

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 6, 2015

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 Schroeder, Maria Perez. Council members absent: Stephanie Porter. City Attorney Chris Lanz, Chief Tracy Wyckoff and City Administrator Jan Brending were present. Audience: Amber Marra, Alan Reitz, Lauren Baker.

Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2014

Changes to the minutes of the December 16, 2014 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 3, 12th paragraph should read as follows: “Maria Perez said that she has had her toilet run and that her roommates don’t necessarily watch the utility like she does. She said that possibly somebody left something running and just did not report it.”

Page 4, add the following paragraph after the 2nd paragraph: “Catherine Kiewit suggested having meters installed for each tenant so that future issues are easier to identify and tenants can be held accountable.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 regularly scheduled meeting as corrected. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Comment

Alan Reitz, White Salmon Valley School Board

Alan Reitz introduced himself as a new school board member. He said he has been elected as the legislative representative for the board.

Betty Barnes said she appreciates him coming and introducing himself.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Chief Tracy Wyckoff said things have been going well in Bingen and he has no concerns to be worried about.

Wyckoff introduced Lauren Baker as a new entry-level officer. He said she will be attending the police academy in February and hopes that her training date will get moved up to the first of February instead of starting at the end. Wyckoff said he is working to get her acquainted with the community and policies.

Wyckoff reported that Officer Steve Shields has retired from the police department and that he will be working to fill that position. He said he has been contacted by two laterals and will move forward with interviewing them and doing backgrounds.

Catherine Kiewit asked Lauren Baker if she lives in White Salmon now.

Lauren Baker said yes. She said she previously lived in Vancouver.

Council Resignation

Sandi Dickey said she has turned in her resignation effective January 31, 2015.

Betty Barnes said the city will advertise the position.

Deputy Clerk Hire

Betty Barnes said the replacement for Dena Riggleman has been hired. She said Laura Mann will start effective February 1, 2015.

Public Hearing – Conditional Use Permit, Blue Bus Foods

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing for a conditional use permit for Blue Bus Foods.

Jan Brending reviewed the staff report. She said Blue Bus Foods is a light industrial facility processing raw, live, naturally fermented vegetable products in a facility located at 415 W. Steuben. Brending noted the facility was previously used by Solstice.

Colin Franger said he does not intend to retail out of the business. He said he started manufacturing in June of 2014.

Izzy Schroeder asked who customers for fermented food products are.

Colin Franger said he distributes to some stores in the Gorge and to stores in the Portland area. He said there are health benefits associated with eating fermented vegetables.

Catherine Kiewit said she does not have a problem with the site being used as a production facility for food.

Betty Barnes asked how waste will be handled if the facility grows.

Colin Franger said he does not see a change in his processing. He said he does not add any vinegar to the product. Franger said there may be some acidic rinse from the crocks when they are cleaned but it is very little.

Betty Barnes asked if there is any ex parte contact or conflict of interest to be reported. None was disclosed.

Barnes closed the public hearing.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the conditional use permit for Blue Bus Foods for a light industrial facility processing raw, live, naturally fermented vegetable products in a facility located at 415 W. Steuben with the following conditions:

1. All storage of materials must be contained within the existing structure. No outside storage is permitted.
2. The manufacturing process shall not produce odors that are detectable outside of the facility or in adjacent facilities.
3. The manufacturing process shall not produce noises that are offensive outside of the facility or in adjacent facilities.
4. The City of Bingen shall have discretion to make a review of the conditional use permit and shall do so at least annually.
5. Notice must be provided to the City of Bingen prior to any change in production.
6. The conditional use permit applies to the business as proposed in the conditional use permit application and to Blue Bus Foods (Colin Franger). If the business changes in nature, a new conditional use permit will be required. The conditional use permit does not apply to the property.

Izzy Schroeder seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Draft Critical Areas Ordinances

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding draft critical areas ordinances.

Jan Brending reviewed Izzy Schroeder's comments and staff's and The Watershed Company's response.

Catherine Kiewit said she is concerned about development around Bingen Lake and hopes that it continues to be protected.

Betty Barnes said she agrees that it is a great walking area.

Jan Brending noted that the property is not located in the city limits. She said the county has critical area ordinances in place and that there is a buffer area around the lake that cannot be developed.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Staff and council discussed the next steps for completing the adoption of the critical areas ordinances.

Jan Brending said the next step is for the council to authorize the submission of a Notice of Intent to Adopt to the state.

Proposed Resolution 2015-001, Cancelling Certain Warrants and Checks Issued by the City

Jan Brending reviewed proposed Resolution 2015-001, cancelling certain warrants and checks issued by the City. She said a check was issued that was never cashed. Brending said the amount due was paid on a subsequent invoice to the vendor. She said she is asking permission to cancel the outstanding check.

Izzy Schroeder moved to approve Resolution 2015-001, Cancelling Certain Warrants and Checks Issued by the City. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Proposed Ordinance 2015-01-641, Amending the Rate Structure for Wastewater Treatment and Service in the City of Bingen

Betty Barnes and Jan Brending reviewed the proposed ordinance that amends the rate structure for wastewater treatment and service. Barnes said this is Bingen's share of the funding for the wastewater treatment plant.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve Ordinance 2015-01-641, Amending the Rate Structure for Wastewater Treatment and Service in the City of Bingen. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – November 2014

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for November 2014. She said the December report will be presented in February.

Izzy Schroeder moved to accept the November 2015 Treasurer's Report. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Santa in the Park

Betty Barnes reported that it was a wonderful Santa in the Park. She said John Sauter played Santa Claus.

Sandy Dean Meter Reading

Betty Barnes said that she has made the decision to direct staff to show Sandy Dean how to read the meter. She said the city does not have the staff to read meters on an ongoing basis outside of the regular reading period.

Daubenspeck Park Signage

Betty Barnes said Jan Brending is collecting comments on the proposed signage. She said if there are any other comments they should be submitted to Brending as soon as possible. Barnes said that once the comments have been compiled they will be brought back to the council for discussion. She said then the council can figure out how much the wall is going to cost and how to get the plaques made up.

Staff Workload

Betty Barnes said she met with Jan Brending and David Spratt regarding upcoming workload items. She said the drinking fountain will be ordered and that preparation for the installation will begin. Barnes said the Christmas tree will be removed this week and the street lights will stay up until February 14.

Maria Perez asked if the city could purchase lights after Christmas when they are on sale.

Jan Brending said next year she will look into that.

2014 and 2015 Goal Review

Izzy Schroeder said the company that she works for has a big celebration at the beginning of each year to celebrate its successes. She suggested celebrating the successes of 2014 by recapping all the work that has been done and looking forward to 2015.

Betty Barnes said staff can prepare a Goals and Priorities document and bring that to the council.

Facebook

Izzy Schroeder asked if it is possible for Bingen to develop its own Facebook page. She said she believes the City of Stevenson has a Facebook page.

Staff will look into the prospects of developing a Facebook page and see if there is any training.

Voucher Approval

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 January 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 17265-17294 (dated 12/30/2014) totaling \$31389.60. General Fund – \$7301.39; Street - \$2548.59; Water - \$7840.77; Sewer - \$179.29; Treatment Plant - \$3073.65; Water Construction & Maintenance - \$6643.37; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$3802.54.

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 January 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 17295-17300 (dated 01/06/2015) totaling \$7491.29. General Fund – \$3336.90; Street - \$682.93; Water - \$1375.90; Sewer - \$1375.88; Treatment Plant - \$719.68.

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 January 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll check 17255 (dated 12/17/2014), EFT and checks 17256-17262 (dated 12/31/2014), totaling \$22696.61. General Fund – \$10341.99; Street – 3540.91; Water - \$2022.96; Sewer - \$661.41; Treatment Plant - \$6129.34.

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 January 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, checks 17263-17264 (dated 01/02/2015), totaling \$2858.78. General Fund – \$2858.78

The council adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor