

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Laura Mann, Sandi Dickey, Clinton Bryan, Catherine Kiewit, Rosi Salguero. Council members absent: Maria Perez. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Ben Mitchell.

Approval of Minutes – February 7, 2012

Changes to the minutes of the February 7, 2012 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 2, 3rd paragraph should read: “Mike Rockwell said that it wouldn’t be as noisy or have the visual impacts if transported by barge.”

Page 2, 9th paragraph, 1st sentence should read: “Kathy Fitzpatrick, City of Mosier Council Member, said the City of Mosier is writing a letter to the Governor and state agencies asking that an analysis of impacts be provided.”

Page 4, 3rd paragraph, 3rd sentence should read: “Barnes said she decided to hire SDS Lumber for snow removal because it was more cost effective.”

Page 4, add the following paragraph after the 7th paragraph: “2nd bullet of policy shall read: ‘Park on the North or West Side of the Street – If it is an odd day, please park on the west side of the street (for north/south streets) or on the north side of the street (for west/east streets). If it is an even day, please park on the east side of the street (for north/south streets) or on the south side of the street (for west/east streets).’”

Page 4, 9th paragraph should read: “Catherine Kiewit said she would like to give credit to the arborist and tree contractor who trimmed the city’s trees. She said she feels their work helped save the city’s trees from damage during the storm.”

Page 4, 12th paragraph should read: “Jan Brending said she thought the tickets could be easily printed in black and white by the city staff.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2012 regular council meeting as corrected. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Whitson PTO, Annual Spring Silent Auction – Marisa Cieloha

Marisa Cieloha said she is a Whitson PTO board member. She said the PTO is disappointed that the city’s fundraising event is being scheduled a month prior to the PTO auction. Cieloha said the PTO is concerned about a possible decrease in donations and revenue. She provided two letters addressed to the city council from other Whitson parents.

Alan Rice said he is involved with the Whitson PTO. He said he understands the need for fundraising but is concerned with the timing. Rice asked the city council to consider a different date for any future fundraising events. He said the skatepark deserves support but the timing is an issue.

Lisa Harrison said she talked to Laura Mann about the fundraising event. She said she is also concerned about competing for teenagers to help out with the events.

Jan Brending said she believes there are a lot of high school students that need community service hours.

Laura Mann said she believes the two events are different. She said Bingen’s event includes dinner, alcohol and a limited number of people in attendance. Mann said she understands the concerns regarding donations and believes there are ways to alleviate the concerns. She said the city appreciates the Whitson PTO silent auction and what it does. Mann said she thinks the city can work with the PTO. She noted that there are fundraising events every month.

Lisa Harrison said the PTO will be paying attention to comments during donation contacts.

Catherine Kiewit said the City of Bingen was concerned with the timing and looked at the calendar of events trying to find the best date. Kiewit suggested that the Whitson PTO add the silent auction to its calendar of events on the PTO website.

Lisa Harrison said the PTO is mostly worried about procurement.

Marisa Cieloha said it is not the PTO's intention to try and convince the city to change its plans but to state that the timing is not optimal for the PTO.

Flagpole Location – Insitu

Betty Barnes said Insitu has submitted a request to install a flagpole that would be located in the sidewalk and right-of-way at the Winery facility. She said she contacted the Washington State Department of Transportation and was told that it is up to the city to make the decision. Barnes said she recommends the city have an agreement with Insitu if the council agrees to the location.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the installation of a flagpole by Insitu in the right-of-way after an agreement has been approved by the city attorney and mayor. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Proclamation 2012-001, Declaring March 2012 American Red Cross Month

Betty Barnes presented a proclamation declaring March 2012 American Red Cross Month. A correction was noted in the 4th paragraph which should read: "WHEREAS, the American Red Cross also supported major international disasters, including the Japan earthquake and tsunami response while continuing its work on the 2010 Haiti earthquake response and recovery; and".

Laura Mann moved to authorize the mayor to sign the proclamation as corrected declaring March 2012 American Red Cross Month. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – December 2011

Jan Brending provided an overview of the December 2011 treasurer's report and ending cash balances for 2011.

Laura Mann moved to accept the December 2011 treasurer's report. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Old Business

Jail Contract

The City Council discussed the options for jail services either with Klickitat County or Skamania County.

Tad Connors said Skamania County would charge \$55 per day with a \$25 booking fee and Klickitat County is currently proposed \$62 per day with a \$25 booking fee. He said Klickitat County has been provided with the latest proposal from the cities of Bingen and White Salmon. Connors said that at the present time both cities would prefer to continue with Klickitat County if a contract can be worked out.

Clinton Bryan authorized the legal counsel and the mayor to continue to negotiate with Klickitat County and to sign the current contract proposal or substantially similar contract with the appropriate county. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Laura Mann said she would prefer to stay with Klickitat County and hopes that can happen.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Water Leak

Clinton Bryan asked if the remainder of the water line on Steuben should be replaced. The city council discussed the replacement of the water line on Steuben and the old line coming down Bingen hill which is the same type of pipe.

Jan Brending said she will ask Gray & Osborne to develop a proposal for engineering replacement of the two lines.

Equipment Purchases

Clinton Bryan suggested the city should buy a generator for the city shop so that the shop garage doors and the public works computers can be used during a power outage. He also suggested the city investigate purchasing a snowplow for the city's service truck and a utility all-terrain vehicle that could be used for multiple purposes such as snowplowing sidewalks, mowing lawns, hauling debris, etc.

Staff will investigate options and costs for the suggested equipment and present them to the council in March.

Community Pride

Community Pride is scheduled for April 27, 28, and 29. Sign up sheets for volunteers are available at Teunis Wyers law office in Bingen.

Betty Barnes said she and Maria Perez will be presenting a resolution for Earth Day in March.

Coal Trains

Betty Barnes asked who the council would like to do the fact finding regarding the coal trains.

Council members agreed they will do some individual fact finding.

Catherine Kiewit said she feels the council should do something. She said one of the questions is whether the increase of coal trains will decrease air quality.

Jan Brending will contact Kathy Fitzpatrick, City of Mosier council member and get a copy of the letter the City of Mosier wrote.

Skatepark Fundraising

The city council discussed the upcoming fundraising event scheduled for March 24.

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 February 21, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 2/21/2012) EFT, 15016-15031 totaling \$14633.94. Current – \$5929.14; Street - \$1524.61; Water - \$3756.18; Sewer - \$669.87; Treatment Plant - \$2754.14.

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 February 21, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 01/13/2012) EFT, 14928-14932, totaling \$12,280.34. Current – \$4937.83; Street - \$1662.57; Water - \$1457.37; Sewer - \$229.39; Treatment Plant - \$3993.18.

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 February 21, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 01/31/2012) EFT, 14966-14970, totaling \$22,806.69. Current – \$10904.59; Street - \$3320.34; Water - \$2449.82; Sewer - \$352.66; Treatment Plant - \$5779.28.

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 February 21, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 02/15/2012) EFT, 15011-15015, totaling \$13040.20. Current – \$5626.38; Street - \$1662.57; Water - \$1457.35; Sewer - \$229.37; Treatment Plant - \$4064.53.

At 9:48 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor