

## **BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**November 15, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:30 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Stephanie Porter (by telephone), Izzy Schroder, Dan Armstrong. Staff present: City Attorney Chris Lanz, City Administrator Jan Brending, Police Officer Mike Hepner. Audience present: Michelle Scott, Carl McNew, Krystyna Wolniakowski.

### **Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update**

Mike Hepner said he has nothing new to report. He noted that there are more calls this year than last year. Hepner said the two new officers will graduate from the academy on November 22.

### **Approval of Minutes – November 1, 2016**

Izzy Schroder moved to approve the meeting minutes of the November 1, 2016 council meeting as presented. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Krystyna Wolniakowski, Columbia River Gorge Commission**

Krystyna Wolniakowski, Columbia River Gorge Commission provided information to the city council regarding the Gorge Commission's upcoming review process for the Scenic Area Management Plan. She said the Gorge Commission is required to review the management plan every 10 years. Wolniakowski noted that the planned review is overdue. She said it is projected to be completed by June 30, 2019. Wolniakowski said the Gorge Commission currently has a survey available asking for input regarding concerns or issues with the Management Plan.

Wolniakowski said the Gorge Commission has also been holding public workshops related to the legal descriptions of the urban area boundaries.

Izzy Schroder asked if the Gorge Commission has reached out to individual property owners.

Wolniakowski said individual property owners were not notified, however public notice was provided in the local newspapers. She noted that public hearing will be held before adopting the rules related to the urban area boundary legal descriptions.

Izzy Schroder asked if the survey is available online.

Wolniakowski said yes. The council and Wolniakowski discussed the style and questions included on the survey.

Izzy Schroder asked if there are some specific things the City of Bingen could do.

Wolniakowski said spreading the word and letting people know about upcoming workshops. She said she may come back to the council for specific issues.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the bulk of the work the Gorge Commission does is related to permits.

Wolniakowski said yes. She noted that all development proposals in Klickitat County that are located in the Scenic Area come to the Gorge Commission for review.

Izzy Schroder asked if the Gorge Commission will be holding an event celebrating the 30 years of the National Scenic Area.

Wolniakowski said it will be held at the Hood River Inn on December 13th after the Gorge Commission meeting.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the Gorge Commission is concerned about funding.

Wolniakowski said the Oregon governor's office has said they will not reduce the budget. She noted, however, that Washington agencies are being asked to reduce their budgets. Wolniakowski said both states must match each other. She said the Gorge Commission is working closely with the Washington legislators.

Betty Barnes asked what benefit there would be if Klickitat County would adopt the Scenic Area Management Plan.

Wolniakowski said the county would then do their own review of development and the Gorge Commission could focus on other issues.

It was also noted that at this time individuals and businesses in Klickitat County cannot apply for Scenic Area economic development grants/loans but if the county adopted the management plan then that would change.

### **Public Hearing – Proposed 2017 Budget**

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing for the proposed 2017 budget.

Jan Brending asked the council if it wanted to increase the amount provided to Washington Gorge Action Programs for Youth Center services. She said the budget currently provides \$3,000. Brending said there was discussion last year about increasing the amount. She suggested increasing the amount to \$4,000.

Izzy Schroder said she thinks it would be good to contribute more if it doesn't hurt the budget.

Catherine Kiewit said she also thinks it would be good to contribute more. She said she would like to know what the needs of the Youth Center are.

Betty Barnes said she thinks it would be good to have Gorge Action Programs make a presentation regarding the Youth Center to the council during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017.

Catherine Kiewit moved to increase the amount provided to Washington Gorge Action Programs for Youth Center services to \$4,000 for 2017. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Jan Brending noted there will be final public hearing for the proposed 2017 budget at the December 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting. She said the budget is slated for adoption on that date.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing for the 2017 budget.

### **Proposed Resolution 2016-008, Approving Interlocal Agreement with Association of Washington Cities Risk Management Services and Its Members**

Jan Brending presented proposed Resolution 2016-008 which approves the interlocal agreement with Association of Washington Cities Risk Management Services.

Izzy Schroder moved to adopt Resolution 2016-008, Approving Interlocal Agreement with Association of Washington Cities Risk Management Services and Its Members. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Proposed Interlocal Agreement with City of White Salmon, Treatment Plant Funding ERU Rate**

Jan Brending presented a proposed interlocal agreement with the City of White Salmon establishing the ERU rate for 2017. She said White Salmon has proposed interlocal agreement on their Wednesday night agenda. Brending said the ERU rate for 2016 was \$13.75 and for 2017 it is \$14.00.

Catherine Kiewit moved to accept the proposed interlocal agreement with City of White Salmon establishing the 2017 ERU rate of \$14.00 per ERU. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **2017 Maintenance Agreement, BIAS Software**

Jan Brending presented information on the 2017 maintenance agreement with BIAS software. She said the maintenance agreement provides for customer service, troubleshooting, training, routine software updates, etc. on the city's existing BIAS software.

Catherine Kiewit asked if this is the cost of new software.

Brending said no it is just the maintenance agreement. She said the cost of new software would be at least 4 times the maintenance rate.

Izzy Schroder said the maintenance agreement costs are very reasonable compared to other software maintenance agreements. She said these types of agreements for customized software are common.

Izzy Schroder moved to authorize the mayor to sign the 2017 maintenance agreement with BIAS software. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Mayor’s Update and Council Comments**

***Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Letter – Highway 14 Truck Traffic***

Betty Barnes provided a copy of a letter from WSDOT in response to the city’s letter regarding truck traffic on Highway 14. She said that she plans on contacting WSDOT to see if they would provide assistance by way of installing solar powered pedestrian flashing lights at the crosswalks.

Jan Brending said she intends to ask the public works department to install the temporary flashers, like the ones that are currently installed at Walnut, on the Humboldt Street pedestrian signs and the other pedestrian signs on Steuben.

***Christmas Parade and Santa in the Park***

Betty Barnes said she spoke to the Fire Department who has selected December 16 for the Christmas Parade and Santa in the Park. She said Beneventi’s Pizza, the Eagles and Roof Top Ministries will be helping out.

***Christmas Lights***

Betty Barnes said the Christmas lights will be installed on the trees on November 29. She said Stan Dickey has agreed to let the city use the tree located on his property just east of Mo Java.

***Conferencing Equipment***

Catherine Kiewit suggested the city should look into the purchase of conferencing equipment since the council has more frequent telephone attendance for council meetings.

Jan Brending said that is something she can look at when the city considers the purchase of a new phone system for city hall.

**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 November 15, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT and checks 18781-18805 (dated 11/15/2016) totaling \$35,029.31. General Fund – \$9,115.31; Street - \$627.83; Water - \$2,823.50; Sewer - \$689.41; Treatment Plant - \$703.26; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$21,070.00.

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 November 15, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 18776-18780 (dated 11/15/2016) totaling \$16,612.05. General Fund – \$7,094.55; Street - \$2,877.47; Water - \$1,824.51; Sewer - \$302.84; Treatment Plant - \$4,512.68.

**Executive Session**

Betty Barnes announced at 8:22 p.m., the city council will meet in Executive Session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 5 minutes.

At 8:27 p.m. the city council resumed regular session and adjourned.

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City Clerk

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Mayor