

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 19, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Dan Armstrong, Izzy Schroder (by phone). Members absent: Stephanie Porter. Staff present: City Attorney Chris Lanz, City Administrator Jan Brending, Police Chief Tracy Wyckoff, Police Officer Ashley Hackett. Audience: Michelle Scott, Rex Johnston.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2016

Changes to the minutes of the June 21, 2016 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 5, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence should read: “Catherine Kiewit said she attended the pool meeting on June 16.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the June 21, 2016 regular council meeting as corrected. Dan Armstrong seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Tracy Wyckoff reported that both new police officers are in the police academy and have passed their first exam. He said graduation is scheduled for November 22.

Catherine Kiewit asked if there is a chance that the officers will not graduate.

Tracy Wyckoff said yes that there are several elements where officers could possibly fail. He said officers have to learn a lot of information in a very short amount of time. Wyckoff said if an officer fails two tests then they are released from the academy. He said both officers have reassured him that they will not accept any job offers from other departments while they are at the academy.

Dan Armstrong asked where the academy is located.

Wyckoff said it is located in Burien.

Rex Johnston, Klickitat County – Proposed Criminal Justice Sales Tax

Rex Johnston said he wants everyone to know that the Board of Commissioners is in complete support of all law enforcement and that the board wants to make law enforcement jobs as safe as possible.

Johnston said the board will hold a workshop in Goldendale on July 21st at 1:45 p.m. to discuss the idea of a criminal justice sales tax. He said it is important to understand what the need is and how to pay for it. Johnston said the board has not made a decision. He said he feels the issue needs to go to the vote of the people. Johnston said the board could propose the 0.1 percent sales tax or even a 0.3 percent sales tax. He said it will be necessary to justify the need for the additional sales tax. Johnston noted there are people still having a hard time in Klickitat County.

Johnston asked if there have been new problems since marijuana was legalized.

Tracy Wyckoff said there has been an increase in DUIs associated with marijuana. He said he feels that people are more violent when using marijuana due to the strength of the marijuana.

The council thanked Rex Johnston for coming to the council meeting.

Betty Barnes told Tracy Wyckoff that she wanted the police department to know that the City of Bingen supports them and hopes the officers are taking all necessary precautions to be safe.

Tracy Wyckoff said he feels Bingen-White Salmon is a great and supportive community. He said he is very glad that he has been able to work for the department in the last part of his career.

Mayor’s Update and Council Comments

Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler

Betty Barnes said she attended a meeting hosted by Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler that included representatives of FAA and BPA regarding powerlines that cross the Columbia that do not have ball markers on them. She said Congresswoman Herrera Beutler is working with the two agencies to get the issue corrected.

Insitu

Betty Barnes said she, Mayor Dave Poucher, Mayor Mike Cannon, and David Sauter met with Insitu to discuss housing needs. She said Insitu is surveying their employees to find out what types of housing is needed. Barnes said that most Insitu employees would like to live within 15 minutes of where they work.

Catherine Kiewit asked if there will be any specific direction on how to solve the affordable housing issue. She said there is a shortage of rentals and affordable housing.

Betty Barnes said there is not a lot of buildable land in Bingen. She said that it might be possible to rezone single-family zones to multi-family. Barnes said Mayor Poucher has some ideas about purchasing property at a discounted rate and offering it to buyers who would then later sell it at market rate.

Jan Brending said the housing issue is difficult to address and is a problem across the state. She said she will send the council members a copy of a recent article titled "Why is Affordable Housing So Hard."

Highway 14 Paving

Catherine Kiewit asked when Highway 14 will be completed.

Betty Barnes said they should be done Thursday and Friday and then they will stripe.

Humboldt Street Traffic Counters

Catherine Kiewit asked if the information has been obtained from the traffic counters on Humboldt Street.

Jan Brending said not yet.

Growlerz Closing

Betty Barnes noted that Growlerz has closed.

Cherry and Steuben Corner Curb

Catherine Kiewit said it appears that the curb at the corner of Cherry and Steuben Street has been damaged.

Betty Barnes said that might have occurred when a water line was repaired.

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 July 19, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 18514-18539 (dated 07/05/2016) totaling \$55,708.55. General Fund – \$31,896.49; Street - \$6,762.68; Street Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$830.76; Water - \$8,180.90; Sewer - \$4,403.20; Treatment Plant - \$3,617.85; Water Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$1,016.67.

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 19, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, checks 18546-18565 (dated 07/19/2016) totaling \$11,700.89. General Fund – \$3,817.21; Street - \$2,611.59; Water - \$2,586.67; Sewer - \$624.49; Treatment Plant - \$2,060.93.

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 19, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 18540-18541 (dated 06/30/2016) totaling \$894.15. Court Remittance Agency Fund - \$894.15.

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 19, 2016 The 18509-18513 (dated 06/30/2016) totaling \$20,649.30. General Fund – \$9,365.09; Street Fund - \$2,780.02; Water Fund - \$2,054.52; Sewer Fund - \$374.69; Treatment Plant Fund - \$6,074.98.

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 19, 2016 The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, checks 18509-18513 (dated 06/30/2016) totaling

\$20,649.30. General Fund – \$9,365.09; Street Fund - \$2,780.02; Water Fund - \$2,054.52; Sewer Fund - \$374.69; Treatment Plant Fund - \$6,074.98.

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 19, 2016 The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, checks 18542-18545 (dated 07/15/2016) totaling \$14,672.52. General Fund – \$6,195.32; Street Fund - \$1,993.18; Water Fund - \$1,520.72; Sewer Fund - \$277.50; Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,685.80.

The council adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor