

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 18, 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, Stephanie Porter. Council Member Maria Perez and Student Council Member Monica Lizama absent. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Chris Lanz were present. Audience: Marc Boardman, Miriam Knowles.

Public Comment

Miriam Knowles, White Salmon

Miriam Knowles said that she attended the retirement celebration and thought it was wonderful and that it embodied what Bingen is all about. She said she grew up in Bingen.

Knowles said that John Newman wants to do something with the old Bingen School and would love to see if someone could come up with a vision so that it would be something for everybody.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 4, 2014

Corrections to the meeting minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 6th paragraph should read as follows: “Izzy Schroder said she understands North’s concern. She said a leak does sound implausible.

Catherine Kiewit asked North if they have had someone professional look at the meter separate from city staff. North said no.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 4, 2014 as corrected. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Marc Boardman (Running for Sheriff)

Marc Boardman introduced himself and made a presentation regarding his candidacy for Klickitat County Sheriff.

Steuben Street Landscaping, Miriam Knowles

Betty Barnes said that Miriam Knowles has been helping out in providing the public works crew ideas on how to manage the landscaping on Steuben Street.

Miriam Knowles said she is suggesting redoing the landscaping similar to what has been done at Wilcox & Flegel. She said she has noticed a number of problems with the landscaping and feels that using large rocks and choosing a few plants to replant will make the landscaping look better and be more manageable.

Catherine Kiewit asked if redoing the landscaping should wait since everything looks lush and green. Knowles said no it should be done now.

Jan Brending said she would like to recommend a budget of \$2,000 which would come from the Street Fund.

The council discussed the size of the rock that should be used in the landscaping. It was agreed that smaller rocks would present problems including getting into the roadway.

Knowles said she likes the idea of involving businesses in helping to maintain the landscaping.

The council thanked Miriam Knowles for her assistance and ideas.

Izzy Schroder moved to provide a budget of \$2,000 for redoing the landscaping on Steuben Street. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Staff was asked to check with the Gorge Heritage Museum to see if they would like any of the plants the city will not be using.

Draft Franchise Agreement – Charter Communications – Review and Discussion

The council and staff discussed the draft franchise agreement with Charter Communications. There was a consensus that additional information is needed including finding out if the city can charge both a franchise fee and a utility tax fee. Staff will provide a copy of the City of White Salmon’s agreement.

Before the council authorizes the agreement, public notice must be provided to allow the public to comment.

Professional Services Contract – Bell Design, Engineering Services for SEPA Review

Betty Barnes said that the city needs to hire an engineer for review of several items that are coming before them including a SEPA (State Environmental Protection Act) review for a new development happening adjacent to Dry Creek.

Jan Brending said Bell Design is a qualified consultant and is on the city's professional services roster. She said Bell Design is familiar with Dry Creek having conducted several studies related to Dry Creek for the city. She said she is recommending Bell Design be hired to assist the city in the SEPA review.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize a professional services contract with Bell Design for engineering services for a SEPA review in the amount of \$512. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Professional Services Contract – Gray & Osborne, Engineering Services for Sewer Connection Exception Request

Betty Barnes said the city has received a sewer connection exception request and it is necessary to have an engineer representing the city review the information that is supplied in the request.

Jan Brending said Gray & Osborne is a qualified consultant and is on the city's professional services roster. She said Gray & Osborne are currently working on the city's wastewater and water plans and is very familiar with the city's systems. She said she is recommending Gray & Osborne be hired to assist the city in the review of a sewer connection exception request.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize a professional services contract with Gray & Osborne for engineering services in reviewing a sewer connection exception request in the amount of \$400. Izzy Schroeder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Works Contract Amendment – Grindline Skateparks, Inc.

Betty Barnes said the irrigation and landscaping has not been completed due to weather. She said an extension of the contract is recommended to April 30.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize an amendment to the Grindline Skateparks public works contract extending it to April 30, 2014. Izzy Schroeder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Small Works Roster – Tree Removal, Columbia Tree Service

Jan Brending said that originally it was thought the tree would be removed immediately and she asked for a bid from Columbia Tree Service who could get in and remove the tree quickly. She said since the tree probably can't be removed until April due to the wet soils in the park she is recommending that the project be put out to a small works roster sealed bid process.

Sandi Dickey moved to table a decision on the tree removal until the next meeting when bids can be presented to the council. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Proclamation 2014-002, Recognizing Earth Hour and Earth Day

Betty Barnes presented a proclamation recognizing March 29 as Earth Hour and April 22 as Earth Day and encouraging residents to participate.

There was a consensus of the council to sign the proclamation.

Proposed Resolution 2014-002, Authorizing Investment of City of Bingen Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool

Jan Brending said the State Treasurer's office is requiring cities to adopt a new resolution as it has provided new information regarding the Local Government Investment Pool.

Sandi Dickey moved to approve Resolution 2014-002, Authorizing Investment of City of Bingen Monies in the Local Government Investment Pool. Izzy Schroeder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – January 2014

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for January 2014. She noted that the budget amendments adopted earlier in March will not show on the Treasurer's Report until the March report is provided.

Catherine Kiewit moved to accept the January 2014 Treasurer's Report. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Clark College ABE/GED and ESL Classes in White Salmon

Betty Barnes noted the city received an e-mail regarding the cancellation by Clark College of ABE/GED and ESL classes for the spring and summer in White Salmon.

Catherine Kiewit said she called Pam Rizenhaler about the e-mail because she had some questions about the language related to GED classes.

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 18, 2014. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 16568-16595 (dated 3/18/2014) totaling \$29703.46. General Fund – \$3670.66; Street - \$1634.48; Water - \$3468.61; Sewer - \$616.49; Treatment Plant - \$4312.07; Water Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$7324.09; Sewer Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$1999.15; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$6677.91.

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 18, 2014. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 16568-16595 (dated 2/28/2014) totaling \$1467.48. General Fund – \$1467.48.

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 18, 2014. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, payroll checks 16561-16567 (dated 3/14/2014) totaling \$11132.60. General Fund – \$4740.64; Street - \$1569.45; Water - \$1148.24; Sewer - \$347.16; Treatment Plant - \$3327.11.

The council adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor