

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Catherine Kiewit at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Ryan O'Connor, Laura Mann, Izzy Schroder, Phil Jones, Catherine Kiewit. Council members absent: Betty J. Barnes (joined council meeting at 8:30 p.m.). Staff present: City Administrator Jan Brending, City Attorney Chris Lanz, Sergeant Mike Hepner. Audience present: Tammy Kaufman, Ken Park, Emily Reed.

Public Comment

Tammy Kaufman, Insitu

Tammy Kaufman reported that Insitu will be hosting a community leadership day with a Scan Eagle observation on August 29. She said Betty Barnes has been invited to represent the City of Bingen and Jan Brending will be representing Mid-Columbia Economic Development District.

Emily Reed, Gorge Happiness Month

Emily Reed said she is representing "Gorge Happiness Month" which will take place in October. She provided information to the council regarding the event and asked if the council will join as partner to participate by speaking to what makes council members happy at their two meetings in October. Reed said the city will be identified as a partner and if it chooses to participate requested that a logo for the city be provided.

Laura Mann moved to participate in Gorge Happiness Month by expressing gratitude at the two council meetings scheduled during the month of October. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Sergeant Mike Hepner reported that the chief has authorized the use of the new policies. He said all of the officers are reading through the policies to familiarize themselves with them. He said the policies are similar to those that are used in Skamania County and Klickitat County as both entities use the "Lexipol" system. Hepner said Lexipol provides best policies which are then modified to the individual entity.

Hepner said there were two cases in Bingen recently: one involving an individual who tried to commit suicide and assaulted an officer and the second involving an individual who was sleeping in the park with visible drug paraphernalia on him and lying around him.

Catherine Kiewit asked if mental health was recommended for the individual who attempted suicide.

Chris Lanz said there was no other requirement other than jail.

Izzy Schroder asked if the individual who attempted suicide was under the influence.

Hepner said he believes he was. Hepner reported the department is working on several theft cases.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the department has any concerns related to the solar eclipse.

Hepner said not in particular but that there will likely be an increase in traffic.

Izzy Schroder said she was wondering if individuals who reside in Oregon and are under the age of 21 can buy tobacco in Washington.

Hepner said yes they can purchase tobacco in Washington if they are 18 or older.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – August 1, 2017

Changes to the minutes of the August 1, 2017 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 5, 7th paragraph, add the following to the end of the paragraph: "She noted that Klickitat County is providing a \$7,500 grant to the city for the income survey."

Page 5, last paragraph should read: "Betty Barnes said there are three different transportation meetings scheduled for Wednesday, August 2nd, including a meeting regarding the Bingen Overpass and one regarding the Walnut Street railroad crossing."

Laura Mann moved to approve the meeting minutes of the August 1, 2017 regular council meeting as corrected. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Conditional Use Permit Application – 2017-002, Joletta Lorio, Daycare – Decision

Jan Brending presented the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision for Conditional Use Permit 2017-002, Joletta Lorio, Daycare.

Laura Mann noted that the last paragraph on page 2 should read “The proposed conditional use permit is to operate a daycare facility for up to 9 children and 2 employees in an existing single-family dwelling.”

Izzy Schroder moved to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision for Conditional Use Permit 2017-002, Joletta Lorio, Daycare as corrected. Ryan O’Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed TIB Grant – 200/300 E. Humboldt Street

Jan Brending reviewed the two options for a grant application for the 200/300 E. Humboldt Street project. She noted that the difference between the two options is that in one the sidewalk on Cedar Street is left out of the project. Brending noted that she met with Gray & Osborne engineers and the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) engineer in the spring to review the project. She said the TIB engineer has recommended that the project not include Cedar Street. Brending said that if the city wants to move ahead with the Cedar Street sidewalk when the larger project is funded and moves ahead that the city could choose to fund that portion itself. She said it is also possible that the city may want to move the sidewalk to the east side of Cedar, instead of locating it on the west side, based on improvements made by the Bingen School Inn.

Council members discussed the proposed grant applications and asked that under the “Community Facilities Served – Business/Industrial Areas” that C’s Market be taken off and NAPA added noting that C’s Market is not within the project area. The council also asked that the Bingen Theater be added to the Public Facilities section and that it be noted that there is a school bus stop in the 400 block of East Humboldt Street.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the submission of a grant application to the Transportation Improvement Board for the 200/300 E. Humboldt Street project without the Cedar Street sidewalk with the updates to page 7 of the grant application. Ryan O’Connor seconded the motion. Phil Jones said he will be abstaining from the vote because his home is located within the scope of the project and it will directly benefit him. The motion passed with the following vote: Jones – Abstain, Kiewit – Aye, Mann – Aye, O’Connor – Aye, Schroder – Aye.

Proposed TIB Grant – Pavement Preservation

Jan Brending presented the draft applications for two TIB pavement preservation grants: 1) overlay on the 100 blocks of N. Cherry and N. Cedar and 2) chip seal on Franklin from Cedar to the end of the block, Humboldt from Willow to Alder, Pine from Franklin to Steuben, Vine from Humboldt to Steuben, Walnut from Jefferson to Steuben, and Cedar from Jefferson to Humboldt.

The council discussed the proposed grant applications.

Izzy Schroder moved to authorize the submission of two grant applications to the Transportation Improvement Board for overlay and chip seal. Phil Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2017-013, Waiving Competitive Bid Requirements to Contract for Replacement of Damaged Insulation in Fire Hall

Jan Brending said the insulation in the fire hall roof received water damage last winter due to ice damming. She said she has worked with the city’s insurance company and after receiving a quote for the work they will be paying for the repairs. Brending said she sent out a small works roster bid request to nine companies and did not receive any bids. She said the company that prepared the original quote and provided an updated quote using prevailing wages and is still interested in doing the work. Brending said the proposed resolution allows the city to directly enter into a contract with Northwest Insulation LLC, dba Northwest Weatherization in the amount of \$14,542.60.

Laura Mann moved to adopt Resolution 2017-013, Waiving Competitive Bid Requirements to Contract for Replacement of Damaged Insulation in Fire Hall. Ryan O’Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Washington Department of Natural Resources Donation Engine H5S117, Authorization to Accept Transfer

Jan Brending explained the city has the opportunity to receive a donation of a wildland engine from the Washington Department of Natural Resources. She explained that due to fire season and the need to get the process started the mayor and the fire chief signed the agreement with the Department of Natural Resources. Brending said the mayor is asking for a retroactive authorization. She noted that the fire department intends to surplus Engine #35.

Izzy Schroder moved to retroactively authorize the mayor to sign the agreement with the Department of Natural Resources to accept the transfer of Engine H5S117. Phil Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Personal Services Contract, Gray & Osborne, Engineering Services for Traffic Calming and Stormwater Options

Jan Brending presented the scope of work and cost for engineering services for traffic calming and stormwater options. She said the cost for the work is \$11,863 with an option for geotechnical services related to the stormwater options which is an additional \$4,135 for a total of \$15,998. Brending said she recommends the geotechnical services be accepted as it is not clear how groundwater may be flowing in the area where there are concerns. She said the funding for the project will come from the street fund.

Izzy Schroder moved to authorize the mayor to sign a contract with Gray & Osborne for engineering services for stormwater solutions and traffic calming options in the amount of \$15,998. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2017-014, Authorizing Surplus of Equipment No Longer Useable to the City

Laura Mann moved to adopt Resolution 2017-014 authorizing the surplus of fire engine #35 with a minimum bid requirement of \$1,000 and that the funds would be deposited into the fire capital reserve fund. Phil Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Huckleberry Festival Committee – Park Electrical Work

Betty Barnes reported that the Huckleberry Festival Committee would like to donate some electrical work to the panel in the park. She said this will allow better service to be provided for events that are held in the park. Barnes said all work be done by a professional contractor with a permit from the Washington Department of Labor & Industries. She said the work will be coordinated with the public works department.

Laura Mann moved to accept the Huckleberry Festival Committee's offer to upgrade the electrical panel in the park. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Bingen School Inn After Hours

Betty Barnes said the Chamber together with the Society Hotel will hold an after hours event at the Bingen School Inn on Wednesday, August 16 at 5:30 p.m. She said this is an opportunity for the public to tour the buildings and see the preliminary plans for the new facility.

Bingen Overpass

Betty Barnes said she and Jan Brending attended a meeting with WSDOT regarding the overpass. She said WSDOT is still working on different alternatives that she hopes will be presented to the public in the near future. Barnes said WSDOT intends to have a booth on Saturday, September 9 at the Huckleberry Festival to provide information about the overpass to the public.

Walnut Street Railroad Crossing Grant

Jan Brending said the city has received a \$430,000 grant through Washington State Department of Transportation. She said the grant is intended for the installation of gates at the Walnut Street railroad crossing. Brending said she and Betty Barnes met with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) recently to discuss the project. She said the railroad will be preparing documents that identify what can be completed with the \$430,000. Brending noted that as soon as the gates are installed the city can begin pursuing the possibility of installing wayside horns at both crossings.

Betty Barnes said in the discussion regarding the Walnut crossing it was noted by BNSF that in the past the railroad had looked at trying to close the crossing. Barnes said the representatives from UTC stated that the crossing had been declared a public crossing and the question of closing the crossing was no longer an issue and would not be happening.

Park – Drinking Fountains

Ryan O’Connor said that the kid’s size fountain at the park was not working.

Park – Sequoia Tree

The council expressed concerns that the tree located on the east end of the park appears to be dying. Jan Brending said she will contact the company that installed the trees to come out and inspect it.

Park – Mosaic

The council and staff discussed the ongoing deterioration of the mosaic around the drinking fountain. There was discussion of painting the mosaics and then sealing them with some type of acrylic to prevent any further damage. Catherine Keiwit said she will reach out to the individual who helped install the initial mosaic.

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 August 15, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: check 19405 (dated 08/1/2017) totaling \$360.00. General Fund - \$360.00.

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 August 15, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT and checks 19406-19425 (dated 08/15/2017) totaling \$21,051.27. General Fund - \$4,230.03; Street Fund - \$921.34, Water Fund - \$14,442.71; Sewer Fund - \$415.63; Treatment Plant Fund - \$1,041.56.

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 August 15, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, payroll checks 19401-19404 (dated 08/15/2017) totaling \$17,580.44. General Fund - \$7,234.35; Street Fund - \$2,983.42; Water Fund - \$2,100.76; Sewer Fund - \$370.99; Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,890.92.

The council adjourned 9:15 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor