

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 1, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Sandi Dickey, Laura Mann, Guillermo Fisch, Clinton Bryan, Adri Benitez (student council member). Council member absent: Catherine Kiewit. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Tony Domish, Maria Rosa "Rosi" Salguero.

Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2011

Changes to the minutes of the February 15, 2011 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 2, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows: "Mike Madden said it will be implemented but the hospital will either have to increase rates or reduce costs including layoffs."

Page 3, Adding following after the 6th paragraph: "**Student Council Members Oath of Office**, Student council members Adri Benitez and Rosi Salguero were sworn in by Mayor Betty Barnes."

Page 3, add the following after the 7th paragraph: "Catherine Kiewit asked if the webinar could be done as a group. Jan Brending said she will check."

Page 3, 8th paragraph, 5th sentence should read as follows: "She said she would like to fund the purchase of the laptop and software from the \$5,000 received last year from Fire District No. 3."

Clinton Bryan moved to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2011 regular council meeting as amended. Guillermo Fisch seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing - Proposed Ordinance 2011-02-589, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 17.68, Nonconforming Uses

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing for a proposed ordinance amending Bingen Municipal Code 17.68, Nonconforming Uses at 7:05 p.m. She said the city has received no written or oral communications regarding the proposed amendment.

Clinton Bryan noted that he has talked to his neighbors in the past regarding the specific issue. Bryan stated he has an interest in the outcome of the hearing. Clinton Bryan said he will step down from the council for the duration of the discussion and not vote on the proposed ordinance.

Jan Brending noted the council has previously reviewed the language that is proposed for the amendment. She said the amendment will allow nonconforming single-family dwellings within a commercial district to enlarge, increase or extend to occupy a greater area as long as the enlargement or extension does not violate the zoning requirements of the single-family district. Brending noted there is a correction on page 2 of the proposed ordinance the word "do" in the proposed language should say "does."

Laura Mann moved to approve Ordinance 0211-02-589, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 17.68, Nonconforming Uses as corrected. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Betty Barnes noted the public hearing on the proposed ordinance ended at 7:10 p.m.

Clinton Bryan resumed his seat on city council at 7:10 p.m.

Banking Services – Request for Proposals

Jan Brending reviewed the memorandum provided to the city council regarding the request for proposals for banking services. She noted the budget committee met and reviewed the three proposals received by the city: Columbia State Bank, Riverview Community Bank and Sterling Bank. Brending said the committee narrowed the proposals down to Sterling and Riverview and asked her to interview both banks asking questions to clarify several points in the proposals and to make a recommendation to the council.

Jan Brending said based on the written proposals and interviews, she is recommending the city select Riverview Community Bank to provide banking services for the city.

Jan Brending asked the city to take two separate actions regarding the decision to select a bank. She asked them to note the bank will provide banking services of the city's main cash account, an investment

money market account and a small checking account for the fire department. Brending also asked the city council to take action as to who the signers would be on the accounts: main cash account – Betty J. Barnes, Laura Mann, Jan Brending and Dena Riggleman; investment account – Betty J. Barnes, Laura Mann, Jan Brending and Dena Riggleman; and fire account – David Spratt, Kevin Kelly and Jan Brending.

Laura Mann moved that the city establish the city's main cash account, an investment money market account, and a small checking account for the fire department at Riverview Community Bank. Guillermo Fisch seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Laura Mann moved to identify the signers on the new accounts: main cash account – Betty J. Barnes, Laura Mann, Jan Brending and Dena Riggleman, investment money market account – Betty J. Barnes, Laura Mann, Jan Brending and Dena Riggleman; fire account – David Spratt, Kevin Kelly and Jan Brending. Guillermo Fisch seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Request to Amend Livestock Ordinance

Betty Barnes said the city has received a request from Jacqueline Cox to amend the city's livestock ordinance to allow chickens in the city limits. She said council members have a copy of the letter in their packet. Barnes said she feels the city discussed this issue in depth two years ago when it amended the livestock ordinance. She said she hopes the city does not revisit the issue.

Guillermo Fisch said he would not want to live that close to someone who was raising chickens.

Clinton Bryan said he understands the desire to raise chickens for eggs. He said that he believes 5,000 square foot lots are too small for raising chickens. Bryan said that if someone wants to have a farm then they probably should live out of the city limits.

Adri Benitez said she agrees with council members on the issue of allowing chickens in the city limits.

Sandi Dickey said she does not want to revisit the issue again.

Laura Mann said she struggled with this issue the last time it was discussed. She said the city does have small lots. Mann said that if the community wants to talk to the council about this issue she is willing to listen but would let them know the reasons why the council has chosen not to allow chickens.

Clinton Bryan said he believes that smells associated with raising chickens could also be an issue.

Guillermo Fisch asked if the issue could be put to the vote of the people.

Betty Barnes said yes but a ballot measure must be funded by the city.

There was a consensus of the city council to send a letter to Jacqueline Cox letting her know why the city has chosen not to allow chickens in the city limits.

Canine Program

Betty Barnes said that she presented Bingen's letter regarding the canine program to the White Salmon city council at their last meeting. She said the White Salmon city council tabled the discussion about accepting private funds. Barnes said the White Salmon council will discuss an ordinance whether or not to accept private funds for anything at its next council meeting. Barnes said she intends to present Bingen's letter about the canine program again at that meeting.

Wastewater Tour

Laura Mann said a tour of the plant is scheduled for March 10 at 4:00 p.m. She said Adrian Bradford from White Salmon will be attending.

Park Use

Laura Mann asked if there are park use rules. She said the White Salmon Community Youth would like to use the park for soccer practice from spring break through July.

Betty Barnes said she and staff are working to develop a park use plan for larger events and that that plan/policy should be presented to the council soon.

Port of Klickitat Access

Laura Mann asked when WSDOT will be meeting with Bingen and Insitu to discuss the status of the review of possible access points.

Betty Barnes said tomorrow.

Committee and Staff Reports

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Tony Domish said the police department will be at the HUGS fair at the middle school on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He said that the department will provide safety information, handouts and that McGruff be present.

Domish said two additional juveniles have been identified as being responsible for the vandalism that has been taking place at the park restrooms. He said reports have been forwarded to the prosecutor.

Domish said the department has received a \$3,500 traffic safety equipment grant which will be used to buy radar equipment and in-car video equipment. He said the department has also applied for a \$5,000 WalMart grant to upgrade uniforms.

Domish said last Friday he and city representatives went to the elementary school and presented a safety talk. He said they spent about 20 minutes in each classroom. Domish noted that McGruff was also present.

Domish said the background check is being done on a lateral police officer candidate and hopes to have that wrapped up in the next couple of weeks.

Domish said the interview room, BAC room and evidence rooms have now been updated with audio/video equipment. He said the equipment in the BAC and evidence rooms automatically starts upon entrance into the rooms.

Domish noted that recently the Klickitat County Sheriff's office stepped in when an officer was not available to provide cover in Bingen and White Salmon. He said that when the situation happened both mayors were notified.

Domish said the officers are currently working 12 hour schedules 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. He said there are 2 officers on duty on Friday and Saturday nights.

Domish said he has met with Rosi Salguero about the dance project and hopes to include Adri Benitez also.

Domish said that soccer use can wear out the grass in the park and the city should be prepared to reseed the park as necessary.

Betty Barnes said the time at the elementary school was very fun and that Tony Domish did a great job.

Betty Barnes noted that there was a recent incident at city hall with a transient individual. She said that at Tony Domish's recommendation she has instructed that the back door of city be kept locked at all times. Barnes said there is a buzzer so that people can be let in.

Domish said the department is still working the gas theft case. He said the individual arrested is still in jail and that no further thefts have occurred.

Joint Police Committee Meeting

Jan Brending said a joint police committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. at the White Salmon Fire Hall.

Betty Barnes noted that members of the joint police committee meeting will meet following the committee meeting to discuss the upcoming interviews for police chief.

Joint Wastewater Committee Meeting

Jan Brending said a joint wastewater committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23 at 1:00 p.m. at the Bingen City Hall.

Business After Hours

Sandi Dickey said that on the third Thursday of March the “Business After Hours” will be held at Dickey Farms.

Vouchers

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 March 1, 2011. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 12975-12997 totaling \$16831.53. Current – \$6927.79; Street - \$2764.20; Water - \$1950.86; Sewer - \$223.52; Treatment Plant - \$4965.16.

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 March 1, 2011. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (02/28/2011) EFT, 12969-12972, totaling \$19568.80. Current – \$7702.81; Street - \$2787.84; Water - \$2709.11; Sewer - \$410.65; Treatment Plant - \$5958.39.

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 March 1, 2011. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (2/28/2011) 12973-12974 totaling \$686.70. Current – \$686.70.

At 7:55 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor