

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

June 18, 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 (by telephone), Catherine Kiewit, Maria Perez. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Ken Alexander, Tracy Wyckoff, Jeri and Guillermo Fisch.

Public Comment

Jeri and Guillermo Fisch, Bingen WA

Guillermo Fisch provided background history regarding the property he has purchased directly west of his existing home. He said when the property was purchased they were told there were water and sewer connections that had never been activated. Fisch said he has now had the water connected. He said there is a sewer line running through the property that serves two houses to the north that they would like to connect to. Fisch said he hired Ira Martin, Klickitat Design, to verify that the four inch line could handle the sewage. He said Martin determined that there is potential for 3 homes to be served by the line because it is not at capacity. Fisch said the city's ordinances do not allow for multiple homes to be connected to one service line and he is asking that the code be amended to provide for an exceptions process.

The council agreed to look into developing draft language for an exceptions process that would be presented at the second meeting in July for review only by the council with no public hearing scheduled at this time.

Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2013

Corrections to the meeting minutes of the May 21, 2013 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 3, 14th paragraph, 1st sentence should read “Betty Barnes said Fire District 3’s consultant, Bob Merritt had recommended discussing the idea with the fire department’s members because if the members don’t support the idea then it would be unlikely that the community would support it.”

Laura Man moved to approve the meeting minutes of the May 21, 2013 regular council meeting as corrected. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Hydrogen Sulfide Pilot Test Report and Recommendations, Gray & Osborne

Ken Alexander reviewed the draft hydrogen sulfide pilot test report and recommendations. He said the recommendations and options include annual operating costs including operator man hours. Alexander said the recommended option; a packed tower with carbon dioxide added is the preferred option but is also the most expensive over a 20-year period. He said the system would be installed at the reservoir prior to chlorination.

The council discussed the report and findings with Ken Alexander.

Betty Barnes noted that the hydrogen sulfide level in the water was not as bad at the time of testing as it has been in the past. She asked if this would cause problems in the results of the study.

Alexander said the project should be sized to address changes in the hydrogen sulfide levels.

Alexander noted the report is a draft and there are a few corrections that need to be made. He said if the city wants to pursue developing a filtration system it will need to amend its current water system plan and also obtain funding for the project.

Jan Brending noted the city will need to go through a mandated review process of its water system plan in 2014.

Jan Brending asked council members to submit their comments to her and she will forward one set of comments to Gray & Osborne.

Master Interlocal Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Agreement – Authorization to Sign

Tracy Wyckoff said the Master Interlocal Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Agreement is an update of the previous agreement. He said the agreement eliminates doubt of responsibility and gives entities the ability to respond in an emergency.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the agreement requires more training of the departments.

Wyckoff said no. He said the agencies meet quarterly to share information. Wyckoff said the agreement allows the department to go to Oregon and provide assistance. He said the department would not be taking control.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the mayor to sign the Master Interlocal Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Agreement. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Tracy Wyckoff said the Spring Festival went well. He said he is working with Klickitat County to address the 4th of July.

Wyckoff said with the weather getting better there are more kids out. He said there have been some conflicts between older and smaller kids at the skatepark. Wyckoff said the department is receiving more calls for service.

Betty Barnes said she had a mother talk to her about drug dealing at the park.

Wyckoff said he wants to address the drug issue in both cities.

Wyckoff said he met with Skyline Hospital to address developing an emergency plan for different situations that may occur at the hospital. He said he is working with Klickitat and Skamania Counties and other agencies.

Maria Perez asked Wyckoff if he met with the schools.

Wyckoff said he has met with the schools and has developed some new protocols for different situations. He said after school starts the parties will come back together and finalize the plans.

Betty Barnes noted that a meeting with her, Jan Brending, the fire department and Tracy Wyckoff had to be cancelled and she would like to reschedule. She suggested July 10 at 5 p.m. and asked Jan Brending to check the calendar.

Betty Barnes asked Wyckoff if he has heard anything back about the COPS grant.

Wyckoff said no not yet. He said it was submitted approximately a month ago.

Street Closure Request – NAPA Auto Parts

Betty Barnes said that due to the cancellation of the June 4th council meeting she made an executive decision and gave authorization to NAPA Auto Parts to close a portion of Humboldt Street for their annual tool sale since it has been done for the past two years without any problems. She asked the council to ratify her decision.

Catherine Kiewit moved to ratify the decision of the mayor to authorize a partial closure of Humboldt Street for the annual NAPA Auto Parts tool sale. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for Years 2014 to 2019

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing on the proposed six-year transportation improvement program for years 2014 to 2019.

Laura Mann said she would like to add a project to the list – adding sidewalks along Highway 141 from Jefferson to the city limits estimating a cost of \$2 million and making it priority 12.

Laura Mann moved to add to the program a priority 12, adding sidewalks along Highway 141 from Jefferson to the city limits estimating a cost of \$2 million. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Resolutions 2013-005, Adopting Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for Years 2014 to 2019

Catherine Kiewit noted there were a couple of date corrections on the proposed resolution.

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Resolution 2013-005, Adopting Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program of Years 2014 to 2019 with corrections and addition of priority 12. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Old Business

Providing Swim Lessons for Bingen Residents

Jan Brending said the City of Bingen paid for 5 sessions of swim lessons last year through the use of pool bucks. She said the cost of providing 5 sessions this year would cost \$250.

Catherine Kiewit moved to provide free swim lessons starting with 10 sessions on a first come first serve basis asking families who have received a free lesson to wait until later in the summer to see if any lessons are still available for additional sessions. Maria Perez seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Draft June Newsletter – Review

Jan Brending presented the draft June newsletter to the city council. Council members noted several corrections.

Proposed Draft Request for Proposals – Attorney Services

A draft request for proposals for attorney services was presented to the council and discussed.

Laura Mann moved to move forward with issuing the request for proposals for attorney services. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Draft Request for Proposals – Building Official Services

A draft request for proposals for building official services was presented to the council and discussed. There was a consensus to add a list of specific required certifications to the request for proposals.

Laura Mann moved to issue the request for proposals for building official services adding a list of required certifications. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2013-004, Authorizing Investment of City of Bingen Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool

Jan Brending said that the State Treasurer's Office has asked the city to update their resolution regarding the Local Government Investment Pool.

Laura Mann moved to adopt Resolution 2013-004, Authorizing Investment of City of Bingen Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

State of Washington Master Contract Usage Agreement – Authorization to Sign

Jan Brending said the state has changed the process for local entities to be able to purchase off of state contracts. She said the city used to have to participate in a Cooperative Purchasing program that charged a fee. Brending said the new agreement will allow the city to purchase off of state contracts and participate in the state credit card program with no fees. She noted the agreement will not have to be renewed on a yearly basis.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize the mayor to sign the State of Washington Master Contract Usage Agreement. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Public Works Trust Fund Loan Status

Betty Barnes asked Jan Brending about the Public Works Trust Fund loan status.

Jan Brending said the House budget does not include any funding for Public Works Trust Fund loans but the Senate budget does and it includes the Bingen project. She said the two budgets will have to be reconciled. Brending noted that the Department of Health asked Bingen to resubmit its application for a Drinking Water loan. She said that application has been submitted but she has not heard anything further. Brending said she suspects the Department of Health is waiting to see what happens with the Public Works Trust Fund before making any decisions on their loans.

Property Tax Levy Rates and Impact on Regional Fire Authority

Betty Barnes said she asked Jan Brending to prepare information regarding property tax levy rates and the impact of creating a regional fire authority. She said that even if the city lowered its levy rate based

on the amount it currently budgets for the fire department, city residents would still see an increase in their levy rate if a regional fire authority or if annexed into Fire District 3.

Law Enforcement Mediation

Betty Barnes asked about the status of identifying a mediator for law enforcement issues.

Tad Connors said he has talked to some attorneys about which are the best mediators at Six Rivers to use but that is as far as it has gone.

Insitu Breaking Ground

Catherine Kiewit said she thought Insitu was going to break ground in June.

Betty Barnes said that has been moved to July.

Ponderosa Pine Trees Dying

Catherine Kiewit said the ponderosa pine on the Mann's property has died. She said she is interested in conserving the rest of the trees in the community and suggested the city contact an arborist to facilitate removal of diseased trees and protecting the city's trees.

Laura Mann said Chris Zorza with Columbia Tree has suggested the city may want to place some scent bags on the trees in the park as a deterrent to the beetles. She said Zorza said it is not proven science but it is a very low cost method that might work.

Water Committee

Betty Barnes reported that she has asked Brian Prigel to sit on the City of Bingen's Water Committee as a citizen member.

Saturday Market

Izzy Schroder asked how the Saturday Market is doing.

Jan Brending said she and Betty Barnes attended the first weekend. She said she does not know if the market was held this last week. Brending said she thought the first Saturday picked up a little later in the afternoon and evening due to a free yoga class that was held in the park in conjunction with the market.

Solstice Café

Izzy Schroder said it is her understanding the owners of Solstice are open to keeping the Bingen café open if they can find the right manager for it.

Schroder noted that Bingen was mentioned twice in the recent edition of the Sunset Magazine.

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 June 18, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 15965 - 15985 (dated 06/04/2013), totaling \$15852.42: Current - \$4925.18; Street - \$1174.29; Water - \$8516.86; Sewer - \$167.58; Treatment Plant - \$1068.51.

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 18, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks EFT, 15992 - 16006 (dated 06/18/2013), totaling \$127606.61: Current - \$5771.96; Street - \$1345.08; Water - \$2858.67; Sewer - \$554.15; Treatment Plant - \$2977.55; Public Works Trust Fund Loan - \$107142.86; Water Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$1453.95; Sewer Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$791.44; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$4710.95.

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 18, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 15986 - 15987 (dated 05/31/2013), totaling \$1398.82: Current - \$1398.82.

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 June 18, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks EFT (dated 05/31/2013), 15962 - 15964 (dated 05/31/2013), totaling \$19464.52. Current - \$8352.30; Street - \$2863.00; Water - \$2324.24; Sewer - \$408.26; Treatment Plant - \$5516.72.

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 18, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks EFT (dated 06/15/2013), 15988 - 15991 (dated 06/15/2013), totaling \$11752.51. Current – \$4855.51; Street - \$1692.66; Water - \$1427.10; Sewer - \$261.09; Treatment Plant - \$3516.15.

The city council meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor