

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – July 3, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J Barnes at 7:00 pm. Council Members Present: Laura Mann, Ryan O'Connor, Phil Jones, Catherine Kiewit. By phone: Isolde Schroder. Staff Members Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Cheyenne Willey, City Attorney Chris Lanz, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt. Audience Present: Ken Park, Tammy Kaufman, Ken Alexander, Ryan Walters.

Metropolitan Parks District

Tammy Kaufman, Insitu

Kaufman greeted the Council and said it was intern season for Insitu. She said there were 52 interns all together, and the program was the largest in the gorge. Kaufman said of the interns, 10 were high school students, 2 were from the Gorge Works, and 40 were at the college level. She noted that July was the month for the Roboflight Academy, which entailed students learning about robotics flight and attending an engineering camp for a week.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2018

Corrections were noted as follows:

Page 1, paragraph 1

“The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Catherine Kiewit at 7:00 pm. Council Members Present: Laura Mann, Isolde Schroder, ~~Ryan O'Connor~~, Phil Jones Staff Members Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Cheyenne Willey, City Attorney Chris Lanz, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt. Audience Present: Ken Park, Marla Keethler.”

Council Member Mann moved to approve the meeting minutes of the June 19, 2018 regular council meeting as corrected. Council Member O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Gray & Osborne – Update on Current Projects

Ken Alexander

Alexander reminded the Council that he would be retiring this year, and introduced Ryan Walters as his replacement as the lead engineer for City of Bingen. He said Walters had already been working on the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan and his experience included a long career in the utility engineering field.

Alexander said he had three updates to share with the Council.

Humboldt Street Project

Alexander said Gray & Osborne had been working with the Washington State Department of Transportation regarding the stormwater mitigation plans for the Humboldt Street project. He said the delay was nothing insurmountable, but it was going to take some time to receive the necessary approvals. He noted that according to Mike Meskimen, the project needed to move forward soon.

Councilmember Kiewit asked if there was anything that the City of Bingen staff could do to help.

Alexander said no, and explained that Public Works Superintendent David Spratt had already been very helpful.

Alexander said he needed to talk with the WSDOT team regarding the Bingen Point Access Project, as there was a need to clarify that the stormwater plans for the Humboldt Street project would not overload the existing system.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Alexander informed the Council that there had been issues with samples collected from Everybody's Brewing. He said he was not sure why the problems had been occurring, but that the sampling nozzle in the channel had not been functioning reliably. He said a couple of viable samples were obtained, and that the malfunction was not due to user error.

Alexander said Everybody's had installed a holding tank where wastewater was to be sampled before going to the treatment plant. He said Gray & Osborne had been doing research on breweries, and they had scheduled a visit with Full Sail in Hood River for the following week to see their approach to loadings and concentration mitigation. He said he hoped to have answers by the end of the next week.

Alexander noted that sampling at the manhole by Everybody's did allow for loading from other businesses and entities to be included, but Gray & Osborne had surveyed all the local commercial entities and did not find any other apparent contributors to the extreme loading issues.

Alexander said he hoped the meeting with Full Sail Brewery would shed light on ways to mitigate the issue without imposing too much hardship on Everybody's Brewing.

The Council and engineers discussed loading mitigation techniques and effectiveness.

Councilmember Mann said she had understood that the occupancy permit was supposed to have been predicated on sampling requirements being met.

Mayor Barnes left the meeting at 7:20 pm. Meeting chaired by Mayor Pro Tempore Kiewit.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Design

Alexander explained that the collection system design had already been started.

Ryan Walters said the Gray & Osborne Yakima office will send someone with a drone to get an aerial view. He noted that it would be best to have as much time as possible to meet the September 2018 funding deadlines.

Alexander mentioned that the Treatment Plant Design had been delayed by the waste loading study.

Councilmember Kiewit asked when the Humboldt Street Project would have action next.

Alexander said hopefully in August, Mike Meskimen will come before the Council and bring status update, and then things would move fairly quickly to get the project out to bid.

Alexander thanked the Council and said he had enjoyed working with the City of Bingen. He noted that he worked with former City Administrator Jan Breeding for a number of years and that she was honest, fair, and a good steward of the City's interests and money.

Councilmember Mann thanked Alexander for his service to the City of Bingen.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2018.01.684 amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.14 Stopping, Standing, and Parking

Mayor Barnes rejoined the meeting at 7:45 pm. Meeting chaired by Mayor Barnes.

Sergeant Frank Randall of the Bingen-White Salmon Police Department joined the meeting via phone.

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance 2018.01.684 amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.14 Stopping, Standing, and Parking. She said Police Chief Mike Hepner and Sergeant Frank Randall had both taken a look at the proposed ordinance and thought the amendment was a good solution.

Sergeant Randall recapped the recent issues the City of Bingen had been having with extended parking of motorhomes and personal vehicles. He explained that the way the current ordinance was written did not provide any recourse for the police department to take action. Randall explained that one of the motorhomes had been causing similar issues in Skamania County before coming to Bingen. Randall cited issues with transient individuals living in vehicles as another reason the commercial parking provisions needed to be addressed.

Mayor Barnes noted that the ordinance had been a collaborative effort between Public Works Superintendent Spratt and City Clerk Cheyenne Willey, with input from the Bingen-White Salmon Police Department.

Councilmember Kiewit requested that Clerk Willey contact Washington Gorge Action Programs to inquire about possible long-term parking options on their property for those living in vehicles or motorhomes.

Clerk Willey said she had called and left a message, but would reach out again.

Mayor Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2018.01.684 amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.14 Stopping, Standing, and Parking

Councilmember Mann moved to adopt Proposed Ordinance 2018.01.684 with additional language under Commercial Parking to include any unsigned parking spaces along State Route 14 also known as Steuben Street. Councilmember Kiewit seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2018.02.685 repealing Bingen Municipal Code 5.20 Public Dancing, Public Dances, and Dancehalls

Mayor Barnes opened the Public Hearing regarding Proposed Ordinance 2018.02.685 repealing Bingen Municipal Code 5.20 Public Dancing, Public Dances, and Dancehalls. She explained the Council had requested it be repealed.

City Attorney Chris Lanz asked Sergeant Randall if there had been any callers with complaints regarding the karaoke at Ayutlense Restaurant.

Sergeant Randall said one neighbor residence had called to complain about the noise.

Lanz asked if the Bingen-White Salmon Police Department had been able to observe whether or not the noise constituted a public disturbance under the current Municipal Code.

Sergeant Randall said yes, all officers on the night shift had checked and found the noise not to be a disturbance. He said one night it was significantly louder as the back door of the restaurant had been left open, but that the restaurant closed the door and it had not been an issue since.

Mayor Barnes closed the Public Hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2018.02.685 repealing Bingen Municipal Code 5.20 Public Dancing, Public Dances, and Dancehalls

Councilmember Kiewit moved to adopt Proposed Ordinance 2018.02.685 repealing Bingen Municipal Code 5.20 Public Dancing, Public Dances, and Dancehalls. Councilmember Mann seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Proposed Agreement with Klickitat County for Placement of Ballot Box

Councilmember Mann said it was wonderful that Bingen was getting a ballot box so citizens could walk to City Hall and have their voice heard.

Mayor Barnes said it was accomplished through the State Legislature.

Councilmember Kiewit noted that the City of Bingen was on record asking for the ballot box to be placed in Bingen.

Councilmember Kiewit moved to approve the Proposed Agreement with Klickitat County for Placement of a Ballot Box. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff and Committee Reports

David Spratt, Public Works Superintendent

Park Slide

Superintendent Spratt informed the Council that the slide at Daubenspeck Park had cracked, and efforts to patch it with epoxy failed because the plastic was too flexible. He said the slide was roped off so no children would get hurt. Spratt said he and Clerk Willey had researched replacing the slide and had gotten a quote for \$1,045.72.

Clerk Willey noted that the quote had initially been \$116 higher due to hardware replacements being included, but the existing hardware would be reused as it was in good condition and not damaged.

Councilmember Mann moved to authorize Public Works to purchase the quoted replacement slide per staff recommendation. Councilmember Kiewit seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Flag Pole

Spratt said the flag pole at City Hall was in the process of being repaired. He said he had obtained a winch but was still working on getting the replacement cable.

Fireworks at Bingen Point

Spratt said the checkpoint would be moved to a new location this year, and would be at the walk-in access point instead of on the road. He noted that all illegal fireworks would be confiscated.

Mayor’s Update and Council Comments

Councilmember Mann said that she had reported a strong Sulphur smell in the water to City Hall the previous day. She also commended Clerk Willey and Superintendent Spratt on a great job with the parking ordinance amendment. She said the paperwork was nicely done and was very well put together. Mann also mentioned that the added color and redesign of the June Newsletter was well done and engaging.

Councilmember Kiewit noted that the PUD streetlights were out along South Maple Street, as well as the decorative City light at the NE corner of Maple and Steuben Streets. She also pointed out that an exterior light on City Hall was out.

There was consensus regarding wastewater generated from the local brewery that even though charging an overage on the high loadings could help generate revenue, it was not a good thing since the treatment plant could not handle that high of a capacity.

Clerk Willey said she would reach out to the City of Stevenson regarding their similar wastewater issues to see how they addressed the problem.

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 3, 2018.

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

Checks 20080-20084 and Payroll EFT (Dated 6/29/18) totaling \$25096.75. General Fund - \$10,580.32, Street Fund - \$4,193.09, Water Fund - \$2903.41, Sewer Fund - \$535.75, Treatment Plant Fund - \$6,884.18.

Checks 20085-20109 (Dated 7/03/18) totaling \$45,789.72. General Fund - \$34,405.74, Street Fund - \$2,007.53, Water Fund - \$5,107.17, Sewer Fund - \$355.63, Treatment Plant Fund - \$3,913.65.

The council adjourned at 9:15 pm.

City Clerk

Mayor