

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Izzy Schroder, Catherine Kiewit, Dan Armstrong and Stephanie Porter. Staff present: City Attorney Chris Lanz, City Administrator Jan Brending, Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Chief Tracy Wyckoff and Officer Ashley Hackett. Audience: Michelle Scott.

Public Comment

Catherine Kiewit, Bingen

Catherine Kiewit said that there was an incident at the crosswalk at Oak and Humboldt when she was crossing the street with her children and was nearly hit by a car that passed a car on the right that had stopped for her.

Tracy Wyckoff said he has begun stopping people for passing on the right.

Betty Barnes said that the city met with Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and discussed the intersection at Oak and Humboldt. She said there will be some changes at the intersection that should help in the future. Barnes said that she has spoken with Representative Gina McCabe about changing the state law regarding stopping for pedestrians. She said that in Washington vehicles only need to stop when the pedestrian is in the driver's travel lane versus the law in Oregon where vehicles must in all lanes must stop for pedestrians crossing a street.

Catherine Kiewit suggested that restriping the parking spaces in front of the bank might help stop people from passing on the right.

Jan Brending said she will ask the public works department to repaint the parking spaces in front of the bank.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Tracy Wyckoff said he has made an offer to a individual for the police clerk position and that she is scheduled to start October 13. He said that as he has been working through paperwork since Judi Culp left he has realized there is a lot more to the clerk position than he originally thought. Wyckoff said he will be job shadowing the clerk so that if something happens he is more familiar with the paperwork that needs to be done.

Izzy Schroder asked if the position is full-time.

Wyckoff said yes.

Tracy Wyckoff said he has looked into the air compression brake issue. He said trucks must have a muffler to prevent excessive noise but there is no definition in state law as to what constitutes excessive noise. Wyckoff said he talked to the State Patrol and they do not enforce the law because it is not enforceable. He said that when trucks are inspected they could be found to be in violation if they don't have a muffler system or one that is not working correctly. Wyckoff said the city could enact an ordinance that does not allow compression brakes.

Catherine Kiewit said she noticed there is a sign on Cook-Underwood Road about not using compression brakes.

Wyckoff said he is not aware that Skamania County has an ordinance but there could have been one in the past and the sign was never removed.

Catherine Kiewit said the city could put signs up encouraging no use of compression brakes.

Wyckoff reminded the city it would have to get permission from WSDOT to install any signs in the right-of-way. He said he feels the problem is probably with older trucks.

Betty Barnes noted there was some graffiti at the skatepark.

Wyckoff said he is looking into it. He said domestic issues have been on the rise and there have been a number of assaults the department has responded to.

The council and Wyckoff discussed handling incidents involving individuals with mental illness. Wyckoff said there is a group of agencies that are meeting together to hopefully develop some new tools for working with individuals in the future.

Wyckoff said he feels there is a great group of officers working for the department. He said Ashley Hackett has been doing a great job.

Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2015

Changes to the minutes of the September 15, 2015 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 3, 9th paragraph should read: “Maria Foley mentioned upcoming events.”

Stephanie Porter moved to approve the meeting minutes of the September 15, 2015 regularly scheduled meeting as corrected. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Amendments to Bingen Municipal Code 17.32, Manufactured Homes

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding repealing Bingen Municipal Code (BMC) 17.32, Manufacture Homes.

Jan Brending said that BMC 17.32, Manufactured Homes contains provisions that are no longer allowed by state law. She said that in 2004 the state passed laws that do not allow manufactures homes to be treated differently than stick-built homes. Brending said the law does allow entities to adopt ordinances that restrict the age of manufactured homes and provide for size limits (minimum or maximum). She said the city does not restrict stick-built homes by size or age. Brending said there is nothing in the city’s code that would prevent someone from moving a very small home that is more than 10 years old onto a residential lot. She said there has been several people who would like to install manufacture homes that are older than 10 years. Brending said she is recommending the entire code by repealed. She said the city’s building code contains provisions on how manufactured homes are installed including obtaining a building permit.

Catherine Kiewit said she does feel that manufactured homes devalue property because they are not built for longevity.

Izzy Schroder said she is glad to see the city recommending repealing this code. She said affordable housing is needed and that as many option as possible should be made available.

Dan Armstrong said he feels there are some stick-built homes that are probably in much worse shape than a manufactured homes that is older than 10 years.

Clinton Deo said he is an individual that wants to install a manufactured home that is more than 10 years old. He said is looking at the affordability issue and could save \$50,000. Deo said that when the home is installed no one will know it is older than 10 years.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2015-09-649, Repealing Bingen Municipal Code Chapter 17.32 Manufactured Homes

Izzy Schroder moved to adopt Ordinance 2015-09-649, Repealing Bingen Municipal Code Chapter 17.32 Manufactured Homes. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2015-014, Amending Overhead Cost Allocation Policy

Jan Brending said that one of the verbal recommendations from the auditors was to revise its policy regarding how the overhead cost allocation is calculated. She said the auditors have recommended that the cost of capital improvements be included in the costs used to determine how the overhead is spread. Brending said in the past capital improvements have been removed. She said this will affect departments when capital improvements are funded because the budget will include funding for additional overhead costs.

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Resolution 2015-014, Amending Overhead Cost Allocation Policy. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2015-08-648, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 3.10a Funds

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed amendments to Bingen Municipal Code 3.10a Funds.

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments to several things including renumbering the chapter to 3.11 since there are two 3.10s. She said that the auditors have recommended that funds the city holds that belong to the state and county coming from West District fines be kept in a separate fund and reported that way to the state. Brending said the amendments adds 601, Court Remittance Agency Funds.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2015-08-648, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 3.10a Funds

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Ordinance 2015-08-648, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 3.10a Funds. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2015-10-650, Amending the 2015 Budget

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing.

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed amendments to the 2015 budget. She said the new 601 fund is added and the monies are moved out of the General Fund. Brending said in addition she reviews revenues this time of the year and makes necessary adjustments. She noted that water sales are down which has some affect on sewer overages also.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2015-10-650, Amending the 2015 Budget

Stephanie Porter moved to adopt Ordinance 2015-10-650, Amending the 2015 Budget. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Professional Services – Inspection of City Hoists/Cranes

Betty Barnes said the city has a number of hoists and cranes that have never been inspected. She said the city solicited quotes for the inspection. Barnes said Whiting Services is being recommended even though the price is \$78.23 higher than Milwaukee Crane. She said Milwaukee Crane is not providing a lift for the inspection which the city would have to pay for. Barnes disclosed that her stepson works for Whiting but he will not be doing the work.

Jan Brending noted that Barnes' stepson did not participate in putting the quote together for the city.

Stephanie Porter moved to hire Whiting Services for hoist and crane inspection in the amount of \$1,368.23 not including taxes. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Building Official Services

Betty Barnes said the city has been contracting with the City of Stevenson for the last year. She said the contract expires at the end of December. She noted that Dave Nail retired and that Stevenson is using a public work employee who has very little certification and experience. Barnes said the city was notified that Stevenson may use Skamania County's building official as backup and that Bingen would be billed for any of those costs. She said Bingen contacted Skamania County to see if they would be interested in providing building official services to Bingen. Barnes said Skamania County has provided a proposal for 2016 and that the costs are very similar to Stevenson's costs. She said Stevenson has indicated in the past that they would likely propose a change in how costs are handled for 2016 by requiring Bingen to pay for a block of hours each week which could end up costing us more. Barnes said she is recommending the city enter into a contract with Skamania County for building official services for 2016.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize signing a contract with Skamania County for building official services for 2016 based on the proposal submitted. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – August 2015

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for August 2015.

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

Old Business

Daubenspeck Donor Signage

Catherine Kiewit reviewed the pricing she received from Sign Media.

Jan Brending said the pricing is very close to that provided by Signs & Designs. She said that she feels it is in the city's best interest to use Sign Media at this time due to some constraints Signs & Designs are currently facing.

The council discussed costs for the design portion of the project.

Dan Armstrong moved to authorize using Sign Media for the donor signage authorizing up to \$500 for design purposes. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Recreational Marijuana

Betty Barnes said council members have been provided with information from the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board regarding new marijuana business licenses. She said the state will be issuing new licenses and at this time they will not be limiting the number of licenses they issue. Barnes said the new state laws also provides for the ability of a city to reduce the buffer zones from 1000 feet to a different number if the city enacts an ordinance. She said she wanted to bring it to the council's attention in case they wanted to reduce the size of the buffer zones. Barnes said she recommends that the city not reduce the buffer zones.

Jan Brending reminded the city council there are two buffer zones in the city based on the city park and the port marina park. She said both of them limit where recreational marijuana facilities can be located within the city.

There was a consensus of the council that they do not want to reduce the buffer zones.

2016 Budget and Adoption Schedule

Jan Brending said the council has a copy of the preliminary budget for 2016. She said that there are several changes that need to be made and that a complete packet will be mailed next week. Brending reviewed the 2016 budget adoption calendar with the council noting the anticipated date of adopting the budget is scheduled for December 1.

2012-2014 Audit

Betty Barnes said the council has been provided with the results of the 2012-2014 audit. She said Jan Brending should be given a hand for the clean audit.

Jan Brending noted there is a document regarding the auditor's recommendation related to procuring architectural and engineering services. She said in the past the city has used a professional services roster pulling an appropriate firm and getting a proposal from the one firm for services the city needs. She said in the future the city will be issuing requests for proposals for all professional services instead of using a professional services roster. Brending said that in most cases it will likely save the city money in advertising costs.

EMS Board Resignation

Betty Barnes said the council has been provided with a copy of Ned Kindler's resignation from the EMS Board effective the end of December. She said Kindler represents the three cities on the board. Barnes said she wants to wait a couple of weeks before making a recommendation on Kindler's replacement.

Izzy Schroder asked if there are any requirements for serving on the board.

Brending said she can check.

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD)

Betty Barnes reported that Jan Brending has been elected to serve as MCEDD's board chair for the next year.

Highway 14 Chip Seal Project

Betty Barnes reported on the status of the Highway 14 chip seal project. She said the striping has not been completed in Bingen due to weather temperatures. Barnes said it is not clear when it is going to be completed. She said the city has also expressed dissatisfaction over the quality of the project to WSDOT.

Recycling Center

Catherine Kiewit said she has been approached by several White Salmon residents who are concerned that the recycling center always seems to be closed.

Betty Barnes explained that the recycling center is closed when the bins are full and then reopened when the bins are replaced.

The council discussed the ongoing problem with the recycling center.

Upcoming Council Meetings – Council Member Attendance

Stephanie Porter noted that she will not be in attendance at the November 17 council meeting. Izzy Schroder noted that she will not be in attendance at the October 20 and November 17 council meetings.

The council noted they will not have a quorum at the November 17 council meeting due to a current vacancy. There was consensus to schedule a special meeting on November 18 at 6:00 p.m.

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 October 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 17891-17932 (dated 10/06/2015) totaling \$74,227.56. General Fund – \$44,691.70; Street - \$2,733.79; Water - \$18,547.12; Sewer - \$2,225.28; Treatment Plant - \$5,037.06; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$992.61.

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 October 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 17891-17932 (dated 09/30/15) totaling \$1,957.68. General Fund – \$1,957.68.

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 October 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 17883-17888 (dated 09/30/2015) totaling \$21,865.83. General Fund – \$9,160.62; Street Fund - \$3,582.03; Water Fund - \$1,745.07; Sewer Fund - \$529.82; Treatment Plant Fund - \$6,848.29.

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 October 6, 2015. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: check 17882 (dated 09/21/2015) totaling \$5.70. General Fund – \$5.70.

The council adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor