

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 1, 2016

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

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Tracy Wyckoff said the two new officers will graduate from the academy in 21 days. He said he will be happy when they are here. Wyckoff reported that he will be retiring in the latter part of 2017. He said things are going well in both towns. Wyckoff reported that both he and Tony Warren were recently involved in foot chases.

Catherine Kiewit asked how Wyckoff sees animal control moving forward.

Wyckoff said the police department will continue doing what they have been doing until the animal control officer is fully trained. He said the department will issue citations if necessary.

Betty Barnes asked Wyckoff to work with City Attorney Chris Lanz on Bingen's dog ordinance in an effort to get the two ordinances to more closely mirror each other.

The council discussed the Bingen dog ordinance and the differences with White Salmon's ordinance.

Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2016

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the October 18, 2016 council meeting as presented. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Presentation of Proposed 2017 Budget

Jan Brending said the proposed 2017 budget has been made available to all council members and the public, noting that all documents are available at city hall and on the city's webpage. She said that several items on the agenda are related to the budget including 1) a 1% increase in property taxes, 2) no increase in sewer fees, 3) a 10% increase in water rates, and 4) a restructuring of the city's business licensing program. Brending said the city will hold two formal public hearings on November 18th and December 6th with the budget slated to be adopted at the December 18th council meeting.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2016-10-666, Determining Property Taxes for 2017

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed ordinance 2016-10-666, Determining the Amount to be Raised by Advalorem Taxes for the Year 2017.

Jan Brending said the property taxes for 2017 will increase by 1% which is \$2,005.69.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2016-10-666, Determining the Amount to be Raised by Advalorem Taxes for the Year 2017

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Ordinance 2016-10-666, Determining the Amount to be Raised by Advalorem Taxes for the Year 2017. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2016-007, Regarding Property Tax Increase

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Resolution 2016-007, Regarding Property Tax Increase. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2016-11-667, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.24.030, Monthly Sewer Rates

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed ordinance 2016-11-667, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.24.030, Monthly Sewer Rates.

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments provides for no increase in 2017 sewer rates and continues the 5% increase each year thereafter.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2016-11-667, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.24.030, Monthly Sewer Rates

Stephanie Porter moved to adopt ordinance 2016-11-667, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.24.030, Monthly Sewer Rates. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2016-12-668, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.04.120, Service Classifications and Charges Designated for Water Service

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed ordinance 2016-12-668, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.04.120, Service Classifications and Charges Designated for Water Service.

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments provide for a 10% increase in water rates for 2017 and a 5% increase each year thereafter.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2016-12-668, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.04.120, Service Classifications and Charges Designated for Water Service

Izzy Schroder moved to adopt ordinance 2016-12-668, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 13.04.120, Service Classifications and Charges Designated for Water Service. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2016-13-669, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.04, Business and Occupation Licenses

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed ordinance 2016-13-669, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.04, Business and Occupation Licenses.

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments restructures the city's business licensing code and provides for a flat \$40 fee per year for each business. She said this will include rentals or leases of residential or business property.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the code provides for requiring separate business licenses for different businesses in one location.

Brending said yes. She said, in addition, the amendments provide that a separate license is also required if a business has multiple locations in Bingen. Brending noted that if an individual has more than one rental unit in Bingen then they would only be required to pay a single \$40 per year fee.

Catherine Kiewit asked how the new business license ordinance would correspond to the city's street vendor ordinance.

Brending said the fees in the city's street vendor ordinance are in addition to any fees required in the city's business license ordinance. She noted that the city's street vendor ordinance only pertains to vendors who are using the city's property or rights-of-way. Brending said it does not affect vendors who are located on private commercial property.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2013-13-669, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.04, Business and Occupation Licenses

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt ordinance 2013-13-669, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 5.04, Business and Occupation Licenses. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Animal Control Logo for Vehicle

Betty Barnes said Jan Brending had suggested not using the city's logo for a magnetic sign for the animal control vehicle.

The council discussed the type of signage to be used. There was a consensus not to use the logo but to make the sign an oval with "City of Bingen" curved and to use reflective lettering.

Animal Control Officer Training

Jan Brending said she was able to contact Tom Fitzgibbins who previously provided animal control services to Bingen. She said he works currently part-time for the City of Goldendale. Brending said he has said he could provide two (2) four (4) hour training sessions for the new animal control officer at

\$25.00 per hour. She said she can work with Betty Barnes and Chris Lanz in developing an agreement with Fitzgibbins if that is agreeable with the council.

Catherine Kiewit moved to enter into a contract with Tom Fitzgibbins to provide up to 8 hours of animal control training at \$25 per hour. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Things to Know about Living in Bingen Brochure

Catherine Kiewit asked if the “Things to Know about Living in Bingen” brochure is being provided to new utility customers.

Brending said yes.

The council discussed additional ways to provide the information to citizens who may not be paying utility bills. There was a consensus to provide information via the Chamber of Commerce.

Bingen Point Overpass

Betty Barnes said she and Jan Brending met with Washington State Department of Transportation regarding the Bingen Point overpass. She said the purpose of the meeting was to outline the timeline, identify key stakeholders and possible dates for open houses. Barnes said the project is expected to go to construction in 2020 with completion in 2021.

Safety Lights – Walnut and Steuben Street Crosswalk

Betty Barnes said that some blinking yellow construction lights that run on batteries have been installed on both sides of Steuben at the Walnut Street crosswalk. She said it is not intended to be a permanent fix but to see how it would work. Barnes said she was contacted about some safety issues at the crosswalk because of the number of people parking in the public parking lot and using the crosswalk when it is dark.

Santa in the Park

Stephanie Porter asked what date will Santa in the Park take place.

The council discussed possible dates noting that school lets out for the holidays on Friday, December 16.

Betty Barnes said she will discuss possible dates with the Fire Department and Paul Beneventi.

Barnes noted that she plans on talking to Stan Dickey about using an evergreen tree that is located on his property near Mo Java instead of cutting down a tree this year.

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 1, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT and checks 18720-18738 (dated 11/01/2016) totaling \$69,325.86. General Fund – \$32,266.58; Street - \$3,331.77; Street Construction & Maintenance - \$130.41; Water - \$21,311.31; Sewer - \$3,593.82; Treatment Plant - \$5,147.71; Water Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$1,453.05; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$2,091.21.

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 1, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 18739 (dated 10/25/2016) totaling \$5,118.75. General Fund – \$5,118.75.

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 1, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 18746-18747 (dated 10/31/2016) totaling \$1,219.47. Court Remittance Agency Fund - \$1,219.47

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 1, 2016, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 18740-18747 (dated 10/31/2016) totaling \$23,094.52. General Fund – \$10,330.87; Street - \$3,442.57; Water - \$2,307.07; Sewer - \$399.96; Treatment Plant - \$6,614.05.

Executive Session

Betty Barnes announced at 8:00 p.m., the city council will meet in Executive Session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 15 minutes.

The city council resumed regular session at 8:15 p.m. and announced it will continue to meet in Executive Session for 15 minutes.

At 8:30 p.m. the city council resumed regular session and adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor