

## **BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**November 19, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:05 p.m. Council members present: Betty Barnes, Laura Mann, Catherine Kiewit, Maria Perez, Sandi Dickey. Council members absent: Izzy Schroder and Monica Lizama. City Administrator Jan Brending and City Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Tracy Wyckoff, Mike Hepner, Rick Johnson, Amber Marra, Scott Baker.

### **Approval of Minutes – November 5, 2013**

Corrections to the meeting minutes of the November 5, 2013 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph should read: “Page 1, 9<sup>th</sup> paragraph, last sentence should read: ‘She said this is due to a typographic error in the fuel purchase line item in the original budget and additional revenue funds.’”

Page 2, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence should read: “Tamara Kaufman, representing Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber is looking for a contribution of \$1,000 to go towards a package travel initiative.”

Page 3, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, add the following at the end of the paragraph: “She said she also likes the single person approach versus the team approach for a city attorney.”

Page 3, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 5<sup>th</sup> sentence should read: “Brending said the budget also maintains the ERU (equivalent residential unit) rate Bingen and White Salmon uses to fund the treatment plant.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the November 5, 2013 regular council meeting as corrected. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

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

Tracy Wyckoff said Bingen has been pretty quiet. He said several suspects for car prowls were apprehended.

Mike Hepner said individuals are continuing to block open the doors at the restrooms after hours. He suggested that locking the doors earlier might help prevent some vandalism. Hepner said that when the officers come on at 6 p.m. they could make sure the garbage cans are not blocking the doors open and that doors are locked.

Tracy Wyckoff said that it is usually dark when the kids are running around and causing problems.

Sandi Dickey said she thinks locking the bathrooms earlier is a good idea.

Catherine Kiewit said she agrees to locking the restrooms earlier due to darkness but would like to see the time extended as it gets darker later.

Betty Barnes noted that a fire was recently started in the ladies restroom sink.

Betty Barnes asked if Wyckoff could provide a summary of the proposed 2014 law enforcement budget. Wyckoff said there was some changes to dispatch services. He said after discussion with Ed Powell the fee for dispatch services will be \$30,000. Wyckoff said the budget provides for a chief, three officers and a clerk. He said that he hopes to appoint a sergeant next year and by 2015 have additional officers in place.

Betty Barnes said that it is the city’s understanding that the budget does not provide funding for a car.

Wyckoff said that one of the options the department is looking at is leasing a vehicle which is basically a loan over a 5-year period.

Jan Brending said the City of White Salmon has stated that the budget does not include any funding for purchase or lease of a police vehicle at this time.

Betty Barnes asked if there has been any discussion about bringing on an additional officer in 2014 if the two cities can come to an agreement about the future of an interlocal agreement.

Wyckoff said the position will not be filled until it is known what direction the two cities are going in.

Laura Mann said that she supports what the department is doing and would like to see the two cities come together so another officer could be hired.

Wyckoff said the council should feel free to call him 24/7 to discuss any issues. He said he has an open line of communication.

Mike Hepner said he spends about 55% to 65% of his time in Bingen. He said there is more traffic in Bingen.

#### **Rick Johnson, City of Goldendale – Animal Control Update**

Rick Johnson introduced himself to the city council. He said Goldendale has been providing animal control services to Bingen for 3 to 4 years. Johnson said the animal control officer is in Bingen at least once a week. He said that due to Tom Fitzgibbons' retirement earlier this year an officer was not always in Bingen. Johnson said Brad Fulton has now been trained and is familiar with Bingen.

Johnson said Tom Fitzgibbons provided him with a report: 2 warnings were issued related to chickens and roosters, 3 warnings for no dog license, 2 dogs were impounded and he talked to the owners of 20 loose dogs in the park.

Johnson said that Brad Fulton will be coming to Bingen at different times but will likely work more weekends than have been done in the past because Fulton is a student. Johnson said Fulton will work 16 hours a week for Goldendale with time spent in Bingen at least once a week.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the animal control officer ever patrols on foot.

Johnson said he did not know but could ask the officer to spend some time on foot patrol.

Betty Barnes agreed that walking the area would be good.

Rick Johnson apologized for not being at the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. He said more frequent reports, at least monthly, will be provided to the city. Johnson said the reports will include the days, times and any contacts with additional information.

Betty Barnes said she would like to see Brad Fulton have a limited commission so he could write tickets related to animal control.

Rick Johnson said that could be possible. He noted that the officer will not write tickets for dangerous dogs but would help impound a dangerous dog.

City staff will provide the animal control officer with a list of licensed dogs, tag numbers, addresses, etc.

Catherine Kiewit said she is happy to hear about the new changes. She said she is a little unsure how the year has gone up to this point. Kiewit said she feels there was a noticeable decrease in service.

Rick Johnson said he is aware of 3 to 4 weeks when an officer did not make it to Bingen. He said an officer checks in with dispatch when they arrive in Bingen and when they are leaving Bingen.

Catherine Kiewit suggested that maybe the two cities could figure out an appropriate amount to balance out the lack of service earlier in the year.

Rick Johnson said he would rather provide additional time in Bingen than changing the contract. He said he can determine how many days were missed and provide additional coverage to make up that time.

Laura Mann said that would be great. She said she understands about transitions and that things happen. She noted that she would like to see the days an officer is in Bingen mixed up and the officer not coming on the same day at the same time each week.

Rick Johnson said that can be worked out and as Fulton's class schedule changes his times for patrol will also change.

#### **Scott Baker, Mosier**

Jan Brending introduced Scott Baker a student at Portland State University who lives in Mosier and is writing a paper on Bingen.

Scott Baker said he is impressed with the work Bingen does and the city's commitment to youth.

### **Public Hearing – 2014 Revenue Budget and Property Tax Levy**

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing on the 2014 revenue budget and property tax levy.

Jan Brending said the city will hold an additional public hearing on the 2014 budget at the December 3 council meeting.

Laura Mann thanked Betty Barnes for her letter in the budget documents. She asked that the letter reflect the police department provides for a chief, 3 officers and a clerk. Mann said the letter is great and highlights what the city is doing.

Mann thanked Jan Brending for her work in the putting the budget documents together.

Catherine Kiewit agreed.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

### **Proposed Resolution 2013-011, Regarding Property Tax Increase**

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve Resolution 2013-011, Regarding Property Tax Increase. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **Proposed Ordinance 2013-11-621, Determining the Amount to be Raised by Advalorem Taxes for the Year 2014**

Sandi Dickey moved to approve Ordinance 2013-11-621, Determining the Amount to be Raised by Advalorem Taxes for the Year 2014. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **2014 Contract for Incarceration Services – Skamania County**

Betty Barnes said the price for daily incarceration goes from \$55 to \$60 and that the remainder of the contract is the same.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the 2014 contract for incarceration services with Skamania County. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **BIAS 2014 Service Agreement**

The council and staff reviewed the 2014 BIAS service agreement. Betty Barnes asked staff to research costs for having a time sheet/card system added to payroll for possible future use.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize the signing of the BIAS 2014 service agreement. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **2014 Agreement with Washington Gorge Action Programs**

Jan Brending said the agreement with Gorge Action Programs remains the same as in previous years.

Laura Mann said the youth center has a couple of staff members who are doing a great job at the youth center.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize the mayor to sign the 2014 agreement with Washington Gorge Action Programs. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### **2014 Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Budget – Review and Response to City of White Salmon**

The city council discussed the proposed 2014 Bingen-White Salmon Police Department budget.

Betty Barnes said that based on the information provided by the City of White Salmon that the budget provides for a police chief, 3 officers and a clerk. She said it provides for 20 hours of coverage per day at 7 days per week. Barnes also noted that the budget does not provide funding for the purchase or lease of a police vehicle.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the mayor to send a letter accepting the 2014 budget with the following understandings: 1) the budget is based on a police chief, three officers and a clerk; 2) the budget is based on a modified schedule of 20 hours per day, 7 days per week; 3) the police budget does not include the purchase or lease of a police vehicle; and 4) that if the two cities can come to an agreement about the

future of the department that a fourth officer could be hired depending on the two cities’ ability to finance the position. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Mayor’s Update**  
***Tony Hawk***

Betty Barnes reported that she contacted the Tony Hawk Foundation and learned that Tony Hawk will not be in attendance at the OMSI event in February. She said that she did ask if there was a time that he might be in the northwest and could attend a ribbon cutting at the skatepark. Barnes said she will followup on the conversation. She noted that the foundation was interested in the work the city did for fundraising and may want to talk to the city about that process.

***Street Tree Lights***

Betty Barnes said that on December 3 staff and others will be putting the lights on the street tree and decorating the Christmas tree. She said SDS will be providing the tree and that Insitu, the Port and SDS will help the city crew put up the lights.

The council agreed to turn on the lights on the evening of December 3.

***Santa Parade***

Betty Barnes said the Santa Parade will take place on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at approximately 4:30 p.m. She said Santa will ride in one of David Spratt’s four wheelers this year.

***Water Rights Application***

The council was informed that the city has submitted a non-additive water right to the Department of Ecology. Jan Brending noted that the process could take 6 months to a year.

***Hydrogen Sulfide Flyer***

Betty Barnes said that Catherine Kiewit and her sister did an awesome job on the flyer.

The council asked that a thank you letter be sent to Catherine’s sister.

***Composting Survey Results***

Jan Brending provided a memorandum summarizing the results of the composting survey.

***State Transportation Funding***

Jan Brending said she spoke with Senator Curtis King who said the Bingen Point overpass is included in the state transportation funding package that is being considered by the legislature.

***Fire District 3 Open House***

It was noted that Fire District 3 and the Chamber of Commerce will be hosting an open house on December 3.

**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 November 19, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 16321 (dated 11/15/2013), checks EFT, 16323-16340 (dated 11/19/13) totaling \$22293.54: Current – \$1481.17; Street – \$231.96; Water - \$2120.21; Sewer - \$419.10; Treatment Plant - \$3751.43; Water Construction - \$11334.92; Sewer Construction - \$954.75.

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 19, 2013. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, payroll checks 16317-16320, 16322 (dated 11/15/2013) totaling \$11222.08. Current – \$4599.44; Street - \$1570.50; Water - \$1387.06; Sewer - \$253.75; Treatment Plant - \$3411.33.

The council adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor