

# **BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**DRAFT – February 16, 2021**

## **Meeting Via Teleconference - Audio Recorded**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J Barnes at 7:00 pm. Council members present: Phil Jones, Ryan O'Connor, Catherine Kiewit, Isolde Schroder, Joseph O'Sullivan. Staff present: Clerk Treasurer Cheyenne Pantoja Wright, City Attorney Christopher R Lanz. Audience present: Tony Gilmer

### **Essential Services Update**

Mayor Barnes informed the council she was reinstating the agenda items “staff report”, “Old Business” and “Mayor’s Update and Council Comments”. She said she planned to bring back live council comments soon.

### **Minutes of February 2, 2021 Regular Council Meeting**

Council member Kiewit requested that meeting guest attendees be required to identify themselves.

Mayor Barnes reminded Kiewit that at in-person meetings the sign in sheet was voluntary and not required.

City Attorney Lanz said that meeting attendees could not be required to sign in.

Council member O'Connor made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2021 regularly scheduled City Council meeting as presented. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Klickitat County EMS District #1 Update**

Director Tony Gilmer said the district had hired Will Harriman as operations chief.

Gilmer said at the end of 2020 the district had purchased a new ambulance, but that it was originally a demo vehicle and so was not custom made. He said the goal was still to get a fourth vehicle but that it would take some time still.

Gilmer discussed interfacility transfers affecting 911 response but noted the good partner relationships between KCEMS and neighboring jurisdictions. He said that when the areas are at level zero, mutual aid is requested from those neighboring districts.

Gilmer noted that paramedic Maria Roeder Simms was going to be leading an EMT-Basic class in the coming months.

### **Project Estimate #7 Wastewater Facilities Improvements – TEK Construction**

Council member Kiewit made a motion to approve TEK Construction 'Project Estimate #7 Wastewater Facilities Improvements as presented. Council member O'Connor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council member Kiewit made a motion to issue payment in the amount of \$637,171.85 to TEK Construction for progress estimates #4, #5, and #6, in consideration of future amendment to the 2021 budget, and as the City has received approved reimbursement from The Washington Department of Ecology for the wastewater treatment plant project. Council member O'Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Daubenspeck Park Playground**

Mayor Barnes asked the council to address the COVID19 closure of Daubenspeck Park.

Council member Schroder said she was 100% in favor of reopening the park.

Council member O'Connor said he supported reopening the park.

Council member O'Sullivan said he was inclined to support reopening but would like clarification on classification and guidelines since Klickitat County was moving to phase II of the Governor's reopening plan.

Mayor Barnes said the park would be classified as outdoor activity and recreation and that each jurisdiction was responsible for following the guidelines and closing/opening public features as they saw fit.

Council member Kiewit noted that the playground had been closed due to the City's inability to sanitize touch surfaces and adequately enforce social distancing and mask use. She asked if those requirements had changed and if signage would be sufficient to put the public on notice of the requirements.

Mayor Barnes said new signage would be required stating that park guests would need to bring their own sanitizer and masks in addition to the existing social distancing signage and 5-person limit.

Clerk Pantoja Wright said the staff's observation had been that park guests ignored the social distancing, mask, and 5-person limit signage for the skate park on a daily basis.

Council member Schroder made a motion to reopen the Daubenspeck park playground and features previously closed due to COVID19 and to update signage as discussed. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Clerk Pantoja Wright clarified that the restrooms would remain closed and the portable restrooms and wash station would continue to be available instead.

### **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 16, 2021.

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

Payroll Checks 22090-22095 and Payroll EFT (Dated 1/29/2021) totaling \$32,226.82 General Fund - \$14,950.39, Street Fund - \$4,947.79, Water Fund - \$3,416.03, Sewer Fund - \$629.74, Treatment Plant Fund - \$8,282.87. Interim Approval issued February 2, 2021.

Motion: O'Connor

Second: Kiewit

Checks 22096-22118 (Dated 2/2/2021) totaling \$50,905.96. General Fund - \$25,350.65, Street Fund - \$3,436.22, Water Fund - \$16,665.90, Sewer Fund - \$661.36, Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,791.83. Interim Approval issued February 2, 2021.

Motion: Kiewit

Second: O'Sullivan

Payroll Checks 22119-22122 and Payroll EFT (Dated 2/16/2021) totaling \$22,004.65 General Fund - \$9,088.87, Street Fund - \$3,840.57 Water Fund - \$2,596.72, Sewer Fund - \$478.50, Treatment Plant Fund - \$5,999.99.

Motion: Schroder

Second: Jones

Checks 22123-22147 (Dated 2/16/2021) totaling \$167,386.76. General Fund - \$138,908.84, Street Fund - \$487.47, Water Fund - \$2,401.68, Sewer Fund - \$641.59, Treatment Plant Fund - \$3,639.37, Water Capital Reserve Fund \$6,954.18, Sewer Capital Reserve Fund \$14,353.63.

Motion: Jones

Second: O'Connor

The council adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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City Clerk

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Mayor