

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Maria Perez, Sandi Dickey, Clinton Bryan, Laura Mann. City Attorney Chris Lanz (representing Tad Connors) and City Administrator Jan Brending were present. Audience: Ben Mitchell, John Newman, James Newman, Patti Newman, Scott Hohensee, Etta Hepner, Kevin Kelly, Ryan Kreps, Keri Kelly, John Mann, Brian Donahue.

Public Comment

Etta Hepner, Gorge Heritage Museum

Etta Hepner, representing the West Klickitat County Historical Society, submitted a letter to the city council regarding water damage at the museum. She said the Historical Society believes the water is coming through the north wall and said they believe it is the responsibility of the city to repair the wall.

Certificate of Appreciation – John Newman

Betty Barnes presented a Certificate of Appreciation to John Newman which stated the following “Thank you for your dedication to the City of Bingen by serving as a council member and by serving on the civil service commission. Through your generous donation of facilities at the Columbia River Gorge Hostel and the giving of your tireless time to numerous fundraisers, parties and events, you have strengthened and enriched our communities’ development as a safe and viable place to live, work and play.”

Laura Mann said she wanted John Newman to get the recognition for all that he does in the community.

Betty Barnes thanked John and Patti Newman for helping the city with its skatepark fundraiser.

Civil Service Commission Update

John Newman said the Civil Service Commission will be interviewing two candidates for the Secretary-Chief Examiner position the 2nd week of August. He said one of the candidates is Jan Brending. Newman said the Civil Service Commission has a list of eligible candidates for lateral positions. He said the Commission is waiting to hold the oral boards for the those candidates.

Approval of Minutes – July 3, 2012

Changes to the minutes of the July 3, 2012 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence should read: “Council Members absent: Mayor Betty Barnes, Sandi Dickey and Clinton Bryan.”.

Laura Mann moved to approve the minutes of the July 3, 2012 regular council meeting as corrected. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Fire Department Request to Purchase Wildland Truck

Betty Barnes said she has received a request from the fire department to purchase a used wildland firefighting truck. Barnes said she is not supportive of the proposal as she feels the fire equipment is a saving account for major purchases and the funds can be used as seed monies to support grant applications. She said funds from Fire District #3 and reimbursements for fighting wildland fires go into the fire equipment reserve fund. Barnes said the Kevin Kelly did note that a newer 4x4 wildland truck runs at a higher reimbursement rate.

Kevin Kelly said that the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway reimbursement rate for the truck would be substantially higher but that the state reimbursement rate would only be about \$10 more.

Betty Barnes said the main purpose of the fire department is as a city fire department and that resources should be spent first on the city. She said a long-term need the city has is for a new tender that can be used for both city and wildland fires. Barnes said the tender does need to be replaced sooner than later as the existing one has a rusting tank that leaks, no power steering and air brakes that leak. She said the prior fire chief has expressed the need for a new tender. Barnes said she has decided the request could be brought before the council.

Kevin Kelly said he disagrees with the Mayor. He said that if the fire department is allowed to make the purchase the Chevrolet wildland truck will be taken out of commission and surplus. Kelly said the vehicle that is being considered for purchase is identical to the truck that was purchased in 2010.

City council members took a break and reviewed the fire department vehicles in the fire hall.

The city council discussed the departments existing inventory and the needs for additional vehicles.

Kevin Kelly said it is the general consensus of the fire department that a replacement wildland truck should be purchased first and then a tender.

Jan Brending provided a review of the financial status of the fire equipment reserve fund.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the fire department to pursue the purchase of a wildland truck with the maximum cost not to exceed \$7,499 including taxes based on inspection that the truck is found to be in good working condition. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote: Bryan – Abstain, Dickey – Aye, Kiewit – Aye, Mann – Aye, Perez – Aye.

Catherine Kiewit suggested that when budgets are being prepared that the department look out ahead and anticipate costs.

Laura Mann moved to amend proposed Ordinance 2012-07-604, amending the 2012 budget changing the Appropriation amount proposed for the Fire Equipment Reserve fund from \$6,900 to \$14,600 and the ending cash balance proposed for the Fire Equipment Reserve fund from \$24,908 to \$17,208. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Draft Small Works Roster Bid – Electrical Work for Aerators, Treatment Plant

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed small works roster for electrical work to install portable aerators in the oxidation ditch at the treatment plant. She said the city will be purchasing the major equipment to insure that the project can be completed in time for the pilot test beginning in late August. Brending said she is recommending the mayor be authorized to award the contract based on the lowest responsible bid because time is critical. She said she is also requesting an amendment to the proposed ordinance amending the 2012 budget in the amount of \$7,700 for the purchase of equipment. Brending said the funding will come out of the “Treatment Plant Replacement” fund.

Laura Mann suggested adding a completion date in the small works roster bid documents.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize the issuance of a small works roster bid, as amended, for electrical work for aerators at the Bingen Treatment Plant and to authorize the mayor to award the contract based on the lowest responsible bid. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Jan Brending presented proposed Resolution 2012-007 waiving competitive bid requirements to purchase Alan Bradley equipment. She said Alan Bradley equipment is sold through specified sales companies and therefore would be a sole source purchase.

Clinton Bryan moved to adopt Resolution 2012-007, waiving competitive bid requirements to purchase Alan Bradley equipment per RCW 39.04.280. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Catherine Kiewit moved to amend proposed Ordinance 2012-07-604 amending the 2012 budget changing the Appropriation amount proposed for the Treatment Plant Replacement fund from \$87,466 to \$95,166 and the ending cash balance proposed for the Treatment Plant Replacement fund from \$64,593 to \$56,893. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Amendments to 2012 Budget/Overhead Cost Allocation Method

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed amendments to the 2012 budget.

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed overhead cost allocation method. She said based on directives from the State Auditor’s office she has removed costs related to the council and civil attorney costs from the overhead amount that is allocated across the operations and maintenance fund. Brending said she is recommending that expenditures be the basis for the allocation of overhead as it appears to be the more fair method.

Laura Mann said Brending reviewed the method with the budget committee. She said there will be a reduction in revenue from overhead expenses to the current expense fund. Mann said, however, that revenues have also increased making up for the decrease.

Betty Barnes noted that overhead cost allocation was discussed with the city during its last audit.

Catherine Kiewit asked if any changes proposed by the City of White Salmon regarding overhead cost allocations affect the police budget and the amount Bingen pays.

Jan Brending said it is her understanding that White Salmon does not intend to change what they are including in overhead costs. She said if the overhead cost allocation changes it will be presented in a budget amendment which will be sent to Bingen.

Laura Mann moved to adopt Ordinance 2012-07-604 (as previously amended), amending the 2012 budget. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Laura Mann moved to adopt the overhead cost allocation method as presented by Jan Brending. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Agreement, Summer/Fall Pilot Study – City of White Salmon and City of Bingen with Tribal FishCo LLC

Jan Brending said she is not asking the council to approve the agreement at this meeting as a portion of the agreement is not currently available. She said the agreement has been reviewed by Tad Connors. Brending said it will be on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Lease – Depot Street

Betty Barnes said the city has received the lease documents for the parking on the south side of Depot Street. She said the cost per year would be \$6,100. Barnes said she is recommending the city not pursue the lease. She said she will let Insitu know that the city will not be leasing the property.

Clinton Bryan moved not to accept the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway lease for parking on the south side of Depot Street. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Steuben Street Crosswalks

The city council discussed options for crosswalks on Steuben Street. The council agreed to pursue looking into the costs related to StreetPrint, colored asphalt, concrete and paint.

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) Board Member Appointment

Betty Barnes said Jan Brending represents the three cities of Klickitat County on the MCEDD board and that her term is up at the end of August. She said the city has received a letter from Klickitat County asking for the city's nomination. Barnes noted that the City of Goldendale has agreed to support Jan Brending's reappointment.

Clinton Bryan moved to nominate Jan Brending as the Klickitat County cities' representative to the MCEDD board. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – June 2012

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for June 2012.

Laura Mann moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for June 2012. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

SDS Picnic

Betty Barnes said the SDS picnic is July 21st and that the council is invited.

Art and Wine Fusion

Betty Barnes said the Art and Wine Fusion in White Salmon is also scheduled for Saturday, July 21st. She said volunteers are needed.

Huckleberry Festival

Betty Barnes said she met with the Huckleberry Festival Committee which is scheduled for the 2nd weekend in September. The council will discuss skatepark fundraising opportunities related to the Huckleberry Festival at the council's first meeting in August.

4th of July

Maria Perez said she is concerned with kids that are not accompanied by parents at the 4th of July event at the Port.

The council discussed the issue and agreed that next year the city could encourage that kids should be accompanied by an adult and reminding citizens there is a curfew within the city limits of Bingen.

Tribal Trust Property

Laura Mann asked that the city write a letter regarding the tribal trust property thanking them for taking down the structures and for continued clean-up of the property. She said that all of the temporary structures had been removed but the garbage was left.

Committee and Staff Reports

Pool Bucks

Jan Brending reported that approximately half of the pool bucks have been given out. She said the city has received a request from a Bingen resident to use pool bucks for a second set of lessons. Brending noted that the specific resident is extremely grateful to the city for the pool bucks as she would never have known how much her child loved swimming.

There was a consensus of the council to allow pool bucks to be used for a second set of swim lessons.

Kids in Motion Festival

Jan Brending said the park and recreation district is hosting a “Kids in Motion Festival” in conjunction with the Concert in the Park on August 17th. She said the city has received a request for placing a temporary banner at the park advertising the event. Brending noted that the district will be obtaining hold harmless waivers participants in the event.

There was a consensus of the council to allow a temporary banner at the park advertising the “Kids in Motion Festival.”

Water Leak at Gorge Heritage Museum

Catherine Kiewit asked the city to inform the museum as to how much water they use each month.

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 July 17, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 07/17/2012) 15316-15331 totaling \$6,350.59. Current – \$1,027.05; Street - \$475.48; Water - \$1,581.41; Sewer - \$408.73; Treatment Plant - \$1,134.94; Sewer Construction and Maintenance - \$479.63; Treatment Plant Replacement - \$1,243.35.

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 July 17, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 07/13/2012) EFT, 15311-15315, totaling \$12,818.73. Current – \$5,294.05; Street - \$1,733.54; Water - \$1,451.55; Sewer - \$228.43; Treatment Plant - \$4,111.16.

At 9:30 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor