

## BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 15, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:05 p.m. Council members present: Sandra Guzman, Izzy Schroder, Catherine Kiewit, Dan Armstrong and Stephanie Porter. Council members absent: None. Staff present: City Attorney Chris Lanz, Deputy Clerk Kristen Hohensee, Bingen-White Salmon Police Chief Tracy Wyckoff. Audience: Carl Warren, Marie Foley, Michelle Scott.

### **Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update**

Tracy Wyckoff told the council that the department has been busy and they have seen more domestic issues recently. He said both new female officers are on their own now and have already been challenged with a few experiences. Wyckoff said they are doing a great job. He said Judy Culp retired recently and the clerk position is still in the process of being filled. Wyckoff said there are a total of 6 applicants currently and all have passed the oral boards. He said he will require a polygraph and make a decision from the top 3 candidates by the end of the month. Wyckoff said he has been doing both positions and will be happy once the position is filled. He said some training may be required by the new employee.

Betty Barnes was surprised by the requirement of a polygraph.

Wyckoff said he is looking for an honest, trustworthy individual.

Betty Barnes asked if the polygraph was optional.

Wyckoff said yes, however he is not aware of a department that does not require it for new potential employees.

Catherine Kiewit asked about the laws governing “jake” brakes and their usage and how the laws are enforced. She said she is concerned about the frequency of use on the east end of town and would like to see if there are any options available to try and decrease the number of occurrences.

Wyckoff said that “jake” brakes prevent and assist trucks in safely slowing down. He said newer trucks are muffled but he recognizes the noise from older trucks especially logging trucks. Wyckoff said this is not an infraction that he wants to spend his staffs’ time monitoring since usually it is not witnessed by the officers and therefore difficult to enforce.

Kiewit asked if the city could put up a sign or maybe create an ordinance.

Wyckoff said he would look into what the state and county ordinances are regarding “jake” brakes and how they are enforced. He said, however, it would be up the council and city attorney to create an ordinance and signage.

Barnes said the city removed the ordinance and signs at a time when the braking was not being abused. She believes it is the state patrol that enforces inappropriate braking.

Barnes thanked the police department and Wyckoff personally for his assistance with the Huckleberry Festival parade.

### **Approval of Minutes – September 1, 2015**

Izzy Schroder moved to approve the meeting minutes of the September 1, 2015 regularly scheduled meeting as presented. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Old Business**

#### ***Daubenspeck Donor Signage***

Catherine Kiewit brought sample materials and discussed costs with the council. Kiewit said she received some preliminary costs from Sign Media in Hood River regarding Diabond, bronze and aluminum. She said Diabond comes in sheets as big as 4’x10’ and the graphic has a 10 – 15 year lifespan. Kiewit said it should have a double laminate for cleaning purposes. She said they might be able to give a bulk rate discount of \$20 per square foot -- which equates to an estimated total of \$1700 plus cost for metal finish and design work. Kiewit said other options are aluminum and bronze which are expensive, but the materials last forever with guarantees. She said the previous quote received is really good.

The council discussed options.

Barnes said there is a possible anonymous donor, but \$6700 is a lot of money. She said they committed to a possible donation of \$2000. Barnes said the donor would also like to look at the design and maybe his company could assist with it.

Kiewit mentioned that the design work and layout would need to be submitted. She discussed mounting options. Kiewit said the estimate is \$5202.00 for aluminum without design. She said the city could submit a request for a formal quote to Sign Media.

Dan Armstrong said an option is to use different material types for the big donors and “friends” donors.

Barnes said the city is still waiting to hear back from Kelly Echols.

Carl Warren mentioned that if the city was going to get a discount for signage based on a bulk rate, the city should check and see if they need other signage.

Kiewit said she will create a document with the information summarized.

Barnes said she will follow up with Kelly Echols with some other options and have the anonymous donor look at measurements and prices.

## **Mayor’s Update and Council Comments**

### ***Huckleberry Festival***

Betty Barnes said the Huckleberry Festival was busy and good. She said she worked the beer garden on Friday and mentioned to some in the Hispanic community that there was an opening on the city council.

### ***Lila May***

Barnes noted that Lila May passed away. She said that during her radio time Barnes expressed her condolences to Lila May’s family from herself and on behalf of the council.

### ***Highway 14 Chip Seal Project***

Betty Barnes said that the crosswalks will be worked on this week weather permitting from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Catherine Kiewit discussed her disappointment in the chip seal product visually. She said it looks sloppy.

Barnes said Highway 14 is repaved approximately every 12 years. She said, however, due to budget cuts the state decided on this solution before holes appeared. Barnes said chip seal adds about 5 years to the lifespan of the highway.

Barnes said a meeting was planned with WSDOT to discuss the crosswalks at Oak and Humboldt and how it may result in the loss of parking. She said the meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, October 24, at 10 a.m. She urged Izzy Schroder and Catherine Kiewit to attend.

### ***Sandra Guzman Resignation***

Sandra Guzman submitted her resignation effective the end of September.

Betty Barnes said Sandra Guzman will be missed.

Sandra Guzman thanked the council “for the opportunity” to serve.

### ***Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce Update***

Marie Foley mentioned upcoming events.

Catherine Kiewit asked about the tour bus.

Foley said it was on hiatus but will be coming back to the forefront soon.

### ***Recycle Center Update***

Betty Barnes gave a quick update to the council on the recycle center. She said that even when bins are full, people still bring things and leave them on the ground. She said the solution has been to close the site until the bins are emptied. Barnes said Republic’s phone number has been posted so that people can

call them. She said Republic was notified about these incidents and their response was to send statistics showing that Bingen is the most used site.

Catherine Kiewit asked how long the site typically stays closed.

Barnes said she will ask David Spratt.

The council discussed the hours of operation noting if you work regular hours you cannot get there in time before it is closed.

Kiewit suggested that maybe Republic could hire RAM Services to close the site since they are in the vicinity.

Barnes said she would like to discuss the issue with Mayor Poucher and the police first.

Marie Foley brought up dumpster divers and how they make people uncomfortable.

Barnes has instructed David Spratt to contact the police if he sees it. She said the public should do the same. Barnes noted it is not the city's site to police.

Dan Armstrong asked if we could request more bins for the site.

Barnes said the property is not as big as it looks.

**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 September 15, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 17862-17881 (dated 09/15/2015) totaling \$6,968.88. General Fund – \$1,462.84; Street - \$1,301.16; Water - \$1,961.76; Sewer - \$396.08; Treatment Plant - \$1,422.04; 1995 Bond Redemption Fund - \$425.00.

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 September 15, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 17854-17855 (dated 08/31/2015) totaling \$2,310.26. State Court Fees Fund - \$2,310.26.

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 September 15, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 17856-17861 (dated 09/15/2015) totaling \$14,493.89. General Fund – \$5,749.74; Street Fund - \$2,740.22; Water Fund - \$1,251.27; Sewer Fund - \$387.16; Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,365.50.

The council adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor