

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

June 5, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Clinton Bryan, Laura Mann, Sandi Dickey. Council members absent: Catherine Kiewit and Maria Perez. City Attorney Tad Connors and City Administrator Jan Brending were present. Audience: Ben Mitchell.

Approval of Minutes – May 15, 2012

Clinton Bryan moved to approve the minutes of May 15, 2012. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Directional Sign Proposal – Veterans Memorial

Betty Barnes said the city has received a request for installing directional signs at Oak and Steuben for the Veterans Memorial. She said she gave permission for the sign to be installed temporarily for Memorial Day.

Jan Brending noted the signs should be installed high enough so pedestrians cannot walk into them.

Clinton Bryan said he supports the signs as long as they do not block vehicular sight lines.

Sandi Dickey moved to approve the installation of directional signs for the Veterans Memorial at Oak and Steuben as long as they meet height requirements and do not block vehicular sight lines. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Ordinance Amendments – Amending Bingen Municipal Code 10.12, Speed Limits

Betty Barnes said the original reason for the proposed amendment related to concerns from residents around the park about the speed of vehicles driving through the area. She said that in a review of the city's ordinance it was found there are some ordinance corrections that need to be made due to changes made by the Washington State Department of Transportation. Barnes said the city can not change its speed limits without conducting an engineering and safety study.

The city council discussed speed limits and options on the streets surrounding the park including striping for crosswalks at intersections, adding signage and possibly adding speed bumps. There was a consensus of the council to remove the 10 miles per hour signage on Humboldt and Franklin.

There was a consensus of the council to stripe for crosswalks at intersections and to add signage "Caution Children at Play."

There was a consensus of the council to move proposed amendments to Bingen Municipal Code 10.12, Speed Limits to public hearing at the next council meeting.

Proposed Ordinance Amendments – Amending Bingen Municipal Code 10.14.030, Commercial Area Parking for "Compact Car Only" Parking

Betty Barnes said it has been suggested that parking in the two parking spaces east of Steuben and Walnut on the south side of Steuben be changed to "compact car parking only" to address sight line problems. She said she would also like to add 3 additional "motorcycle parking only" spaces on the south side of Steuben – immediately west of Ash at Beneventi's and 2 on each side of the crosswalk at Chips and Subway.

The council discussed "compact car only" parking and felt there was also a need to limit the first two spaces on the south side of Steuben west of Walnut to "compact car only" parking.

There was a consensus of the council to move proposed amendments to Bingen Municipal Code 10.14.030, Commercial Area Parking adding additional "motorcycle only" parking spaces and "compact car only" parking spaces to public hearing at the next council meeting.

Proposed Ordinance – Utility Billing Reduction Requests

Jan Brending said the proposed ordinance is based on ordinances from Tukwila, North Bend and Kalama and on previous council discussions.

The council discussed the proposed ordinance and asked that the time period for making requests be changed from 7 days to 10 business days and the word "calendar" added to section I.3.

There was consensus of the council to move the proposed ordinance to public hearing at the next council meeting.

Proposed Amendments to Interlocal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services

Betty Barnes said she and Dave Poucher are proposing an amendment to the interlocal agreement for law enforcement services removing the hiring for police chief from the civil service commission. She said the procedural process of going through the civil service commission last time did not go well.

The city council discussed the proposed amendment. Laura Mann asked if the City of White Salmon will agree to the amendment. Barnes said she believes they will. She noted that John Newman who represents Bingen on the civil service commission agrees with the proposed amendment.

Clinton Bryan moved to approve the proposed amendment to the interlocal agreement for law enforcement services. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Draft Klickitat County Solid Waste Management Plan

Jan Brending said the draft Klickitat County Solid Waste Management Plan is out for public comment.

Laura Mann said the Solid Waste Committee made changes to the 2000 plan updating it but did not make any substantial changes. She said that future additional work related to solid waste does need to be done as outlined in the implementation plan contained in the document. Mann noted that the City of Goldendale also had concerns with recycling similar to Bingen's concerns. She said Goldendale would like to sit down with Bingen and White Salmon and discuss recycling.

Betty Barnes asked Laura Mann if she feels there is anything missing in the plan.

Laura Mann said no – she is comfortable in moving the plan forward.

There was a consensus of the council not to submit any comment regarding the Klickitat County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Fire Department

Betty Barnes said David Spratt has resigned as fire chief. She said she has appointed Kevin Kelly as acting fire chief who will serve at least one month. Barnes said she will be speaking with the fire department at tomorrow's fire meeting. She said she will be seeking input from the fire department regarding the appointment of the fire chief. Barnes noted the city council will have to confirm her appointment of fire chief.

Clinton Bryan noted that David Spratt will continue to serve with the fire department.

Joint Committee

Betty Barnes said she recognizes that there has been no activity on joint committees with White Salmon including the police committee. She said that with the changes in city hall hours an e-mail was sent to the City of White Salmon asking what days would be appropriate for joint committee meetings. Barnes said she feels that if the meetings are important enough to White Salmon the City of Bingen will be contacted.

Gorge Out Baskets

Betty Barnes said individuals donated baskets to be used for the Gorge Out fundraiser. She said that if individuals wish to reclaim the baskets they are in her office at city hall.

Mo Java Fundraiser

Sandi Dickey noted that a local family, Robbie and Kayla Douglas, recently lost their little boy. She said Mo Java will be holding a fundraiser for the family on June 14th with all funds raised going to the family to help with funeral services.

Dickey's Water Pressure

Laura Manna asked if there was any resolution to the water pressure problem at Dickey's.

Betty Barnes said she had David Spratt check the water pressure at the meter for the fruit stand and found that the pressure was dropping off. She said Spratt then checked the water pressure at a trailer located on Dickey's property where the pressure was fine. Barnes said Dickey's were able to isolate the issue to a problem on the line between the meter and the building.

Animal Impounds

Laura Mann asked who should be contacted if a dog is picked up on weekends or Mondays when no one is in the office.

Jan Brending said she can change the message on the answering machine so that individuals know who to contact.

John Newman Recognition

Laura Mann said she is recommending that the city recognize John Newman for his contributions to the community through the donation of the use of the Bingen School Inn for community events.

The council agreed that a Certificate of Appreciation would be appropriate.

Police Services

The city council discussed when it wants to pursue hearing from the community regarding police services. The council agreed to hold workshops in August or September.

Skatepark Fundraising

Clinton Bryan said NAPA has a new employee who is a member of The House church who is interested in partnering with the city to raise funds for the skatepark.

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 June 5, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 06/05/2012) EFT, 15227-15254 totaling \$18621.48. Current – \$5958.37; Street - \$2428.48; Water - \$6866.84; Sewer - \$549.78; Treatment Plant - \$2818.01.

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 June 5, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 05/31/2012) EFT, 15222-15224, totaling \$19892.54. Current – \$8528.00; Street - \$2794.15; Water - \$2255.75; Sewer - \$352.32; Treatment Plant - \$5962.32.

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 June 5, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 05/24/2012) 15220-15221 and checks (dated 5/31/2012) 15225-15226 totaling \$2267.30. Current – \$2067.30; Park Construction and Maintenance - \$200.00.

At 8:55 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor