

## BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 17, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:05 p.m. Council members present: Ryan O'Connor, Laura Mann, Catherine Kiewit, Phil Jones, Izzy Schroder, and Student Council Member Cesar Robles. Staff present: Deputy Clerk Cheyenne Willey, City Attorney Chris Lanz, Police Chief Tracy Wyckoff, Sergeant Mike Hepner. Audience present: Tammy Kaufman, Ken Park, Jan Brending.

### Public Comment

#### *Tammy Kaufman, In situ*

Tammy Kaufman extended an invitation to In situ's Community Celebration to be held October 28, 2017 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Hood River County Fairgrounds. She said the focus of the event was to show appreciation for the firefighters and first responders that worked diligently to keep the Gorge communities safe throughout the summer. Kaufman said the celebration would be a family friendly event and that admission would be free.

### Bingen-White Salmon Police Department Update

Sergeant Hepner said he received a letter of support from the Bingen City Council regarding his transition to Police Chief. He stated that he was very grateful for the support of the council, and that he looks forward to serving the community as the Chief of Police.

Chief Wyckoff said he would like to express his sincere thanks and gratitude to the Bingen City Council for their support during his time as Police Chief. He said his time working for the Bingen-White Salmon Police Department was the most enjoyable time of his entire career. He stated that the unwavering support of the Mayor, Council, and the public helped him move the department forward in many ways including equipment, vehicles, and hiring great personnel. He said he could not thank everyone enough for standing behind the department, and that he is very proud of what the department had accomplished. Chief Wyckoff said he is sure Sergeant Mike Hepner will do an outstanding job as his successor.

Chief Wyckoff added that the Coffee with a Cop event was a success, and that it was a great environment. He said he heard many positive conversations and that Officer Ashley Hackett had done a great job of putting the event together.

### Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2017

Changes to the minutes of the October 3, 2017 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 5, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence should read: "Barnes said some of the options for resolving the scavenging and other problems include the request that the city adopt an ordinance prohibiting scavenging, fencing the site with a gate and installing permanent cameras."

Council Member Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the October 3, 2017 regular council meeting as corrected. Council Member O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### Gorge Happiness Month

Council members, staff and the audience expressed happiness and thankfulness. Expressions of gratitude included convenience of modern services, the occasion to spread happiness to others, health of family members, smooth career transitions, the service of Police Chief Wyckoff, and the reliability of Deputy Clerk Willey.

**Public Hearing – Proposed 2017 Revenue Sources and Property Tax Levy**

Mayor Barnes opened the public hearing regarding the proposed 2017 Revenue Sources and Property Tax Levy. She explained that a 10% increase in water base fees was proposed to cover two interfund loans, and that there was no proposed increase to sewer rates.

Council Member Kiewit asked how much sewer base fees cost in the City of White Salmon.

Jan Brending said that the sewer base fees in White Salmon are more expensive than Bingenø \$46.00 per month. She said the cities pay an equal ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit) rate.

Mayor Barnes closed the public hearing.

**Proposed 2018 Contract with Skamania County for Incarceration Services**

Council Member Kiewit moved to table the proposed 2018 Contract with Skamania County for Incarceration Services until the meeting of November 7, 2017.

Council Member Jones seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Proposed Personal Service Contract, City of White Salmon Interlocal Agreement**

Council Member Mann asked if the proposed Personal Services Contract rate is what was used previously when Jan Brending provided financial services to the City of White Salmon.

Mayor Barnes said no, it was not.

Council Member Mann said she had questions regarding the inclusion of allowable expenses in the contract.

Jan Brending said that there would not be any charges under that category, and that it was there for legal purposes only.

City Attorney Lanz said he did not see any issue with the contract as presented.

Council Member Schroder moved to approve the Personal Service Contract, City of White Salmon Interlocal Agreement.

Council Member Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

**Old Business**

***Xerox Color Copier Lease, Revision***

Changes to the lease of the Xerox Color Copier were noted as follows:

The box labeled "other" should be checked on the 1<sup>st</sup> page, to match the billing cycle selection of quarterly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> page.

Council Member Kiewit moved to approve the revised Xerox Color Copier lease as changed.

Council Member O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### ***Bingen Recycling Center***

Representatives from Klickitat County Solid Waste intend to speak at the November 21, 2017 council meeting.

Council Member Kiewit spoke with Hood River Garbage Regional Manager Jim Winterbottom about the developments with China's garbage policy and how it will affect the Gorge area. She stated that according to Winterbottom, China's decision was political and it may pass or it may have lasting effects. She said Winterbottom feels the issue will affect the entire West Coast, but that it was too early to know to what degree.

The council discussed the recycling center and collection of recyclables in Klickitat County.

City attorney Lanz provided a memo regarding scavenging ordinances and examples from other Washington cities. He explained that due to liability concerns, Bingen should adopt anti-scavenging code.

Council Member Kiewit suggested an ordinance banning climbing in and around the collection bins.

The council discussed the recycling center and what type of behavior should be banned to ensure that the Bingen does not have a liability risk.

### ***Income Survey***

Deputy Clerk Willey will provide a list of known residents to Evergreen Rural Water of Washington, so that survey forms can be mailed out. Responses are due by November 8, 2017, and door-to-door efforts will begin shortly thereafter.

Council and staff discussed asking bilingual volunteers to accompany door-to-door surveyors.

### ***LED Lighting***

Mayor Barnes said that toward the beginning of November 2017 the LED lights will be installed through Bingen.

### ***MSRC Finance Essentials Workshop***

Deputy Clerk Willey will be attending a Financial Essentials Workshop in Yakima, WA, on November 9, 2017.

### ***Klickitat County Fire District No. 3***

Mayor Barnes said that Klickitat County Fire District No. 3 has sent a letter regarding the possibility of hiring a training officer to provide training services to the District No. 3, White Salmon, and Bingen fire departments. She said it should be discussed with the fire department as to whether or not they felt it should be pursued.

### ***Treatment Plant Tour***

Council Members O'Connor and Jones said the tour of the Treatment Plant went very well and that it was great to see the equipment. They agreed it was very informative and thorough, and that they enjoyed meeting Manager Ton Hons and Operator James Buckland.

**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 October 17, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: check 19537 (dated 10/06/2017) totaling \$106,498.78. CDBG Grant, Housing Rehabilitation - \$106,498.78.

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 October 17, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: Payroll EFT, Checks 19538-19541 (dated 10/13/2017) totaling \$26,800.35. General Fund - \$16,869.45, Street Fund - \$2,888.22, Water Fund - \$1,979.83, Sewer Fund - \$345.51, Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,717.34.

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 October 17, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: Checks 19542-19550 (dated 10/17/2017) totaling \$1,228.49. General Fund - \$771.26, Street Fund - \$81.13, Water Fund - \$131.13, Sewer Fund - \$81.12, Treatment Plant Fund - \$163.85.

The council adjourned 10:10 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor