

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Ryan O'Connor, Laura Mann, Stephanie Porter, Izzy Schroder. Staff present: City Administrator Jan Brending, City Attorney Chris Lanz. Audience present: Ken Park, Phil Jones, Tammy Kaufman.

Executive Session

At 7:05 p.m., Betty Barnes announced the city council will enter into executive session for 20 minutes to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 7:25 p.m., the council resumed regular session and announced it will continue executive session for an additional 15 minutes.

At 7:40 p.m., the council resumed regular session.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Betty Barnes announced that Chief Tracy Wyckoff will not be present. She said he reported to her that he expects to be finished with updating the department's personnel policies by the end of the week.

Approval of Minutes – July 5, 2017

Changes to the minutes of the July 5, 2017 special council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 3, 6th paragraph, 3rd sentence should read: "Kiewit said a higher compensation amount might provide a trade-off if they were working a part-time job that was needed for income and was preventing them from serving on council."

Page 3, 11th paragraph, 2nd sentence should read: "Jan Brending suggested that when the budget process begins it includes looking at an increase in council members and possibly the mayor salaries."

Page 3, last paragraph should read: "Ryan O'Connor asked if there is a map of the city that could be placed on the wall in the council meeting room."

Page 4, 9th paragraph should read: "Laura Mann said she would like the city to send a letter congratulating Mike Hepner on his promotion and offering support for five officers and a chief position."

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the July 5, 2017 special council meeting as corrected. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Council Vacancy – Interview of Applicants and Appointment to Council Position

Betty Barnes said the council has received one applicant, Phil Jones, for the upcoming vacant position held by Stephanie Porter.

Laura Mann asked Phil Jones to elaborate on what experience he would bring to the city.

Phil Jones said he has a wide range of experience including owning a small business, collaborating with a larger business and working at the Sports Club in Hood River. He said he has done a lot of things in his life.

Stephanie Porter asked Jones if there is anything he is specifically passionate about.

Phil Jones said he is passionate about the train noise and feels that it has an impact on everyone in town. He said he would like to try to see how the noise could be mitigated. Jones said that he has lived in Bingen a long time and hasn't contributed to the community until now. He said his intent would be to interact with a lot of people and get their perspective.

Catherine Kiewit said that she really likes Jones' statement about not being outspoken but thoughtful. She said it is necessary to listen to people and hear their perspectives.

Izzy Schroder said she is really glad Jones is interested in the position. She said her husband speaks very highly of Phil Jones.

Ryan O'Connor said he believes Jones' broad experience will be an asset to the city.

Catherine Kiewit moved to appoint Phil Jones to Council Position #3 effective August 1, 2017. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Conditional Use Permit 2016-003 Application Fee Refund

Catherine Kiewit moved to refund the application fee for conditional use permit 2016-003. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Underwood Fruit Vault and Meter Replacement – Acceptance of Project as Complete

Jan Brending said the Underwood Fruit Vault and Meter Replacement project has been completed by Artistic Excavation and that she and Ken Alexander, the city's engineer, are recommending the city council accept the project as complete.

Laura Mann moved to accept the Underwood Fruit Vault and Meter Replacement project constructed by Artistic Excavation as complete. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Park Proposal – Disc Golf Course

Jan Brending said that Jack Schoolcraft is proposing the city install a 9-hole par 3 disc golf course at Daubenspeck Park. She said Hood River Parks and Recreation will be eventually closing their disc golf course for a housing project. Brending provided the council with information regarding recommended design for disc golf courses.

Catherine Kiewit said she and her husband are avid disc golf course users. She said that with the closing of the Hood River course, she understands the impetus of looking for a new course. Kiewit said she does not think the city's park is a great space for a disc golf course because of all the different uses that occur in the city's park. She said she thinks there is a partial course in White Salmon and there is a course in The Dalles. Kiewit said she thought it might be a good idea to install a single target basket so individuals could practice.

Stephanie Porter suggested contacting Hood River to see if they would be interested in donating any equipment to Bingen.

There was a consensus of the city council that Daubenspeck Park was not suitable for a disc golf course.

Mayor's Update

Klickitat County Board of Commissioners' Letter to Washington State Department of Transportation

Betty Barnes said council members have been provided with a copy of a letter from the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners to Washington State Department of Transportation regarding the Bingen Point Overpass project.

Port of Klickitat Letter – 4th of July Celebration

Betty Barnes said council members have been provided with a copy of a letter from the Port of Klickitat thanking the city and the fire department for their participation in the 4th of July celebration at the Port.

Barnes thanked Insitu for feeding the firefighters.

WFOA Financial Officers Award

Betty Barnes said Jan Brending has received the Washington Financial Officers Association Professional Finance Officer award again. She said it requires ongoing education.

Animal Control Report

Catherine Kiewit said she is pleased to see the animal control report.

Jan Brending said the report will be provided monthly.

Street Sweeping

Izzy Schroder said she feels that a number of city streets need to be swept of the rock that was put down in the winter.

Betty Barnes and Jan Brending said they are researching what options are available to the city including paying White Salmon to do the work and checking with the county to see what they might have available.

Art and Wine Festival

It was noted that White Salmon’s Art and Wine Festival is scheduled for July 22nd and will be held in Rheingarten Park this year.

Stephanie Porter Resignation

Izzy Schroder said she wanted to thank Stephanie Porter for her service on the council. She said it has been a pleasure to serve with her and that she will be missed. Schroder said she has come to trust Porter’s opinion.

Betty Barnes said Stephanie Porter has been invaluable to the council.

Tammy Kaufman thanked Stephanie Porter for her service.

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 July 18, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, checks 19344-19362 (dated 07/18/2017) totaling \$6,609.28. General Fund - \$3,631.78; Street - \$152.48; Water Fund - \$1,947.10; Sewer Fund - \$315.17; Treatment Plant Fund - \$562.75.

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 July 18, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, payroll checks 19337-19343 (dated 07/15/2017) totaling \$18,510.34. General Fund - \$7,809.05; Street - \$3,226.98; Water Fund - \$2,179.02; Sewer Fund - \$395.87; Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,899.42.

The council adjourned 8:25 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor