

# BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 16, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Betty Barnes at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Maria Perez, Sandi Dickey, Clinton Bryan, Laura Mann, Catherine Kiewit. City Attorney Tad Connors and Deputy Clerk Dena Riggelman were present. Audience: Ben Mitchell, Mark Thornsbury, Jim Herman, Randy Porter, Stephanie Porter and Lori Stephenson.

## **Public Comment**

### ***Randy Porter, The House Northwest Church***

Randy Porter said that he is here to tell the council that the church is still interested in helping out with the skatepark fundraising. Porter said that he had asked the church if they would be interested in doing carols during the Bingen Christmas parade. He said the church is interested in singing carols during the parade and asked if the council would like to see the music they plan to sing.

Betty Barnes said that would be great and let Porter know that the Gorge Out Fundraiser will be on March 23<sup>rd</sup> this year.

## **Approval of Minutes – October 2, 2012**

Changes to the minutes of the October 2, 2012 council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 3, 1st paragraph, last sentence should read, “Jan Brending noted that if the city council wanted to not increase rates or change the percentage in the rate increase the council would need to amend the ordinances.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2012 regular council meeting as corrected. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Marc Thornsbury and Jim Herman, Klickitat County Port**

Mark Thornsbury and Jim Herman presented a slide show to the council on the history, growth and projects of the Klickitat County Port.

Betty Barnes thanked Thornsbury and Herman for taking the time to come to the council meeting.

## **Draft October Newsletter**

Page 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Paragraph of the *Fall Yard & Garden Debris Pickup* section, should read, “All leaves must be bagged. Shrubs and branches must be 2 inches in diameter or less. All debris must be placed at the curb or edge of the road. The fall yard and garden debris pick up is not intended for clearing property or major maintenance of trees and shrubs.”

Page 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Paragraph, last sentence, of the *Property Tax Levy* should read, “Bingen would have received \$201.01 of the total taxes.

Page 2, in the *Utility Rate Comparison Chart*, the council would like to have Bingen and White Salmon next to each other with Bingen in bold writing. They would also like to add the rates for Goldendale.

Maria Perez asked if it was possible to get a copy of newsletter on a flash drive so she can work on the Spanish version.

## **Treasurer’s Report – October 2012**

The council moved this agenda to the November 5<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

## **Mayor’s Update and Council Comments**

### ***Gorge Heritage Museum***

Betty Barnes said on October 11, Etta Hepner called from the Gorge Heritage Museum about a green spot in the grass on the north side of the building. Barnes said this might be related to leak back in May. Betty said that David Spratt will be digging up the area with a back hoe on Wednesday to find out the issue for the spot.

### ***Surplus Sale***

Betty Barnes reported the advertisement for the surplus sale should be out tomorrow. Barnes said that Jan Brending will be taking pictures of the vehicles on Wednesday to be put on the city’s website. The council agreed that there should be no minimum on the bids.

***Water Rights***

Betty Barnes reminded the council about when the city submitted an application to the Department of Ecology about using Bingen’s water rights for the purchase of White Salmon water but because it became an expensive project the council decided to not continue with it. Barnes said that she received a call from Pat Munyan saying he has a new person that could help with the process and said it would be easier for Bingen. She said Munyan said if Bingen could use its water rights applied to the purchase of White Salmon water then the purchase of water could be at a cheaper rate that would consist of only what it cost White Salmon to deliver the water to Bingen.

Betty suggested the council review the history of the water rights issue and then have White Salmon present information to the council.

***Gorge Out, Skatepark Fundraiser***

Betty Barnes said the Bingen School Inn will be available for use for the fundraiser. She said the city will not be able to rent the tables and chairs from Columbia Alumni this year. Barnes said she has talked with Bob Stone and that he might be able to do the auctioneering.

Laura Mann said she went to the Grape Escape fundraiser and came back with a lot of great ideas. She suggested using John Mayo for the auctioneer as he did a very good job at the Grape Escape fundraiser.

The council discussed ideas for the next Gorge Out. The council decided to hold a special meeting on November 1 at 6:00 pm to continue the discussion on the Gorge Out Fundraiser.

***Dog Park***

Clinton Bryan asked the council if anyone has looked into his idea of a dog park.

***Sidewalks***

Laura Mann suggested that the city look into finishing the sidewalks when the city replaces the water line up Bingen Hill saving the city money by doing both projects at the same time. She said she thinks it is a safety issue not having a continuous sidewalk between Bingen and White Salmon.

***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 October 16, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 15489-15513 (dated 10/16/2012) totaling \$8,366.75. Current – \$5,287.18; Street – \$256.45; Water - \$1,370.59; Sewer - \$878.04, Treatment Plant - \$574.49.

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 16, 2012. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks (dated 10/15/2012) EFT, 15484-15488, totaling \$11,431.30. Current – \$4,979.30; Street - \$1,524.08; Water - \$1,347.88; Sewer - \$210.26; Treatment Plant - \$3,369.78.

At 9:00 p.m. the city council adjourned.

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City Clerk

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Mayor