$4,428.36, Water Fund - \$3,048.99, Sewer Fund - \$559.30, Treatment Plant Fund - \$7,692.59.

Checks 21302 -21325 totaling \$98,934.81. General Fund - \$63,522.73, Street Fund - \$2,575.68, Water Fund - \$13,081.53, Sewer Fund - \$421.58, Treatment Plant Fund - \$19,333.29.

The council adjourned at 8:42 pm.

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City Clerk

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Mayor