

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

DRAFT – September 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Phil Jones, Ryan O’Connor. Council members absent: Laura Mann Staff present: Clerk-Treasurer Cheyenne Willey, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt, City Attorney Chris Lanz. Audience present: Chief Hepner, Officer Daniels, Tammy Kaufman

Public Comment

Tammy Kaufman

Kaufman introduced herself and her role with the Our Klickitat Coalition, a prevention coalition working on substance abuse prevention for kids in Klickitat County. She invited the council and mayor to their annual forum. She said the forum is an opportunity for adults to give input on how to help the youth. Kaufman said the intent was to bring the County together over the issue.

Council member Kiewit said she had represented the City of Bingen when the coalition was formed. She recalled the participation was great and that there were people from all different backgrounds. She said it was great that there had been lots of people interested in the topic and that wanted to jump in and do something. Kiewit noted that attendance and interest petered out with a lack of action items and lack of funding. Kiewit said she was curious about the forum event and asked if it would be facilitated and include opportunities for input from young people.

Kaufman said the hope is to reenergize everyone, and said the people that originally obtained the grant were still involved. She said the main concerns were youth riding in vehicles with drunk drivers, drinking and driving, and underage marijuana usage. She said she would like to re-instill the excitement and dial down on action items.

Kaufman also informed Council of the upcoming Rotary event *It Takes a Village* to be held at Rheingarten Park from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm on Saturday September 21, 2019.

Bingen/WS Police

Chief Hepner said he was also involved with the Our Klickitat Coalition and the WGAP Youth Center. Hepner stressed the importance of working with the youth in the community. He said many people want to help but find out fast that funding is hard to obtain. He said the efforts had his 100% support.

Council member Kiewit said she definitely saw a need.

Mayor Barnes asked if the Police Department was still using the Sheriff’s office for help covering shifts.

Chief Hepner said no, they had used them for four weeks but there was no longer a need.

Mayor Barnes asked if the Police Department had been encouraging businesses to have any graffiti painted over.

Chief Hepner said they had, and noted that the tagging would likely continue to happen unless it was painted over.

Council member Schroder asked about the officer that was parked in front of the Elementary school on the first day of school.

Chief Hepner said that two of his officers should have been there. He said he felt it was important for their presence to be known and added that the Principal supported it as well.

Mayor Barnes remarked that it's easy to see when driving through a school zone whether or not it's regularly patrolled based on how drivers act.

Minutes of August 20, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

Council member Kiewit made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2019 council meeting as corrected. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Affordable Housing Tax Discussion

Mayor Betty J Barnes asked to carry the discussion over to the next meeting. She said she would like to see language for an ordinance aligned with that of White Salmon's and so would need to wait.

Single Use Plastic Bag Ban

Clerk Treasurer Willey said she had contacted Community Upcycle and asked them where they were at with canvassing the businesses and they had not started yet. She said she asked them to let me know when they would be able to come to a meeting and move forward with their findings.

Mayor Barnes said that she had just heard from Community Upcycle and they would like to attend the next council meeting. She said they had started canvassing the businesses.

Mayor and Council Comments

Mayor Barnes reminded the council that the staff members Dena Riggleman, Cheyenne Willey, and David Spratt would be volunteering their time to put a float in the Huckleberry Festival parade and the council members were invited to participate.

Council member Kiewit asked if Mayor Barnes had spoken with WSDOT about the sidewalk preferences the council had decided on at the previous meeting.

Mayor Barnes said the design was not finalized yet and she was hoping to see more complete maps at the WSDOT booth during Huckleberry Festival.

Council member O'Connor asked if WSDOT had shared detour information yet.

Mayor Betty J Barnes said no but as soon as a design was nailed down she anticipated a shift to construction.

There was discussion about the general timeline for the WSDOT Bingen Point Access Improvement Project.

Council Member Kiewit asked Clerk Treasurer Willey how the Budget Conference had gone.

Clerk Treasurer Willey said the conference was very informative and that she was working on the budget schedule for 2020.

Council member Kiewit asked if a 2019 budget amendment would be coming soon.

Clerk Treasurer Willey said she was working on the schedule for 2020 first and so didn't want to commit on the spot to a council meeting for a budget amendment without looking further ahead.

Mayor Betty J Barnes asked Public Works Superintendent Spratt if there was any new information from the Fire Department.

Spratt said the Fire Department had been training in a house where the attic had burned, and that the volunteers would be helping the Huckleberry Festival Committee set up.

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 3, 2019.

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

Payroll Checks 20960-20965 and Payroll EFT (Dated 8/30/2019) totaling \$28,808.73 General Fund - \$13,104.43, Street Fund - \$4,426.93, Water Fund - \$3,069.07, Sewer Fund - \$567.45, Treatment Plant Fund - \$7,640.85.

Checks 20966-20987 totaling \$50,115.64. General Fund - \$35,361.58, Street Fund - \$1,902.69, Park Construction & Maint - Fund \$50,00, Water Fund - \$5,613.36, Sewer Fund - \$811.37, Treatment Plant Fund - \$3,513.13, Sewer Capital Reserve Fund - \$2,863.51.

The council adjourned at 7:32 pm.

City Clerk

Mayor