

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

DRAFT – February 2, 2021

Meeting Via Teleconference – Audio Recorded

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Catherine Kiewit at 7:00 pm. Council members present: Phil Jones, Ryan O’Connor, Isolde Schroder, Joseph O’Sullivan. Absent: Mayor Betty J Barnes. Staff present: City Clerk Cheyenne Pantoja Wright, Public Works Superintendent David Spratt, City Attorney Christopher R Lanz, Police Chief Mike Hepner. Audience: Ryan Walters.

Essential Services Update

Mayor Pro Tempore Kiewit provided an update on county and city coronavirus cases.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Chief Hepner said about half of the officers on the force had opted into receiving a COVID-19 vaccination. He said he himself was fully vaccinated.

Hepner said in two weeks officer Lewis would be finished with field training.

Hepner mentioned the recent weapons offense in Bingen and said 12 shots had been fired during the event. He noted that one suspect had been arrested and two more were under investigation.

Hepner said he supported the draft contract with the Klickitat County Sheriff’s Office for incarceration of City prisoners.

Minutes of January 19, 2021 Regular Council Meeting

Council member O’Connor made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 council meeting as presented. Council member Schroder seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Project Update – Gray & Osborne

Ryan Walters gave an overview of the City’s current projects.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

Walters said the project would be wrapped up in a few months and that the major structures were complete. He said the current focus was on equipment installation.

Collections System Upgrades

Walters described a section of collapsed pipe founds during the course of the upgrades and discussed possible options going forward. He said there was no way to know when the collapse happened but recommended it be fixed while already working on the collections system.

Walters discussed the contaminated soil from Depot Street.

City Attorney Chris Lanz gave an update and said the Department of Ecology had sampled the soil and found it to be below the threshold for contamination. He said the soil could not be sold as clean fill, but could be disposed of without further treatment.

Old Reservoir Replacement

Walters gave the council an update on the timeline for the plans to be completed for the reservoir replacement. He suggested coming up with a new name for the tank to be installed so that it would be easier to track and refer to in documents.

The council considered naming the tank the “Dry Creek Reservoir” but Public Works Superintendent Spratt said that name could cause confusion since the pre-existing Dry Creek Well was not located near the site.

The council reached a consensus on calling the tank the “Oak Street Reservoir”.

Project Estimate #4 Wastewater Facilities Improvements – TEK Construction

Council member Jones made a motion to approve the TEK Construction Project Estimate #4 for Wastewater Facilities Improvements. Council member O’Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Project Estimate #5 Wastewater Facilities Improvements – TEK Construction

Council member Schroder made a motion to approve the TEK Construction Project Estimate #5 for Wastewater Facilities Improvements. Council member O’Connor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Project Estimate #6 Wastewater Facilities Improvements – TEK Construction

Council member O’Sullivan made a motion to approve the TEK Construction Project Estimate #6 for Wastewater Facilities Improvements. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CUP 2020-003 Endres Decision

Correction: First page should list the square footage for the proposed new construction to be “864” instead of “874”.

Council member O’Connor made a motion to approve the Finding of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Decision for Conditional Use Permit 2020-003 as corrected. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CUP 2021-001 Kermani Decision

Council member Schroder made a motion to approve the Finding of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Decision for Conditional Use Permit 2021-001 as presented. Council member O’Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CUP 2021-002 Mehaffy Decision

Council member Jones made a motion to approve the Finding of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Decision for Conditional Use Permit 2021-002 as presented. Council member O'Connor seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agreement: Klickitat County – Incarceration of City Prisoners 2021-2022

City Clerk Pantoja Wright explained she had proposed and drafted a new agreement with a two-year duration instead of continuing to amend the original agreement from 2019. She said the Klickitat County Sheriff's Office and the Bingen-White Salmon Police Department were supportive of the proposal as well.

The name of the jail contact was corrected to "Carmen Knopes".

Council member O'Connor made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Agreement with Klickitat County for Incarceration of City Prisoners as corrected. Council member Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Voucher Approval

Due to clerical error vouchers were not distributed to council before the meeting.

Council member O'Connor made a motion to conditionally approve the payroll and claims vouchers to be reviewed at the meeting of February 16, 2021. Council member O'Sullivan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The council adjourned at 8:01 pm.

City Clerk

Mayor