

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 15, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Clinton Bryan, Catherine Kiewit, Maria Perez, Sandi Dickey, Rosi Salguero. Council members absent: Laura Mann. City Attorney Tad Connors and City Administrator Jan Brending were present. Audience: John Newman, Linda Schneider, Ben Mitchell, David Landrum, Janet Landrum, Olive Kight, Kalee Frazer.

Public Comment

John Newman, Bingen

John Newman asked what is the procedure for filing a complaint against the police.

Betty Barnes said John Newman could speak to her directly about any issues with the police.

John Newman said the Civil Service Commission is currently advertising for the position of chief examiner. He said the individual must live within the city limits of White Salmon and Bingen. Newman said it is important that the position be filled.

Bingen city staff will post the advertisement for the position of Chief Examiner with the Civil Service Commission on the city's web page and at the post office.

Betty Barnes said that because White Salmon is now using a testing company, the Chief Examiner will only have to set up the oral boards for hiring police officers.

Approval of Minutes – May 1, 2012

Changes to the minutes of the May 1, 2012 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 9th paragraph, last sentence should read “Clinton Bryan said there will be some odors and there are concerns due to the wind.”

Page 1, 11th paragraph should read “Catherine Kiewit said that because it was so recently addressed she is not sure she wants to open it up but she said that if the council heard from more of the public then it may become more important to revisit the ordinance.”

Page 2, 13th paragraph should read “Clinton Bryan said NAPA is requesting a one-day closure of the 100 block of East Humboldt so they can again hold the “Rock-N-Roll Tool Event” on June 21.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of May 1, 2012 as corrected. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proclamation 2012-003, Declaring May 18, 2012 Gerald W. “Mike” Kight Day

Betty Barnes presented a proclamation to the family of Gerald W. “Mike” Kight declaring May 18, 2012 as Gerald W. “Mike” Kight Day.

Utility Billing reduction Request – Washington Gorge Action Programs

Linda Schneider presented a request from Washington Gorge Action Programs for a reduction in utility billing due to a leak on the property.

Jan Brending presented information to the council regarding historical usage and a proposed reduction in the billing for water usage. She recommended that based on historical usage, Washington Gorge Action Programs should be billed for an average of 21, 229 gallons which would result in a reduction of water usage charges of \$138.60 for April, 2012.

Clinton Bryan moved to authorize a reduction in water usage charges for the month of April, 2012 for Washington Gorge Action Programs. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Conditional Use Permit 2012-001, Zepher Inc. – Decision

Jan Brending presented the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision for the Conditional Use Permit 2012-001, Zepher Inc. approved by the city council at the May 1, 2012 meeting.

Clinton Bryan moved to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision for Conditional Use Permit 2012-001, Zepher Inc. Maria Perez seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2012-004, Declaring Certain Warrants and Checks Issued by the City to be Unclaimed Property

Jan Brending presented proposed Resolution 2012-004, Declaring Certain Warrants and Checks Issued by the City to be Unclaimed Property. She said Maria Perez has submitted two affidavits stating that two checks issued to her have been lost. Brending noted the council will see an additional resolution dealing with other outstanding checks and/or warrants.

Clinton Bryan moved to approve Resolution 2012-004, Declaring Certain Warrants and Checks Issued by the City to be Unclaimed Property. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote: Bryan – Aye, Dickey – Aye, Kiewit – Aye, Mann – Absent, Perez – Abstain.

2011 Annual Report Review

Jan Brending presented the 2011 Annual Report and supporting documentation.

Catherine Kiewit said Jan Brending went through the 2011 Annual Report in much detail with the Budget Committee. She said she appreciated Brending's explanation of the different parts of the report.

Old Business

Gorge Out Fundraising

Betty Barnes said that the wine donated to the City was donated for a specific purpose. She said there are 53 bottles remaining. Barnes asked if the City wants to hold on to the bottles or check with the donors to see if they can be provided to other fundraising efforts.

There was a consensus of the council to hold onto the bottles to see what the city can do in using them for fundraising.

Jan Brending suggested the city could hold several silent auctions for the wine without having an actual event, i.e. have the bid sheets at city hall or other locations.

Coal Trains

Catherine Kiewit said she received a phone call from the Columbia River Gorge Commission who said they could not answer all of her questions and referred her to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. She said the Oregon DEQ will be reviewing the questions and will get back to her.

Betty Barnes noted she received a phone call from the Friends of the Columbia Gorge which she returned but has not heard back from.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Betty Barnes said the police chief has been put on administrative leave. She said in addition an additional officer has also been placed on administrative leave. Barnes said Bingen has written a letter to White Salmon urging that the police department stay within its budget. She said because there is a current emergency with limited manpower and overtime issues, the police department will be working on a modified schedule. Barnes said Mayor Poucher and White Salmon are keeping her apprised of all things related to the department.

Block Party

Maria Perez said she is interested in having a block party.

Betty Barnes said she would like to see the city adopt a policy regarding block parties. She said it is important to keep in mind the city's main arterial streets.

AWC Scholarship

Betty Barnes said the city was notified that Rosi Salguero was not selected for the AWC scholarship. She said Salguero is eligible to attend the Youth Alliance Day scheduled with the AWC conference in June.

Garbage in Vehicle

Catherine Kiewit reported there is a red mini-van on East Humboldt that is full of garbage.

Jan Brending said she will notify the owners and remind them of the city's ordinances related to garbage.

Public Works Trust Fund Loan

Jan Brending said the city has submitted an application for the replacement of two water lines to the Public Works Trust Fund. She said she has spoken with staff who seem very optimistic about the city getting a loan.

Dickey Farms Water Pressure

Sandi Dickey reported there are problems with the water pressure at the Dickey Farms Fruit Stand. It was arranged to have David Spratt speak with Stan Dickey.

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 May 15, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 5/15/2012) EFT, 15191-15219 totaling \$23172.03. Current – \$2162.63; Street - \$1827.40; Water - \$12074.62; Sewer - \$828.01; Treatment Plant - \$3621.93; Sewer Construction & Maintenance - \$539.15; Treatment Plant Replacement - \$2,118.29.

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 May 15, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 05/15/2012) EFT, 15175-15190, totaling \$11578.65. Current – \$4939.84; Street - \$1518.66; Water - \$1331.24; Sewer - \$209.53; Treatment Plant - \$3579.38.

At 8:20 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor