

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

June 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty J. Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Catherine Kiewit, Stephanie Porter, Izzy Schroder (by telephone), Ryan O'Connor. Council members absent: Laura Mann. Staff present: City Administrator Jan Brending, City Attorney Chris Lanz. Audience present: Tony Gilmer, Tammy Kaufman, Ken Parker, Clinton Bryan, Ruth Shafer.

Public Comment

Ruth Shafer, White Salmon Valley Community Library

Ruth Shafer introduced herself as the new librarian for the White Salmon Valley Community Library. She said she has replaced Jennifer Hull who retired. Shafer said she lives in White Salmon and has actually been with the library district for 26 years.

Tony Gilmer, Klickitat County EMS District #1

Tony Gilmer said the EMS district recently completed three open houses – one at each station, celebrating EMS week. He said the board has completed interviews for the operations manager position and have made an offer. Gilmer said the board hopes to make an announcement in a couple of weeks.

Approval of Minutes – May 16, 2017

Changes to the minutes of the May 16, 2017 regular council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, the date in the footer should read “May 16, 2017”.

Page 1, 2nd paragraph, 3rd sentence should read: “He said Lexipol works with departments to update policies, continues to provide daily communication regarding any new changes, and maintains applicable training modules.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the meeting minutes of the regularly scheduled May 16, 2017 council meeting as corrected. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Amendments to the 2017 Budget

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed amendments to the 2017 budget.

Jan Brending provided an overview of the proposed amendments.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2017-02-673, Amending the 2017 Budget

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve Ordinance 2017-02-673 Amending the 2017 Budget. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2017-008, Closing the 1973 Bond Reserve and 1973 Bond Redemption Funds

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed resolution. She said the 1973 bonds have been paid off and there is a zero balance in the funds. She said the proposed resolution officially closes the fund.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve Resolution 2017-008 Closing the 1973 Bond Reserve and 1973 Bond Redemption Funds. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Resolution 2017-009, Closing the Public Works Trust Fund Loan Fund

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed resolution. She said the Public Works Trust Fund loan has been paid off and there is a zero balance in the funds. She said the proposed resolution officially closes the fund.

Stephanie Porter moved to approve Resolution 2017-009, Closing the Public Works Trust Fund Loan Fund. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2017-03-674, Amending BMC 3.11, Funds

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed Ordinance 2017-03-674, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 3.11, Funds.

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments remove funds that have been closed by the council and renames the “Water Construction & Maintenance Fund” and the “Sewer Construction & Maintenance Fund.”

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Ordinance 2017-03-674, Amending BMC 3.11, Funds

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Ordinance 2017-03-674, Amending BMC 3.11, Funds. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2017-04-675, Amending BMC 6.04, Dogs

Betty Barnes opened the public hearing regarding proposed Ordinance 2017-04-675, Amending BMC 6.04, Dogs.

Jan Brending reviewed the proposed amendments stating that they are designed to bring Bingen’s code closer to White Salmon’s language without reducing any of the restrictions that Bingen has in place. She noted several areas the council might want to discuss including increasing the insurance liability requirement for “potentially dangerous dogs” from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Brending noted there are some additional requirements added for potentially dangerous dogs including microchipping, wearing an identifying collar, and requiring a shorter leash of 4’ versus 8’.

Council and staff discussed the proposed amendments with some typographical corrections noted. Council asked that the proposed language in 6.04.035, Rabies vaccination required, be reworded to make it clear that a dog that has bitten a person breaking the skin and that does not have a current rabies vaccination certificate on file is impounded for 10 days. Council also asked that section C of 6.04.035 be reworded to make it easier to read.

Council members will check to see how much insurance providing for \$100,000 or \$250,000 liability costs.

The proposed amendments with suggested changes will be considered for adoption at the next council meeting.

Betty Barnes closed the public hearing.

Proposed Resolution 2017-010, Establishing Fees and Charges

Jan Brending said the resolution provides for adding a daily impound fee for dogs impounded at the city facility. She said she is proposing a fee of \$35 per day. Brending noted that the daily fee is in addition to the impound penalty fee charged in the city’s code.

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve Resolution 2017-010, Establishing Fees and Charges. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Park Improvements – Estimated Costs

Jan Brending provided information to the city council regarding estimated costs for park improvements including a dog park, lighting at the skatepark, covering the basketball courts, replacing playgrounds equipment, picnic shelters, and remodeling the park restrooms.

Jan Brending noted that the city council is also considering some street improvements that may have an impact on the availability of funds. She said she anticipates providing information to the council regarding low-cost options for stormwater and traffic calming options sometime in August. Brending said the city will also reapply for a grant for the Humboldt Street project that will require matching funds. She said, in addition, there may need to be some funding used at city hall either rehabilitating the existing heating/air conditioning unit or replacing it, and the purchase of a new telephone system.

Catherine Kiewit said she feels that safety issues should come first and then prioritizing some the park improvements. She said she feels the lighting at the skatepark is her first priority and then a small picnic shelter near the playground and replacing some of the playground equipment. Kiewit said she does feel the restroom remodel might have the most value.

Izzy Schroder said she supports upgrading some of the playground equipment and suggested installing shade sails over the playground.

Stephanie Porter suggested replacing the slide on the 2-5 age playground piece with something like a rock climbing wall.

Catherine Kiewit suggested replacing the balance beam with stationary bicycles for adults.

Jan Brending said the one complaint she hears regularly is that there is no soap in the restrooms. She asked the council if they think soap dispensers should be added using either powder or foam soap. There was a consensus of the council to add soap dispensers to the restrooms at the park.

Park improvements will be addressed in August when the council discusses the options for stormwater solutions and traffic calming.

LED Lights – Update on Status and Recommendations

Jan Brending reviewed the status of the LED light project. She noted the city has a grant from the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) for \$79,556. Brending said the low bid that was received by the PUD for Bingen's share was \$102,464.59 with a difference of \$22,989.49. She said TIB will not increase the grant amount. Brending said Bingen will have to come up with the additional funds or not move ahead. Brending noted that the contractor may require some level of funding even though the replacement of the decorative lights is not completed. She said it could be as much as 10% of the cost for the supplies and installation. Brending noted that the price for the lights includes a dimmer switch that can be used to dim the lights from the 60w they will be installed with. She said there have been some cities that installed 60w LED and found them too bright and then had to pay to switch them out again. Brending said the cost of the dimmer switch is approximately \$100 per decorative light.

The council and staff discussed the LED light project.

Catherine Kiewit moved to go ahead with the LED lighting project with the city paying for the costs not covered by the TIB grant. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – April 2017

Jan Brending presented the Treasurer's Report for April 2017.

Catherine Kiewit asked a question about the summary page attached to the report. It was noted that the summary report was different than the summary report attached to the line item detail.

Brending said there was obviously an error in printing the reports and asked that review of the report be tabled until the next meeting when she will present corrected reports.

Catherine Kiewit moved to table the Treasurer's Report for April 2017 to the next council meeting. Stephanie Porter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Old Business

Proposed Resolutions 2017-007, Authorizing Surplus of Equipment

Betty Barnes said Jan Brending has provided information on how she obtained the minimum costs of the equipment to be surplus. She noted that she also sent information by e-mail regarding the current costs of guns. Barnes said an individual had suggested the city might want to hang onto the guns until the price increases, particularly since they do not take up much space.

There was a consensus of the council to remove the guns from the surplus list and to surplus the remainder of the equipment by a direct bid. The council directed staff to advertise the bid in The Enterprise, Gorge Net Classifieds and Craigslist.

Catherine Kiewit moved to adopt Resolution 2017-007, Authorizing Surplus of Equipment with corrections. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Water Use Efficiency/Distribution System Leakage Reports

Jan Brending provided additional information regarding the city's water use efficiency and distribution system leak reports. She provided background information about why the city compares production/purchases and consumption.

Catherine Kiewit asked if the distribution system leak percentage is increasing because there is less consumption.

Jan Brending said no. She said that with less consumption there is also less production/purchases.

Mayor's Update

Meeting with Senator Jaime Herrera Beutler's Staff

Betty Barnes said she met with a staff member from Senator Jaime Herrera Beutler's office. She said they talked about federal funding for infrastructure and safety measures for oil trains.

1st Meeting in July

Jan Brending said the first meeting in July falls on July 4th. She said the city's code requires the meeting to be moved to Monday, July 3 unless the council wants to call for a special meeting on Wednesday, July 5.

Stephanie Porter noted she will not be present as she will be out of town.

Catherine Kiewit moved to schedule the first meeting July as a special meeting on July 5 at 7:00 p.m. Ryan O'Connor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Bingen Point Overpass

Betty Barnes said a project team meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. She said she hopes to have new information for the council at its next council meeting.

Park Restrooms

Betty Barnes said she visited the city park restrooms recently and was really pleased with them. She said staff has done a good job in painting them and keeping them clean.

Animal Control

Betty Barnes said Mike Solomon has provided an animal control report. She said Solomon is making contact with people who are walking their dogs and reminding them they need doggy waste bags. Barnes said Solomon keeps bags in his truck and hands them out.

Jan Brending said that in the last two months Mike Solomon and Cheyenne Willey have worked to get additional dogs licensed.

Residential Building

Jan Brending said several permits have been issued for new residential dwelling in Bingen.

Bingen School Inn

Jan Brending said she believes the closing on the sale of the Bingen School Inn should be happening soon. She said she notify council members when it happens.

Movie Night in the Park

Stephanie Porter said that Rooftop Ministries along with the Eagles and the Chips will be sponsoring Movie Night in the Park on the last Friday of each month. She said she is not sure the exact time yet. Porter said Chips donated a new projector screen that will allow them to project from the back of the screen.

Swimming Pool Punch Cards and Swim Lessons

Catherine Kiewit asked if the city is doing free punch cards and swim lessons again.

Jan Brending said free punch cards and sign up for free lessons is already set up at city hall. She said there are signs at the pool and information on line.

Catherine Kiewit asked if a notice could be included on the June bills.

Brending said yes. She said information will also be included in the June newsletter.

Peace Pole

Council members asked if the peace pole has been installed.

Jan Brending said not yet. She said she will follow-up on that.

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 June 6, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: EFT, payroll checks 19212-19217, 19219-19220 (dated 05/31/2017) totaling \$26,182.69. General Fund - \$12,134.73; Street - \$3,966.19; Water Fund - \$2,843.20; Sewer Fund - \$507.14; Treatment Plant Fund - \$6,731.43.

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 June 6, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks 19218 (dated 05/15/2017) totaling \$92.90.

General Fund - \$27.82; Street - \$11.06; Water Fund - \$8.10; Sewer Fund - \$1.82; Treatment Plant Fund - \$44.10.

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 June 6, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 19223-19258 (dated 06/06/2017) totaling \$68,304.66. General Fund - \$41,769.67; Street - \$2,798.01; Water Fund - \$16,743.84; Sewer Fund- \$2,535.67; Treatment Plant Fund - \$4,457.47.

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 June 6, 2017. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 19221-19222 (dated 05/31/2017) totaling \$832.18. Court Remittance Agency Fund - \$832.18

The council adjourned 10:10 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor