

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 4, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Betty Barnes, Catherine Kiewit, Sandi Dickey, Izzy Schroder, Maria Perez, Stephanie Porter. Student Council Member Monica Lizama absent. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Chris Lanz were present. Audience: Amber Marra, Bob Songer, Robert Bianchi, Theresa North, Tad Connors, Laura Mann, Tracy Wyckoff, Mike Hepner.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2014

Sandi Dickey moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 18, 2014. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Rod Krehbiel, Appeal of Leak Adjustment Request Administrative Decision

Jan Brending provided an overview of the administrative decision of the leak adjustment request submitted by Rod Krehbiel. She said the request was denied because no documentation of a leak that was repaired was submitted.

Teresa North said that 93,990 gallons of water is an astronomical amount of water compared to the history of the facility's water usage. She said the water meter has a leak alert on it which did not register a leak during the time the water supposedly went through the meter. North said that in monitoring the meter they held their largest event at the theater last Friday and only used 20 gallons of water. She said they do not know how the meter registered that amount of water and would prefer not to pay for it. North said she does not understand how 93,990 gallons of water can go through a ¾ inch line.

Jan Brending said it is possible for a facility to use that much water even with a ¾ inch line. It would typically happen over a period of days and not necessarily in one day.

Izzy Schroder said she understands North's concern. She said a leak does sound implausible. Schroder asked North if they have had someone professional look at the meter separate from city staff.

Jan Brending noted that there were a number of higher than normal usage alerts for that specific billing period. She said some were due to small leaks or people leaving water on to prevent frozen pipes.

Catherine Kiewit said that when the city council knows where the water is going then it can sometimes forgive the sewer overage charges. She asked if North is open to investigating the issue further.

Betty Barnes said clearly there is no leak occurring now and that something manmade took place to stop the usage. She said it appears to have maybe corrected itself.

Izzy Schroder said she definitely understands North's concern – there is reasonable doubt and it doesn't make any sense. She said she appreciates what North and Krehbiel are doing for the community and would like to work on a resolution. Schroder suggested that the situation could be monitored and maybe that paying 50/50 of the billing would work.

Teresa North said she does not believe there was a leak and does not believe they used that amount of water.

Betty Barnes recommended to the council that they could table making a decision to provide an extension of time for more investigation. She said the city does feel that the water was used.

Izzy Schroder moved to table the decision on the Rod Krehbiel administrative review of the leak adjustment request decision until the first meeting in June. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Executive Session

At 7:26 p.m. Betty Barnes announced the city council will enter into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 7:41 p.m., the council resumed regular session and announced it continue in executive session for another 15 minutes.

At 7:54 p.m., the council resumed regular session.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Tracy Wyckoff reported that it has been quiet in Bingen and no news to report.

Bob Songer (Running for Sheriff)

Bob Songer introduced himself and made a presentation regarding his candidacy for Klickitat County Sheriff.

Public Hearing – 2014 Budget Amendments

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding amendments to the 2014 budget.

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed amendments noting that the beginning cash balances were amended to match actual. She said the overhead cost allocation was amended due to changes in operations and maintenance budgets. Brending also noted that the difference between the original budgeted beginning cash balance and the actual cash balances for the water, sewer, and treatment plant funds is proposed to be moved into reserve funds.

Catherine Kiewit suggested using different language next time to explain the adjustment to the overhead cost allocation and interfund transfers.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2014-02-629, Amending the 2014 Budget

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve Ordinance 2014-02-629, amending the 2014 budget. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Request for Proposals, Shoreline Management Program and Critical Areas Ordinance Update – Recommendation and Award of Contract

Betty Barnes said she, Jan Brending and Sandi Dickey reviewed the two proposals and conducted interviews with both companies. She said they are recommending the selection of The Watershed Company based on experience and price.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the Department of Ecology has denied any Shoreline Master Programs that The Watershed Company has worked on.

Jan Brending said no. She said the difference between the number of programs the company has worked on and the number approved by the Department of Ecology is because some programs are still in the process of being developed or reviewed by the Department.

Maria Perez moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with The Watershed Company to provide services in updating the city's Shoreline Master Program and Critical Areas Ordinance. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Request for Proposals, Information Technology Support Services – Recommendation and Award of Contract

Betty Barnes said she, Jan Brending and Izzy Schroder reviewed the proposals and interviewed both companies. She said based on the proposals and interviews they are recommending Radcomp Technologies.

The council discussed the initial assessment to be conducted under the proposal. Jan Brending said she believes a more thorough assessment will be conducted by Radcomp Technologies.

Izzy Schroder moved to authorize the mayor to sign a contract with Radcomp Technologies for information technology support services. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote: Dickey – Abstain, Kiewit – Aye, Perez – Aye, Porter – Aye, Schroder – Aye.

AWC Center for Quality Communities Scholarship

Betty Barnes noted the city did not receive any applications for the scholarship.

Request for Authorization to Expend Funds for Retirement Celebration

Betty Barnes presented a quote from Beneventi's Pizza for catering the Retirement Celebration to be held on March 7 in the amount of \$886.88. She said this includes two servers and sales tax. Barnes said in addition there will be a charge of \$30 for the cake.

Izzy Schroder moved to authorize the expenditure of \$916.99 for food and cake for the Retirement Celebration on March 7. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – December 2013

Jan Brending presented the treasurer's report for December 2013. She reported that the Street Fund went over budget by \$906.15. Brending said that when the final budget amendment was drafted she forgot about the tree removal small works project because it had not been completed as yet.

Catherine Kiewit moved to accept the December 2013 treasurer's report. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Recreational Marijuana Local Funding for Law Enforcement

Betty Barnes said she signed a joint mayor letter to the legislature asking them to provide some of the recreational marijuana taxes to local agencies for law enforcement purposes.

Earth Day

Betty Barnes said April 22 is Earth Day and Community Pride will be April 25 through April 27. She said it is her understanding that Community Pride will begin a little earlier this year on Friday.

Barnes asked staff to prepare a proclamation for the first meeting in April supporting Earth Day and turning lights out to conserve energy.

Stephanie Porter and Maria Perez said they will work with the kids on a cleanup on April 26.

The city crew will be picking up yard and garden debris during Community Pride. Staff will write letters to property owners with overgrown shrubs encouraging them to take part in Community Pride.

Distribution System Leak Report

Jan Brending said she was not at the last meeting to answer questions about the Distribution System Leakage (DSL) report. She said she has provided an updated report that also compares the DSL numbers for each month to the month in previous years.

Animal Control

Catherine Kiewit said she noticed that all the days the animal control officer is in Bingen are Fridays. She said she would like to see more diversity in the days of the week and the times during the day.

Maria Perez noted that young teenage boys are buying pit bulls as pets.

Izzy Schroder said that having the animal control office come down on Wednesdays when there is early release might be a good time.

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 March 4, 2014. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 16568-16595 (dated 3/04/2014) totaling \$23645.70. General Fund – \$10674.02; Street - \$3593.921; Water - \$4807.95; Sewer - \$438.70; Treatment Plant - \$4131.11.

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 March 4, 2014. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, payroll checks 16561-16567 (dated 2/28/2014) totaling \$22278.98. General Fund – \$9905.68; Street - \$3352.56; Water - \$2096.93; Sewer - \$690.19; Treatment Plant - \$6233.62.

The council adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor