

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 18, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:30 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Dan Armstrong, Stephanie Porter (by telephone). Council members absent: Izzy Schroder. Staff present: City Attorney Chris Lanz, City Administrator Jan Brending, Officer Tony Warren.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Tony Warren said the two police officers at the academy should be done at the end of November. He said things have been pretty quiet.

Catherine Kiewit asked if there has been any movement at the county level regarding the criminal justice tax increase.

Tony Warren said not that he is aware of.

Betty Barnes said it is her understanding that the two police chiefs and the sheriff need to come up with some different scenarios for the funding. She said she believes the county commissioners want to put the issue to a vote by the citizens and are looking at a 0.3% increase in taxes.

Approval of Minutes – October 4, 2016

Changes to the minutes of the October 4, 2016 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 2nd paragraph, add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: “Winter said she has good neighbors but did not feel comfortable talking to them.”

Page 1, 6th paragraph should read as follows: “Changes to the minutes of the September 20, 2016 regular council meeting were noted as follows:”

Page 1, 9th paragraph should read as follows: “Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the September 20, 2016 regular council meeting as corrected.”

Page 1, 12th paragraph should read as follows: “Catherine Kiewit thanked Arnold for sharing her background and the things she cares about.”

Page 2, 9th paragraph should read as follows: “Catherine Kiewit said she read the technical memorandum and liked Option C also.”

Page 3, 8th paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows: “Betty Barnes said the owners of Pine Shed Ribs have contacted her regarding the possibility of moving the benches in front of the business.”

Page 3, 13th paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows: “Betty Barnes said the joint Legislative Transportation Committees made a short tour to Bingen to look at the railroad crossings.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the October 4, 2016 regular council meeting as corrected. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Rex Johnston, Candidate for Klickitat County Commissioner

Betty Barnes announced that Rex Johnston will not be in attendance because he is attending a public hearing in Wishram.

Public Hearing – Proposed 2017 Revenue Sources and Property Tax Levy

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed 2017 revenue sources and property tax levy.

Jan Brending said the city is proposing a 10% increase in water rates with a 0% increase in sewer rates. She said the city is also proposing a 1% increase in the property tax levy which equates to a total increase of \$2,005.69 in property taxes. Brending said the city is also proposing to restructure the business license fees moving to a flat fee of \$40 for all businesses. She said this is in anticipation of the city moving its business license fees to the Washington State Department of Revenue’s business licensing program. Brending also noted that property owners who lease or rents out residential or business property will also be charged a \$40 flat fee regardless of the number of rentals they have in Bingen.

Jan Brending noted that proposed ordinances putting the new fees and 1% increase in property taxes will be before the city council at its November 1st council meeting. She said the public will have another opportunity to comment on the proposed changes in revenue at that meeting.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Public Hearing – Final Draft Shoreline Master Program

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding the final draft of the city's Shoreline Master Program.

Jan Brending said the city council previously reviewed the draft Shoreline Master Program in the spring and had authorized it to be submitted to the Department of Ecology. She said a property owner submitted comments that city staff and the city's consultants worked to address. Brending said the final draft program shows additions and deletions to the language that were worked out between staff, the city's consultants and the property owner. She said staff is asking authorization to submit the final draft to the Department of Ecology.

Catherine Kiewit asked that the language of the 5th sentence in (2) under Purpose be changed to read as follows: "The City's industrially developed upland and aquatic shoreline areas are significant. They provide for an important regional industrial use with substantial employment within the City of Bingen Exempt Urban Area as designed by the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act."

The council and staff discussed the language in (5) Height limitation under 7.1 General shoreline use & modification requirements. Jan Brending explained that the intent of the requirement is not changed but reworded to more closely match the language of the state statutes.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Catherine Kiewit moved to submit the final draft Shoreline Master Program to the Department of Ecology with the change to (2) under Purpose. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Interlocal Agreement, Klickitat County Dispatch Services

Jan Brending said the proposed interlocal agreement covers the radio system use and dispatching services with the fire department. She said the city is not charged for general dispatching services. Brending said the agreement provides for a one-time charge of upgrading the Spillman system to work with Active 911. Brending said that Active 911 provides an app for phones and tablets so that firefighters can respond to county dispatch via the app and also see where the situation is located and where other firefighters are located in response to an incident. She said the fire department is currently using a trial version of Active 911 and will need to subscribe to the app which costs \$11.75 per device per year. Brending also noted that the interlocal agreement does provide that the city will be charged for dispatching services above and beyond the normal requirements if a major incident takes place in Bingen. She said the idea is that if the Emergency Management Department needs to bring additional personnel to handle calls related to a major incident than those additional costs will be reimbursed by the city.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Klickitat County for radio system use and 911/dispatch services. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Program, Wastewater Project, Request for Authorization to Submit Application

Jan Brending said she is requesting authorization to submit a Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Program loan application for wastewater projects listed in the city's wastewater plan. She said proposed loan would be for \$1,815,000 with a loan fee of approximately \$18,150. Brending noted the amount is after the city contributes approximately \$281,000 towards the project. She reviewed the funding sources for repaying the loan if the city is successful. Brending said that based on the city's current rate structure she does not anticipate having to increase the sewer rates above what is currently in the city's code. She noted that the treatment plant portion of the project will be paid for by both Bingen and White Salmon through the ERU rate which is based on the budget. Brending said the City of White Salmon is aware Bingen is applying for the loan.

Dan Armstrong moved to authorize the submission of loan application to the Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Program. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Small Works Roster Bid Results, Tree Maintenance

Jan Brending said the city sent out approximately 10 bid packages to companies in the Portland and Gorge area. She said the city received one bid from Braun Arboricultural Consulting for \$4,101.13. Brending said the company is qualified to do business with the City of Bingen and has a certified arborist on staff. She said the work is to evaluate two trees and perform the necessary maintenance on the two trees.

The council and staff discussed the proposed work. Brending noted that in the discussion at the last council meeting it was noted that the hiring of an arborist to look at all the city’s trees would be done in 2017. She said the proposed scope of work in the small works roster does not include that work.

Dan Armstrong moved to accept the bid from Braun Arboricultural Consulting for \$4,101.13 for tree inspection and maintenance. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Personal Services Agreement Amendment, Gray & Osborne, Underwood Fruit Vault and Meter Replacement

Jan Brending said the proposed amendment provides funding of \$560 to develop the legal description and easement language for the new vault location at Underwood Fruit. She said the proposed work was not included in the original location as it was not know at that time if the vault needed to be moved.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the amendment to the personal services agreement with Gray & Osborne in the amount of \$560. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant 2016, Request for Authorization to Participate in Regional Grant Application

Jan Brending said that Jess Wardwell with the White Salmon Fire Department is preparing a regional application to FEMA for SCBAs. She said the city has participated in such a grant application in the past but it was unsuccessful. Brending said the city has 15 SCBAs/cylinders and 18 face pieces that need to be replaced. She said that the approximate cost for the SCBA packs is approximately \$6,000 for a total of \$90,000 and the approximate cost fore the face pieces is \$600 each for a total of \$10,800. Brending said Bingen’s 5% matching costs would be approximately \$5,040. She said the funding would come from the city’s Fire Reserve fund.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize the City of Bingen’s participation in a regional grant application to the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant program. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer’s Report – September 2016

Jan Brending presented the treasurer’s report for September 2016.

Stephanie Porter moved to accept the September 2016 Treasurer’s Report. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor’s Update and Council Comments

Park Trees

Jan Brending said the tree Giant Sequoia trees will be planted on Friday morning.

Council Meeting Time

Jan Brending asked if start time for the November 1st council meeting needs to be changed.

There was a consensus of the council that the November 1st meeting will start at the regular time of 7:00 p.m.

Bench Donation

Betty Barnes said Pine Shed Ribs have donated two wooden benches to the city. She said after they have been refurbished they will be placed in the park.

New Employee

Betty Barnes said Mike Solomon started work on Monday. She said he is doing rounds with David Spratt. Barnes said Jan Brending is working to contact Tom Fitzgibbins who previously did animal control in Bingen, to provide some initial training and suggestions for needed supplies.

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 October 18, 2016, 2016. The council by

unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT and checks 18720-18738 (dated 10/18/2016) totaling \$29,047.12. General Fund – \$25,452.27; Street - \$1,348.95; Water - \$1,300.16; Sewer - \$487.92; Treatment Plant - \$457.82.

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 October 18, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 18684-18688 (dated 9/30/2016) totaling \$20,912.66. General Fund – \$9,508.69; Street - \$2,757.51; Water - \$2,117.64; Sewer - \$368.88; Treatment Plant - \$6,159.94.

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 October 18, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 18684-18688 (dated 10/14/2016) totaling \$13,199.85. General Fund – \$5,643.95; Street - \$2,032.48; Water - \$1,400.43; Sewer - \$256.75; Treatment Plant - \$3,866.24.

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 October 18, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT (dated 10/18/2016) totaling \$2,257.54. General Fund – \$879.17; Street - \$364.11; Water - \$257.39; Sewer - \$45.29; Treatment Plant - \$711.58.

The council adjourned 9:30 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor