

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

DRAFT – November 3, 2020

Meeting Via Teleconference

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Catherine Kiewit at 7:00 pm. Council members present: Phil Jones, Ryan O'Connor, Catherine Kiewit, Isolde Schroder. Council members absent: O'Sullivan. Staff present: City Clerk Cheyenne Pantoja Wright, City Attorney Christopher R Lanz.

Essential Services Update

Mayor Pro Tempore Kiewit shared that Public Works had removed the parklets for the winter. She said she had gotten a new sign for the skatepark that said "crowds lead to closures" to encourage the public to heed posted rules. Kiewit said staff had been working very hard and noted that Council member O'Sullivan was absent due to an emergency.

Police Department Update

Mayor Pro Tempore Kiewit said that Chief Hepner was out on patrol since it was election night.

Minutes of October 20, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

It was noted that Chief Hepner was present at that meeting.

Council member Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2020 council meeting as corrected. Council member Schroder seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Tiny Library Placement Request

Bingen Resident Sara Whitner explained her request to council and said she had already purchased the library and that it had been made professionally. She said she had originally intended to place it on her private property but with the Humboldt Street project changing the grade in front of her house that was no longer feasible. Whitner said she would take responsibility for the installment and for repairs and would take care of any vandalism, etc. She said if she were unable to maintain the library, her neighbors Caitlyn Cray and Howard Bulick would step in and help.

The Council and staff discussed Public Works helping with the installation to ensure that the placement was appropriate and that all water and sewer lines were clear of the post. Staff also reminded Ms. Whitner that she would need to call for a locate before breaking ground.

Council member Jones made a motion to approve the placement of the Tiny Library as presented, with the conditions noted above. Council member O'Connor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Proposed Resolution 2020-008 Declaring a Climate Emergency – Presentation and Discussion

Michelina Roth introduced the members of Community Upcycle and the Climate Action Network in attendance and spoke to council about their request for a resolution declaring a climate emergency.

Ruth Olin presented a slideshow on the effects of climate change to council.

Council member O'Connor said he would like to consider the matter further.

Council member Kiewit said she liked hearing specific goals included in a resolution.

