

## BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**DRAFT – October 15, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Phil Jones, Isolde Schroder, Ryan O'Connor. Staff present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheyenne Pantoja Wright, City Attorney Chris Lanz. Audience present: Nancy Wetch, Jacob Bertram. Council members absent: Laura Mann

### **Gorge Happiness Month**

Council shared things they were thankful for including their children enjoying doing homework, having good health, and sweater weather.

Council member Kiewit shared that she had received a letter of thanks for the Council's work on the bag ordinance and she expressed her gratitude for the members of council.

### **Minutes of October 1, 2019 Regular Council Meeting**

Corrected as follows:

Page 3, paragraph  
"Mayor Barnes"

Page 2, paragraph  
"...though she is not a Bingen resident"

Council member Kiewit made a motion to table the minutes of the October 1, 2019 regular council meeting with corrections noted pending the addition of corrections from the September 17 regular council meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Proposed Budget Increase – Waste Water Treatment Plant Maintenance & Upgrades**

Nancy Wetch explained that the increase was in the application only and the City would be able to de-obligate funds if they wish. Wetch also explained how the project could be bid out in schedules to help control costs. The council discussed cost control measures with Wetch.

Council member Kiewit moved to increase the loan amount by \$500,000 for loan application WQC-2020-Bingen-00072 to the Washington State Department of Ecology. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **County Solid Waste Agreement**

Mayor Barnes explained that even though she could not attend the meeting, Council member Mann had shared her comments in advance since she has been the point person on Solid Waste for the City.

The Council discussed questions they had regarding the old agreement and noted some areas of interest to update pending negotiations with Klickitat County.

Council member Kiewit said she would be curious to look at curbside glass collection service. Kiewit also informed the Council that Klickitat County Recycling Coordinator Averie Morgan said the blue recycling bags do indeed go to the landfill after being emptied of recycling. Kiewit said she would like to push for a recyclable recycling collection container option.

Clerk Pantoja Wright noted that at a previous meeting regarding the Bingen Recycling site that Republic Services was asked to provide information on curbside glass collection and that both Bingen and White Salmon had agreed to provide residence estimates to Republic to that end. Pantoja Wright said Bingen's numbers had already been submitted.

### **Mayor and Council Comments**

Mayor Barnes said she felt the Public Works Department should have a Street Sweeper as a priority – she said she supported hiring the City of White Salmon to sweep the streets and asked Clerk Pantoja Wright to reach out to the Public Works Department and try to formulate a schedule for street sweeping.

Mayor Barnes said she was very disappointed that the Enterprise editor had neglected to reach out to the City regarding his latest editorial that discussed the Oh Joy of Joys statue placement. She explained that it was clearly stated in council meetings that the SR 14 roundabout would have some form of landscaping or artwork but that WSDOT standards had to be met and that WSDOT had not yet furnished those parameters to the council, and that the council had decided on the location offered for the statue after much thought and discussion. Barnes said she was disappointed with the lack of diligence from the newspaper.

Council member Kiewit said she would be absent from the December 17<sup>th</sup> regular council 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 August 20, 2019.

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

Payroll Checks 21043-21069 and Payroll EFT (Dated 10/15/2019) totaling \$36,322.82 General Fund - \$19,940.84, Street Fund - \$4,805.09, Water Fund - \$3,274.91, Sewer Fund - \$600.59, Treatment Plant Fund - \$7,701.39.

Checks 21047-21066 totaling \$76,401.05. General Fund - \$32,285.58, Street Fund - \$577.52, Water Fund - \$11,459.89, Sewer Fund - \$138.65, Treatment Plant Fund - \$1,939.30, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan - \$30,000.11.

The council adjourned at 9:23 pm.

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City Clerk

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Mayor