

# **BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**November 16, 2021**

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:02 pm. Council members present: Phil Jones, Joseph O'Sullivan, Ryan O'Connor and Catherine Kiewit. Council members absent: Isolde Schroder. Staff present: Deputy Clerk Dena Riggleman, City Attorney Christopher R Lanz. Audience Present: Jan Brending and Jacob Bertram.

### **Minutes of November 02, 2021 Regular Council Meeting**

Council member Kiewit made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2, 2021 regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Amending BMC 13.24.030 Monthly Sewer Billing**

Jan Brending said that the Ordinance for the monthly sewer billing allows for a 5% increase every year so the council does not need to redo the Ordinance unless the city deviates from the allowed increase.

Council member Kiewit made a motion to remove the public hearing and amending the proposed Ordinance for the monthly sewer billing from the agenda. Council member O'Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Amending BMC 13.04.1200 Monthly Water Billing**

Jan Brending said that the Ordinance for the monthly water billing allows for a 5% increase every year so the council does not need to redo the Ordinance unless the city deviates from the allowed increase.

Council member O'Sullivan made a motion to remove the public hearing and amending the proposed Ordinance for the monthly water billing from the agenda. Council member O'Connor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing Proposed Ordinance 2021-08-719 Advalorem Taxes**

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing Proposed Ordinance 2021-08-719 Advalorem Taxes.

There were no comments, so Mayor Barnes closed the Public Hearing Proposed Ordinance 2021-08-719 Advalorem Taxes.

### **Ordinance 2021-08-719 Advalorem Taxes**

Council member Jones made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-08-719 Advalorem Taxes. Council member Kiewit seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Resolution 2021-006 Advalorem Taxes**

Council member Jones made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-006 Advalorem Taxes. Council member Kiewit seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing – 2022 Draft Budget**

Jan Brending said she has been helping Dena Riggleman to balance the 2022 Budget. Brending explained that the budget is allowing for the highest pay step for the open position in either a City Clerk or a City Administrator and the proposed 5.5% cost of living increase for the employees, which the city is still in Union negotiations, at the moment.

Brending discussed all the major projects the city has undertaken recently and how the city is currently in the middle of a three-year audit for the years 2018-2020.

Brending said that the city will have to move funds from the Community Development, General Equipment, Building Construction and Maintenance and the Park Construction and Maintenance Funds to help balance the 2022 Budget. Brending said that there is a possibility that the 2021 Budget will have excess funds which could cover these amounts and the funds could then be moved back to these places.

Mayor Barnes closed the public hearing for the 2022 draft budget.

### **Ordinance 2021-09-720 2022 Budget**

Jan Brending said that the city will hold a public hearing on the Final 2022 Budget on the December 7<sup>th</sup> council meeting and then the council can vote on the ordinance then.

Council member Kiewit made a motion to table Ordinance 2021-09-720 2022 Budget, until the next council meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Council member O’Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**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 November 16, 2021.

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

Payroll Checks 22677-22679 and Payroll EFT (Dated 11/15/2021) totaling \$21,597.19 General Fund - \$8,753.57, Street Fund - \$3,920.01, Water Fund - \$2,677.84, Sewer Fund - \$499.06, Treatment Plant Fund - \$5,746.71.

Motion: O’Connor

Second: Jones

Checks 22680-22699 totaling \$32,487.04. General Fund - \$19,337.52, Street Fund - \$240.82, Water Fund - \$6,522.18, Sewer Fund - \$3,177.15, Treatment Plant Fund - \$3,209.37.

Motion: Jones

Second: Kiewit

**Closed Session- Union Agreement**

The council went into a closed session to discuss the union agreement at 7:43 pm.

The council adjourned at 8:36 pm.

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Deputy Clerk

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Mayor