

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

DRAFT – May 18, 2021

Meeting Via Teleconference - Audio Recorded

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barnes at 7:00 pm. Council members present: Phil Jones, Isolde Schroder, and Joseph O’Sullivan. Absent: Council members Ryan O’Connor and Catherine Kiewit, Police Chief Mike Hepner. Staff present: Clerk Cheyenne Pantoja Wright, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt, City Attorney Christopher R Lanz. Audience Present: Nancy Wetch, Ryan Walters, Mark Nelson.

Bingen White Salmon Police Department Update

The police department was not in attendance, but Mayor Barnes said they were working on procedural changes due to recent legislation.

Minutes of May 4, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

Council member O’Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 4, 2021 regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 2021-03-714 Amending the 2021 Budget

Mayor Barnes noted that the budget ordinance had been withdrawn from the agenda and would be readvertised for the meeting of June 1, 2021.

Gray & Osborne – Project Update

Oak St Reservoir

Mark Nelson said the design was under review by the Department of Health and that the electrical engineering was almost completed. He said he expected plans to be finalized in the next couple of weeks with the project ready to go out to bid by July 1, 2021.

Mayor Barnes asked about recent changes to the expected project cost.

Nelson discussed the need for a retaining wall and rock excavation at the reservoir site, and those factors being missed in the original assessment.

Council discussed possible funding options and there was a consensus to continue as scheduled.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

Nancy Wetch said the project would be wrapped up in a couple of weeks and that no major changes were expected. She said no contingency funds had been needed but noted that there was one pump still pending delivery. Wetch recommended pausing working days for the contract and resuming in July with the pump delivery.

Collections system Improvements

Wetch said that an existing line was found under SR14/Steuben Street. She said that it was her understanding that WSDOT had installed the line but said that when asked, WSDOT denied having actually followed through with the installation.

Council member Jones asked if WSDOT had any liability for the money spent unnecessarily on design, labor, and materials for the line that already existed in brand new condition.

Wetch said that WSDOT would likely say that keeping track of that line would be the City's responsibility.

Mayor Barnes and staff pointed out that the line was accurately represented on as-built drawings and records provided by the City, and that the City was never made aware that the existence of the line was in question.

Old Business

SR 14 Roundabout Discussion

Mayor Barnes postponed the discussion due to Council member Kiewit's absence. Barnes noted that she had contacted SDS Lumber Company, and they were thrilled with the idea to use equipment as an installation in the roundabout.

Staff Report

Clerk Pantoja Wright said City Hall staff were busy working on internal audits in preparation for a 3-year audit, and said she was also working on the 2020 annual report.

Public Works Superintendent Spratt reminded council of the annual community clean up scheduled for May 21 & 22, 2021.

Spratt said he had updated the Six-Year Transportation Improvements Plan on the WSDOT website and that the updated plan would be brought to council at the meeting of June 1, 2020.

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 May 18, 2021.

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

Payroll Checks 22318-22320 and Payroll EFT (Dated 5/14/2021) totaling \$23,489.28 General Fund - \$8,396.61, Street Fund - \$3,530.51, Water Fund - \$2,393.23, Sewer Fund - \$442.19, Treatment Plant Fund - \$8,726.74.

Motion: Jones

Second: Schroder

Checks 22321-22345 (Dated 5/18/2021) totaling \$11,856.18. General Fund - \$5,951.01, Street Fund - \$1,555.01, Water Fund - \$1,153.51, Sewer Fund - \$142.43, Treatment Plant Fund - \$3,054.22.

Motion: Schroder

Second: Jones

The council adjourned at 7:30 pm.

City Clerk

Mayor