

# BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 5, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Laura Mann, Sandi Dickey, Maria Perez, Catherine Kiewit. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Robb Kimmes, Stephanie Porter, Lori Stephenson, Don Struck, Cheryl Parks.

## **Approval of Minutes – January 15, 2013**

Changes to the minutes of the January 15, 2013 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph, last sentence should read: “He said he hopefully will have someone hired by the middle of February.”

Page 2, 10<sup>th</sup> paragraph should read: “Betty Barnes said there were quite a bit of supplies left over from last year’s event and we should only have to replenish them slightly.”

Page 2, add the following after the 16<sup>th</sup> paragraph: “Catherine Kiewit will work on press releases and work with Craig Spaeth on posters.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the January 15, 2013 regular council meeting as corrected. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Cheryl Parks, Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce – Regional Center for Innovation**

Cheryl Parks said she is requesting City of Bingen support for the designation of the Columbia Gorge area as a Regional Center for Innovation. She said the idea came out of the Stronger Economies Together program that was recently completed. Parks said the designation will allow opportunities to apply for funding and will help in bringing a 4-year university to the Gorge. The council discussed the idea of a Regional Center for Innovation with Cheryl Parks.

Jan Brending noted that the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District supports the designation of the area as a Regional Center for Innovation.

Laura Mann moved to authorize a letter of support from the City of Bingen for designating the Columbia Gorge area as a Regional Center for Innovation. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Council Vacancy – Interviews and Appointment**

Betty Barnes said two candidates have submitted letters of interest and resumes for the position of council member.

Lori Stephenson said she was raised in Bingen. She said she feels she needs to take action to see change and would like to be mayor someday.

Catherine Kiewit said the position of council member takes a lot of reading and feels it is important that the next appointment put the time into the position which helps make the meetings go quicker. She said she estimates it takes approximately 8 hours a month on average to prepare for the meetings and attend the meetings.

Both candidates indicated they could meet that demand.

Sandi Dickey asked the candidates what they would like to see happen in Bingen and what the candidates would like to be involved in.

Lori Stephenson said she agrees with Cheryl Parks about the need for more education opportunities. Stephenson said she wants to be part of the development and growth of Bingen and not just watching.

Stephanie Porter said she wants to make Bingen a better for place for the kids. She said she sees Bingen as an area of growth. She said she wants to give the youth opportunities and something to think positively about.

Council members and the mayor reviewed the city’s committee structure.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the candidates have any particular interests.

Lori Stephenson said she is interested in water.

Stephanie Porter said she is also interested in water.

Laura Mann thanked the candidates for their interest in the position. She said it will be a difficult choice for the council.

Betty Barnes said that it is nice that both candidates have attended council meetings in the past.

Catherine Kiewit said she feels the council should represent the community including age, gender, ethnicity, etc. She said she is concerned that there will be no male voice on the council.

Sandi Dickey said it would be nice to have a man on the council but no one expressed an interest.

Tad Connors said it is not acceptable grounds for making a decision on the two candidates that are before the council.

Maria Perez asked the candidates what is the first thing they think of when they think of the city council.

Lori Stephenson said community.

Stephanie Porter said service.

Stephanie Porter was selected as council member by a vote of 3 to 1.

Betty Barnes noted that the Stephanie Porter will be sworn in at the next council meeting.

### **2012 Klickitat County Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

Betty Barnes said the council has been provided documents related to the 2012 Klickitat County Solid Waste Management Plan update including a review of the changes and the executive summary. She said copies of the 292-page plan can be provided to the council if they wish to read the entire document. Barnes said the county is asking for the city to adopt the management plan update by resolution which has also been provided to the council.

Don Struck provided an overview of the update process and changes made to the solid waste management plan. He said he would be happy to come back before the council again if they need additional time to review the plan. Struck thanked Laura Mann for her diligence in serving on the committee.

Laura Mann said the process has been very interesting. She said the main task for the committee was to update the plan. Mann said accepting the plan is one thing but another is then to begin working on implementation.

Catherine Kiewit asked how implementation of the plan is measured.

Laura Mann said Klickitat County has staff who is charged in fulfilling the requirements of the plan. She said she believes it is up to the city of Bingen to ask the county to see that things happened in Bingen or to address things like glass recycling. Mann said there are not specific things that can be measured.

Don Struck said it is incumbent for the committee to hear from the cities and citizens as to what things should be pursued. He noted that a representative from Allied sat on the committee and was very supportive of waste reduction.

Don Struck noted that the plan is scheduled to go before the county board of commissioners for adoption on March 16. He said a resolution from the city prior to that date would be helpful.

Catherine Kiewit asked when the next update would take place.

Don Struck said the plan is required to be updated every ten years.

Catherine Kiewit said she read through the information provided and is comfortable in moving forward.

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Resolution 2013-002, Approving the 2013 Klickitat County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan including Moderate Risk Hazardous Waste Management Plan. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Proposed Resolution 2013-002, Regarding Establishment of Emergency Medical Services District**

Jan Brending said the city received a letter from Klickitat County requesting a resolution regarding the establishment of an emergency medical services (EMS) district. She said the city had previously written a letter of support for the establishment of an EMS district.

Rob Kimmes, CEO of Skyline Hospital introduced himself as the new chief executive officer for Skyline Hospital. He said it is his understanding the city did write a letter of support for the establishment of an EMS district. Kimmes said the resolution is a formality for the county to get the process moving forward. He said the county intends to hold a public hearing at the end of February or the beginning of March. Kimmes said the county will place the issue on the ballot. He said he has been working with John White of Klickitat Valley Hospital to provide information to the county.

Laura Mann said she hopes that good information and promotion of the issue will take place prior to the election. She said she feels the word needs to be gotten out about the importance of creating an EMS district.

Laura Mann moved to approve Resolution 2013-002, Regarding Establishment of Emergency Medical Services District. Maria Perez seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Skyline Hospital Sewer Line and Agreement – Discussion and Possible Action**

Betty Barnes said the hospital district and the city of Bingen entered into an agreement a number of years ago for the construction of a sewer line serving the hospital and connecting to Bingen's sewer system.

Jan Brending said the council has been provided information regarding the sewer line including the original agreement with the hospital district and a map of the sewer line location. She noted that at the time the agreement was signed the hospital property was not in the city limits of either city. Brending said a portion of the line is within the city limits of Bingen while another portion of the line is in the city limits of White Salmon. She said ownership of the line continues to reside with the hospital district at this time. Brending said after discussions with the mayor and Tad Connors, they are recommending the city council authorize the city attorney to write a letter to Skyline Hospital (Klickitat County Hospital District No. 2) releasing the Hospital District from its obligations per the agreement in exchange for turning over that portion of the sewer line within the city limits of Bingen, including any accompanying easements to the City of Bingen.

Tad Connors said there should be minimal costs associated with the issue. He said redoing the easements might be slightly complicated because the city limits have changed over the years.

Laura Man moved to authorize the city attorney to write a letter to Skyline Hospital (Klickitat County Hospital District No. 2) releasing the Hospital District from its obligations per the agreement in exchange for turning over that portion of the sewer line within the city limits of Bingen, including any accompanying easements to the City of Bingen. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Public Hearing – Proposed Amendments to 2013 Budget**

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed amendments to the 2013 budget and proposed ordinance 2013-03-613.

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments provide a budget for the remainder of the two Gray & Osborne contracts for wastewater planning and the hydrogen sulfide pilot test. She said the amounts included in the amendment is the amount the city contracted for less the amounts paid to Gray & Osborne in 2012.

The public hearing was closed.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve ordinance 2013-03-613 amending the 2013 budget. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2013-01-611, Amending BMC 2.04 Council Meetings**

The public hearing regarding proposed ordinance 2013-01-611, amending BMC 2.04 Council Meeting was opened.

Betty Barnes said the proposed ordinance addresses the situation that occurred in January where the first Tuesday fell on the first day of the month and was also a holiday. She said the city had to hold a special meeting at which only those on the agenda can be addressed. Barnes said that in the future if the council approves the ordinance, the meeting would be moved to a Wednesday but would be considered a regular meeting.

Jan Brending noted that any time a meeting is moved off the regular 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday she provides public notice.

The public hearing was closed.

Laura Mann moved to adopt Ordinance 2013-01-611, Amending BMC 2.04 Council Meetings. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2013-02-612, Adopting BMC 3.10 Funds**

The public hearing regarding proposed ordinance 2013-02-612, adopting BMC 3.10 Funds was opened.

Jan Brending said the proposed ordinance cleans up a number of the city's codes regarding funds and also addresses the questions the City of White Salmon had related to Bingen's sewer and treatment plant funds.

The council asked that "REET" be spelled out in the ordinance as "Real Estate Excise Tax (REET).

The public hearing was closed.

Sandi Dickey moved to adopt ordinance 2013-02-612, Adopting BMC 3.10 Funds as corrected. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Treasurer's Report – December 2012**

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for December 2012. She reviewed the final reconciliation of overhead cost allocation and ending balances. Brending noted that the ending balances in the Sewer Construction & Maintenance Fund and the Treatment Plant Replacement Fund are high due to the fact that the contracts were not completed in 2012.

Laura Mann moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2012. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Old Business**

#### ***Special Events Ordinance***

Betty Barnes said a revised version of the Special Events ordinance has been provided to the council based on comments at the January 15 meeting.

Jan Brending reviewed her conversations with Canfield & Associates and Jonathan Blake of McCoy Holliston regarding the insurance requirement. She said both have recommended that insurance be required for any "special events." Brending also noted that the City of Ephrata's ordinance includes language that would allow higher limits for certain types of events and that Bingen may want to include similar language.

Catherine Kiewit said she feels like the insurance requirement is a deal-breaker for small events. She said she is not ready to make a decision on the proposed ordinance and would like to do some additional research to see what how other cities are handling the issue.

Laura Mann said she agrees with Catherine Kiewit. She said the point of block parties is to build community and that nobody is going to do a block party even if the insurance only costs \$100. Mann said she is not comfortable in signing off on the ordinance because of the insurance requirements.

Council members will do some additional research on the insurance requirement issue.

#### ***Gorge Out Fundraiser***

Betty Barnes said that she has learned that Rocky Webb will not be able to be the auctioneer for the event. She said however that David Griffith from Griffith Motors has agreed to serve as auctioneer. Barnes said Griffith Motors will be listed as a sponsor and that David Griffith will have input into the order of the items for the live auction.

Betty Barnes reported that the Chamber of Commerce will be handling obtaining the liquor license for the event.

Barnes asked Jan Brending to complete the donation/discount request form for Your Party Rental Center requesting 32 8 foot banquet tables, 150 ivory folding chairs and 1 keg regulator.

Catherine Kiewit said she has the corrections for the poster and has connected with Craig Spaeth. She said she will ask that the changes be done quickly so the advertising can begin.

Barnes said Riverview and Centerpointe banks have agreed to provide \$500 each for printing and advertising. She said she will be contacting Sterling and Columbia banks also. Barnes said ICE will be providing match funding up to \$10,000 and that Zepher has agreed to donate \$1000.

Barnes said the city will order hand fans with the Gorge Out logo on the front and will then put numbers on the back for the silent and live auctions.

Barnes said the city has not heard back about the I-pad donors. She said two separate requests have been submitted.

Sandi Dickey said Columbia Gorge Hotel and Cathedral Ridge Winery have donated gift certificates.

Laura Mann said she and Jan Brending have met and identified ways to streamline the intake and outflow areas.

Barnes noted that the Columbia Gorge Wine Growers event is not scheduled on the same evening as Gorge Out this year.

Barnes said that she has talked to Laura Cheney about putting in a request to the Stevenson Foundation.

### **Mayor's Update and Council Comments**

#### ***CDL Class***

Betty Barnes said the city has an employee who needs to obtain his CDL. She provided information to the city council regarding a class in Vancouver that will cost \$2,555.

Jan Brending said she contacted Coast to Coast to make sure that the cost is all inclusive and was told yes. She said Coast to Coast said the employee will have his CDL at the end of the week after completing the class.

Betty Barnes said she is requesting authorization from the council to send the employee to the CDL class.

Laura Mann moved to authorize sending Jay Hicks to CDL training with Coast to Coast in Vancouver for the amount of \$2,555. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

#### ***Bingen-White Salmon Police Department***

Betty Barnes said she spoke with Tracy Wyckoff who has indicated that he will be starting from scratch in the search for a lateral position officer. She said he has requested another list from the civil service commission.

#### ***Goldendale Chamber of Commerce***

Jan Brending said the Goldendale Chamber of Commerce has invited Bingen to participate in the 13-Mile Yard Sale June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

The council asked Brending to obtain additional information regarding the yard sale.

#### ***Port of Klickitat New Buildings***

Laura Mann said she was surprised about the location of the new Insitu building. She said she thought it was going to be built further to the east.

Betty Barnes said she was not surprised and is glad to hear they will be breaking ground soon.

Barnes reported that another new facility will be constructed adjacent to Custom Interface for Zepher.

**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 February 5, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 15715 dated 1/16/2013, 15717 (dated 1/17/2013), 15722 - 15760 (dated 02/05/2013) totaling \$34348.801. Current – \$9607.00; Street – \$3830.33; Water - \$11968.50; Sewer - \$1661.69; Treatment Plant - \$5743.65; Water Construction & Maintenance - \$390.34; Sewer Construction & Maintenance - \$229.47; Treatment Plant Replacement - \$917.82.

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 February 5, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks EFT dated 12/31/2012, EFT (dated 12/19/2012), 15718 (dated 12/31/2013) totaling \$5176.14. Current – \$29.19; Street – \$2.78; Community Development - \$11.98; Water - \$1151.52; Sewer - \$193.76; Treatment Plant - \$270.06; 1973 Bond Redemption - \$10; Water Construction & Maintenance - \$425.78; Sewer Construction & Maintenance - \$3,081.07.

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 February 5, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks EFT (dated 1/31/2013), 15716 (dated 1/16/2013), 15719-15721 (dated 1/21/2103), totaling \$20665.36. Current – \$8654.14; Street - \$3017.49; Water - \$2460.87; Sewer - \$433.28; Treatment Plant - \$6099.58.

**Executive Session**

Betty Barnes announced at 9:25 p.m. the city council will go into executive session to discuss potential litigation per RCW 42.30.1190(1)(i) for 15 minutes.

At 9:40 p.m. the council resumed regular session and Betty Barnes announced the city council will continue the executive session for an additional 10 minutes.

At 9:50 p.m. the council resumed regular session.

**Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad**

There was a consensus of the council to take no action and have the mayor indicate to the railroad that it is the city’s position that the Walnut Street crossing is a public crossing.

At 9:59 p.m. the city council adjourned.

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City Clerk

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Mayor