

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 5, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Laura Mann, Clinton Bryan, Guillermo Fisch. Council members absent: Sandi Dickey, Catherine Kiewit. City Administrator and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Tova Cochrane, Robert Vanderkloot, Sverre Bakke.

Approval of Minutes – June 21, 2011

Changes to the minutes of the June 21, 2011 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 9th paragraph should read “Page 3, 16th paragraph should read as follows: ‘Jim Smith provided an extensive overview of the activities of Klickitat PUD. Smith discussed the economic and climate factors that are causing the PUD to consider a rate increase between 6 and 10 percent.’”

Page 3, 2nd paragraph should read “Catherine Kiewit said that in reading the contract, it says that for first time cooperative members joining after June 30th the fee may be prorated based on 6 month intervals, January – June, June – December.”

Page 3, 4th paragraph, 2nd sentence should read “Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.”

Page 4, 6th paragraph should read “Catherine Kiewit said that maybe the signage could say that the public is welcome to go to the Port on the 4th of July to set off the fireworks.”

Page 4, 15th paragraph should read “Clinton Bryan said he would like to have an emergency management meeting for plans to be in place for any future incidents.”

Page 5, add the following after the 1st paragraph “Catherine Kiewit asked Tony Domish if the time officers worked the fundraiser was counted as overtime. Domish said two of the officers were reserves and that he and Judi Culp also covered the booth. Domish said it is a good point and would need to be considered for future fundraising events.”

Laura Mann moved to approve the meeting minutes of the June 21, 2011 regular council meeting as corrected. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Annexation into Underwood Conservation District

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing to consider comments regarding possible annexation into the Underwood Conservation District.

Jan Breeding said the council has been provided an overview of the Underwood Conservation District, a map showing the general location of the area proposed to be annexed, annexation procedures, and a draft petition.

Laura Mann said she has looked at the District’s website. She said she was impressed with the mobile chipper program that took place in Skamania County. Mann said she also looked at the State Conservation Commission’s website and read the state statutes. She said it does not appear that the District would add an additional regulatory layer to the city.

Tova Cochrane said the District does not have regulatory or enforcement powers. She said the District can assist landowners with regulatory requirements that come from other agencies.

Jan Breeding reviewed state regulations that impact resources such as wildlife, critical areas, wetlands, etc. She said the city is also subject to the State Environmental Protection Act. Breeding said the District does not govern those requirements.

Betty Barnes said she noted several demonstration projects at the White Salmon city park that are being conducted by the District.

Tova Cochrane said the District has an example of low-water landscaping and examples of different types of composting.

Robert Vanderkloot said he endorses annexation of the city into the Underwood Conservation District. He said he supports the goals of the district and noted that protecting and enhancing the environment can help tourism. Vanderkloot said he participated in the Earth Day event the District held at Jewett Creek this year.

Betty Barnes asked for information on the District's taxing ability.

Tova Cochrane said the District has the authority to assess either \$5 per parcel or \$0.10 per acres. She said the District has not taken advantage of the ability for the 70 years the District has been in existence. Cochrane said the current board is opposed to assessing the tax and that there is no financial benefit to the District due to administrative costs.

Guillermo Fisch moved to Petition the State Conservation Commission to annex the 1941 boundaries of the City of Bingen into the Underwood Conservation District. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

Betty Barnes said the Street Committee members have reviewed the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program and have recommended adoption.

Jan Breeding said all projects have been moved back one year and costs increased by 5%.

Laura Mann moved to adopt Resolution 2011-001, Adopting the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for the Years 2012-2017. Guillermo Fisch seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed White Salmon Budget Amendments – Discussion

Betty Barnes said she and Dave Poucher, Mayor of White Salmon, are recommending that the police chief review the proposed budget and come back with budget cut options. She said a new proposed budget amendment would be presented to the two councils at the first meetings in August. Barnes said the proposed budget is a 25% increase for Bingen over the original 2011 budget adopted by White Salmon.

Guillermo Fisch asked what the 25% equals.

Jan Breeding said it is a \$65,000 to \$70,000 increase for Bingen.

Laura Mann thanked Jan Breeding, Betty Barnes and Leana Johnson for the work that has been done.

Betty Barnes said the two mayors have deferred to Jan Breeding and Leana Johnson to provide information on the budget. She said she appreciates Jan Breeding's knowledge and assistance.

Jan Breeding noted that she has reviewed the calculations for determining overhead costs and Bingen's share as prepared by Leana Johnson and that she agrees with those calculations. Breeding said she has also reviewed the 2009 and 2010 reconciliations. She said White Salmon will owe Bingen a small amount for the two years combined.

State of Washington Intergovernmental Agreement for Purchasing Cooperative – Authorization to Sign

Jan Breeding said being a member of the State Purchasing Cooperative is necessary to participate in the state's purchasing card (VISA) program. She said no interest or fees are charged for either program unless the city is late in paying the regular charges.

Clinton Bryan asked if the city is required to purchase off of the state contracts.

Jan Breeding said no. She said that the VISA cards will replace open accounts such as those at NAPA. Breeding said she sees the majority of cost savings in the fire department and when the city needs to purchase vehicles.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the city to participate in the State of Washington Purchasing Cooperative. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Old Business

Water Use – Continued Discussion

Betty Barnes provided an overview of the water use issue and distribution system leakage history.

The council discussed the issue and recommendations for determining where the water is going.

Guillermo Fisch asked to have David Spratt, Public Works Superintendent, attend the next meeting.

There was a consensus of the council to purchase a 6-inch and 8-inch meter at the lower prices which will require a 2-month lead time. The council also agreed the city needs to pursue all other options as soon as possible including installing a 2-inch master meter on the area east of the Bingen city limits.

Clinton Bryan asked that specifications for the different types of meters be sent to him.

Laura Mann suggested the city begin looking into grants to help assist with potential costs.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Insitu

Betty Barnes said she has not heard any news about a site location for Insitu.

Elections – Filing

Betty Barnes reported the Auditor's office will open up filing for any positions that did not have someone file July 11 through July 13.

Park Vandalism

Betty Barnes said that the men's restroom was vandalized last week with the men's toilet blown up and the urinal torn off the wall. She said the restroom is closed until the toilet can be replaced. Barnes said that due to the vandalism there will be no "Pizza in the Park" in July.

Clinton Bryan asked staff to look into the types of materials that the Washington Department of Transportation uses in their restrooms along the state highways.

Park Trash Cans

Betty Barnes said she was in the park this weekend cleaning up some trash and noticed that the trashcans were overflowing. She said she is recommending that additional trashcans be installed near the basketball court and skatepark. The council agreed.

4th of July

Clinton Bryan suggested that for next year possibly Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts or volunteers from the high school could help in the clean up of the Port.

Jan Brending noted that in past years we have tried to work with the Boy Scouts but with little success. She said the juvenile crew did come in on the 5th to help with the cleanup.

Laura Mann said she applauds David Spratt and Jan Brending for getting the "Fireworks Prohibited" signs up. She said that when permanent signs are installed she recommended a review of the wording and suggested "Fireworks Use Prohibited" so there was less confusion related to the fireworks stands that are located in Bingen.

Temporary Maintenance Worker

Betty Barnes said that Jay Hicks remains out on medical leave. She said she is recommending hiring a temporary maintenance worker part-time to assist David Spratt.

Jan Brending said the temporary employee would be paid the entry level wage for a maintenance worker.

Clinton Bryan moved to authorize the mayor to hire a temporary maintenance worker at the entry level wage for a maintenance worker. Guillermo Fisch seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Park Watering

Betty Barnes said that she thinks some adjustments to the watering of the park need to be done. She suggested that Tova Cochrane might be able to provide some information on how often the park should be watered and for how long.

Committee and Staff Reports

Klickitat County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Laura Mann said she has attended her first Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). She provided a review of the work the committee has completed to date.

Pool Bucks

Jan Brending said the city has issued 158 pool bucks. She said she thinks the word is spreading that the city has free pool bucks available and that with the warmer weather there will be more of a demand.

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 5, 2011. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks EFT, 13242-13273 totaling \$90729.21. Current - \$74270.18; Street - \$1502.09; Water - \$8563.83; Sewer - \$752.03; Treatment Plant - \$5641.08.

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 5, 2011. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 6/23/2011 and 6/30/2011) 13236, 13240-13241 totaling \$778.48. Current -\$627.64; Water - \$150.84.

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 5, 2011. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (06/30/2011) EFT, 13237-13239, totaling \$20038.55. Current - \$9020.83; Street - \$3257.60; Water - \$2694.10; Sewer - \$389.73; Treatment Plant - \$4676.29.

At 9:10 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor