

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Laura Mann, Sandi Dickey, Isolde Schroder, Catherine Kiewit. Council members absent: Maria Perez. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Larry Murphy, Diane Murphy, Kevin Schleicher, Ken Schleicher, Teunis Wyers, Marsha Holliston, Char Oldfield, Ben Mitchell.

Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2013

Corrections to the meeting minutes of the April 16, 2013 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 5th paragraph, last sentence should read: “He said he is now looking at entry level candidates and will be doing a thorough background check of all candidates.”

Page 2, 8th paragraph should read: “Betty Barnes said Community Pride will be held April 26th through the 28th.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the April 16, 2013 regular council meeting as corrected. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Community Pride

Teunis Wyers provided an update to the city council regarding Community Pride. He said he brought Char Oldfield and Marsha Holliston who helped out a lot. Wyers said he feels this is the best year since the event started. He said the move to partner with Gorge Owned has been very productive. Wyers said he would like to get an estimate as to the manpower costs for the work the City of Bingen did. He said more than \$5,000 in donations and another \$5,000 in-kind contributions were provided. Wyers said after expenses the fund will have a nest egg for next year’s event. He said 94 loads were picked up and 386 vehicles went through the gate. Wyers said there was a great deal of spirit in the community. He said about the same amount of materials that was brought in last year came through the site this year. Wyers said the event was started 18 years ago. He noted Skyline Hospital collected 86 pounds of pharmaceuticals.

Betty Barnes awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to Teunis Wyers.

Betty Barnes noted that Maria Perez worked with a group of kids who helped pickup garbage. Barnes said Perez also took the kids down to the event site for a visit.

The council thanked Teunis Wyers, Char Oldfield and Marsha Holliston for their hard work.

Kevin Schleicher, Bingen Signage

Kevin Schleicher presented pictures of the finished Welcome signs that he has completed for his Eagle Scout project.

Jan Brending asked how big the signs are.

Schleicher said they are 4 feet by 6 feet.

Jan Brending said the city has identified two locations, Gorge Action Programs and Underwood Fruit for the location of the signs. She said the city will need to work with the building official as to how the signs should be installed.

Treasurer’s Report – March 2013

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer’s Report for March 2013.

Catherine Kiewit moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for March 2013. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Old Business

Police Car Purchase

Betty Barnes said the council has been provided with a copy of Tad Connors’, city attorney, response to the City of White Salmon’s letter. She noted the city has not heard back from White Salmon.

Laura Mann thanked Tad Connors for the letter. She said the letter was well thought out.

Catherine Kiewit agreed. She said the letter captured what she was thinking.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Stueben Street Crosswalks

Betty Barnes said she and Jan Brending met with Dave Spratt regarding the Steuben Street crosswalks. Barnes said she is not talking about the permanent long-term fix for the sidewalks but the short-term fix. She said the paint did not hold up and needs to be redone. Barnes said Spratt has provided pricing for "thermoplastic" which is used by the county and the state.

The council asked for additional information so they could compare the costs of painting versus the cost of using thermoplastic at the next council meeting.

Car Show

Betty Barnes said she has spoken with Isaac Riley. She said the car show will not be happening in the Bingen Park but will take place on private property. Barnes said Riley said a portion of the proceeds from the car show will go to the skate park. She said she does not have any further details.

Fire and Police Committee

Betty Barnes said she has appointed Izzy Schroder to the Fire and Police Committee and will look at different areas where Izzy might be of service in the future.

Workload

Betty Barnes said she is working with Jan Brending to identify the projects the city is working on this summer. She said she will be bringing the list to the council for review. Barnes said the city staff is busy over the next few months.

Barnes noted two things that were not on the list which are to develop Request for Proposals for Building Official Services and City Attorney Services.

The council discussed the skatepark and water line replacement projects. Jan Brending said she believes it is possible to do both projects this summer and fall.

Larry and Diane Murphy

Betty Barnes noted that Larry and Diane Murphy are present. Larry Murphy said they just wanted to get updated on what is happening in Bingen.

Betty Barnes thanked the Murphys for the Eagles contribution to Community Pride.

E-Mail

Catherine Kiewit asked if the IT project includes e-mail options. Jan Brending said yes.

City of White Salmon Council Meetings

Catherine Kiewit said she thinks it would be a good idea if each council member went to one of White Salmon's council meetings. She said that she thinks Bingen might be more connected to what is going on in White Salmon and more accessible. Kiewit noted that Bingen council members never go to their meetings and White Salmon council members never come to Bingen's meetings.

Sandi Dickey noted that she attended White Salmon's meetings for 3 to 4 years.

Catherine Kiewit said she is looking for ways for more collaboration.

Betty Barnes said she would not discourage council members from attending White Salmon council meetings but cautioned council members that they must note that what they say is their own opinion and is not the City of Bingen's opinion unless it is something the council has voted on.

Catherine Kiewit said she sees it as a visual reminder to the City of White Salmon that Bingen is engaged and wants to be included.

Laura Mann said that opening up communication is a way to solve problems. She noted that she probably could not pick out White Salmon council members on the street.

Catherine Kiewit said she wanted to find out what the Bingen council members thought of the idea. She said it could be helpful in the upcoming mediation.

Tad Connors said he thinks it might be a good idea to attend the White Salmon meetings to get an understanding of what is going on. Connors said that he agrees with Betty Barnes – that council members would be attending as an individual and not representing the council.

Staff Comments and Committee Updates

Water Distribution System Leakage Report

Jan Brending presented the Water System Distribution Leakage Report (DSL) for the first four months of 2013. She said the average DSL is approximately 23%. Brending said she hopes to see it decrease even more after the two water lines are replaced.

Voucher

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 7, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT and checks 15909-15941 (dated 05/07/2013), totaling \$28727.21: Current – \$12563.71; Street – \$3178.36; Park Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$583.21; Water - \$7660.72; Sewer - \$566.51; Treatment Plant - \$4174.70.

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 7, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 15907-15908(dated 04/30/2013) totaling \$1150.87: Current – \$1150.87.

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 7, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks EFT (dated 04/30/2013), 15904-15906 (dated 04/30/2013), totaling \$20684.44. Current – \$8796.41; Street - \$3009.15; Water - \$2530.10; Sewer - \$431.88; Treatment Plant - \$5916.90.

At 8:00 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor