

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 16, 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, and Stephanie Porter. Staff present: City Attorney Craig Trummel, City Administrator Jan Brending. Audience: Michelle Scott, Marc Thornsby, Linda Schneider, Leslie Naramore.

Public Comment

Dan Armstrong – SDS Tour for Council Members

Dan Armstrong announced SDS Lumber will provide a tour for council members on Thursday, February 18 at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – February 2, 2016

Izzy Schroder moved to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting on February 2, 2016 as presented. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Washington Gorge Action Programs

Linda Schneider, Executive Director for Washington Gorge Action Programs introduced Leslie Naramore as Associate Director. Schneider said she will be retiring on December 31.

Linda Schneider provided an overview of the programs provided by Washington Gorge Action Programs. She said Gorge Action Programs is a community action agency that has been operational for almost 22 years and is the only one in the Gorge.

Leslie Naramore provided an overview of the Youth Center which is one of the programs provided by Gorge Action Programs.

Catherine Kiewit asked if transients are getting any services from Gorge Action Programs.

Linda Schneider said they do not see many transients. She said they may be visiting the food bank. Schneider noted Gorge Action Programs has an agreement with the warming shelter in Hood River.

Dan Armstrong asked how people find Gorge Action Programs.

Leslie Naramore said it is mostly by word of mouth. She said that if individuals are seeking help from one service agency they may be referred to other agencies.

Linda Schneider said that a lot of referrals come from churches and Washington Department of Social and Health Services.

Linda Schneider said that Gorge Action Programs will be hosting an open house soon for its new facilities in Bingen.

Betty Barnes said that when the council approved its 2016 budget it was noted that the \$3000 provided for the Youth Center had not been raised in a number of years. She said that at that time the council expressed an interest in learning more about Gorge Action Programs. Barnes thanked Linda Schneider for her many years of service.

Klickitat County Reimbursable Agreement

Jan Brending said the city has entered into similar agreements with Klickitat County in the past which allows the county to provide road paving services based on reimbursement. She said signing the agreement does not mean the city has to use Klickitat County but the county is usually cheaper than going out to contract. Brending said the most recent work the county did for the city was the paving of Alder Street.

Dan Armstrong moved to approve the Klickitat County Reimbursable Agreement. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Hood River County Agreement for Use of Animal Control Facilities

The city council discussed the proposed agreement. There was consensus that the language in Section 3 D should be worded to reference Bingen Municipal Code and that the time of stay should be 5 or 7 days versus 3 or 5 days.

The council asked whether the city will be paying Hood River for all impound fees or will a dog owner pay Hood River directly for impound costs related to their dog. Staff was directed to make an inquiry with Hood River County and if necessary amend Section 4 under city obligations.

Catherine Kiewit moved to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement with Hood River County for use of animal control facilities with the recommended change in Section 3 and changes in Section 4 if necessary. Izzy Schroder seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Committee Appointments

The city council discussed committee appointments. The committee appointments for 2016 are as follows:

- Finance and Personnel Committee (Budget) – Catherine Kiewit and Izzy Schroder
- Water and Sewer Committee – Catherine Kiewit and Stephanie Porter
- Street Committee – Dan Armstrong and Vacant
- Fire and Police Committee – Izzy Schroder and Dan Armstrong
Fire Board – Dan Armstrong
- Park and Recreation Committee – Stephanie Porter and Vacant
- Education Liaison – Izzy Schroder

Treasurer's Report – January 2016

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for January 2016. She noted that the budget amendments approved at the February 2 meeting are not included in the January report.

Izzy Schroder moved to accept the January 2016 Treasurer's Report. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

White Salmon Letter of Support

Betty Barnes said that White Salmon has asked her to write another letter of support for the city's water grant.

Christmas Lights

Betty Barnes announced that the lights will be coming down this week.

Animal Control Officer

Betty Barnes said that the city has received a couple of calls inquiring about the animal control officer position but has not yet received any applications.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the announcement could be posted in the post office.

Businesses

The city council discussed business vacancies including McDonalds. It was noted that the McDonalds Corporation owns the property and building. Jan Brending said Carmen's Kitchen should be opening soon.

Daubenspeck Park

Council members asked if the wood chips in the play ground area are going to be replaced. Jan Brending said yes, she will be obtaining quotes for engineered wood chips and that it is the intent to pull out all the old chips and replace with all new chips.

The council discussed a number of issues related to the park including providing some type of barrier between the playground and the skatepark to help prevent little children running towards the skatepark and falling and possible future replacement or additions to the existing play equipment.

Jan Brending noted that she intends to meet with the Budget Committee to discuss the use of reserve funds. She noted there are several projects listed at the park including addressing groundwater issues at the skatepark, providing additional lighting at the park around the skatepark, covering the basketball court and building a picnic shelter.

Highway 14 (Steuben) Stormwater Drainage

Catherine Kiewit asked if stormwater drainage could be addressed when WSDOT comes back to address the chip seal.

Betty Barnes explained that stormwater drainage would not be addressed through the chip seal project. She said that when the road is repaved in a few years then WSDOT has agreed to address it at that time.

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 February 16, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT and checks 18208-18226 (dated 02/16/16) totaling \$19614.56. General Fund – \$5740.05; Street - \$2446.89; Water - \$3943.02; Sewer - \$2775.40; Treatment Plant - \$3486.56; Sewer Construction & Maintenance Fund - \$725.85; Treatment Plant Improvement Fund - \$496.79.

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 16, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: check 18202 (dated 02/10/2016) totaling \$68.75. General Fund – \$13.75; Street Fund - \$13.75; Water - \$13.75; Sewer - \$13.75; Treatment Plant - \$13.75.

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 February 16, 2016. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks (dated 1/31/2015) totaling \$881.55. Court Remittance Fund - \$881.55.

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 16, 2016 The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll EFT and checks 18203-18207 (dated 02/16/2016) totaling \$14,178.16. General Fund – \$5827.15; Street Fund - \$2031.17; Water Fund - \$1527.17; Sewer Fund - \$279.99; Treatment Plant Fund - \$4512.68.

The council adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor