

# BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 21, 2007

The city council met at Daubenspeck Park to review the park at 6:30 p.m. In attendance: Terry Trantow, Sandi Dickey, Laura Mann, Betty Barnes, Brian Prigel, Jan Brending and Jesse Burkhardt.

City council members and staff discussed ideas of where to locate a new basketball court, skate park, and picnic shelter. The dying trees were viewed and discussed.

Brian Prigel noted that the rock fountain that is not operational should be fixed and used or removed. He noted that the son of the individual named on the fountain plaque would like to have it if the fountain is removed.

Jan Brending said she will be developing a scope of work for hiring a planning team to look at the community center and park planning. She said she hopes to present the scope of work in September.

The city council meeting was called to order by Mayor Prigel at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Terry Trantow, Tim Hearn, Sandi Dickey, Betty Barnes, and Laura Mann. Clerk Jan Brending and Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Ruth Winner, Bruce Brending, Jesse Burkhardt, Stoner Bell.

## **Approval of Minutes – August 7, 2007**

Laura Mann moved to approve the minutes of the August 7 city council meeting. Tim Hearn seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Dry Creek Drainage Proposal – Bell Design**

Stoner Bell presented a preliminary proposal and cost estimate for adding additional storm water drainage along the north side of the 400 block of West Steuben (see “Preliminary Construction Cost Estimate for 24” Storm Sewer Along Steuben”).

City council members discussed possible alternatives to enhance the storm water drainage.

Brian Prigel noted that the preliminary cost estimate for the project is approximately \$85,000. He provided an overview of the flooding issues related to Dry Creek. Prigel said he believes the proposal will address the types of flooding that occurred in December of 2006. He said the proposal will not solve all the problems associated with Dry Creek but buy staff time to address debris buildup. Prigel said he believes the cost would be worth it.

Jan Brending said funding for the project could come from excise taxes, current expense or community development funds. She said she can review the budget and identify where funding is available.

Stoner Bell said he believes the project could be built during the winter.

Brian Prigel asked if there are any concerns related to rock.

Stoner Bell said the estimate does not include funding for hitting rock. He said the pipe does not require a lot of depth.

Brian Prigel asked how long it would take to get the project fully engineered and ready for bid.

Stoner Bell said the project could be completed in approximately 1 ½ to 2 months. He noted that approximately ½ of the identified engineering costs are associated with construction engineering.

Tim Hearn moved to more forward with engineering of the storm water pipe and to authorize the development of a contract with Bell Design and for the mayor to sign the contract. Betty Barnes seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## **Surplus Mobile Home Bids – Results and Recommendations**

Jan Brending said the city received three sealed bids for the surplus mobile homes:

Tamara McVeigh	
405 W. Humboldt	\$2,005.00
407 W. Humboldt	\$2,007.00

John Dickey	
405 W. Humboldt	\$2,000.00
407 W. Humboldt	\$2,000.00
Brenda Spring	
405 W. Humboldt	\$100.00
407 W. Humboldt	\$100.00

Jan Brending recommended the sale of the manufactured homes be awarded to Tamara McVeigh. She noted that it is always possible that the sale could fall through and could then be awarded to the next highest bidder.

Sand Dickey said she will not vote on the sale of the surplus homes as her son is one of the bidders.

Tim Hearn moved to award the sale of the manufactured homes at 405 and 407 W. Humboldt to Tamara McVeigh. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was passed with the following vote: Barnes – Aye, Dickey – Abstain, Hearn – Aye, Mann – Aye, Trantow – Aye.

### **Old Business**

#### ***Tree Removal***

Jan Brending said the bids obtained by the public works department for tree removal did not provide for paying prevailing wages as required by state law. She recommended that the work be rebid. Brending also noted that an additional second pine tree in the park is dying and that public work staff recommends it be removed immediately. She noted that to have the two dying trees removed immediately the city council will need to declare an emergency.

Laura Mann moved the city declare an emergency related to the two drying trees in Daubenspeck Park as they present a risk to public safety due to concerns about tree limbs falling with the amount of attendees at the upcoming Huckleberry Festival. Tim Hearn seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Laura Mann moved to hire Columbia Tree Service on an hourly basis to remove the two dying trees in Daubenspeck Park due to the emergency, saving if possible the 2<sup>nd</sup> tree by removing dead growth. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

#### ***Graffiti***

Tim Hearn asked if the vandalism category on the police department stat sheet includes graffiti.

Bruce Brending said yes. He noted that if a category is marked on the sheet the incident occurred in Bingen.

Brian Prigel noted there was fresh graffiti at the property owned by Sandy Dean.

Bruce Brending said the police department has an idea of who might doing the graffiti and is working to get it stopped.

#### ***DWI***

Tim Hearn said it appears that there is at least one DWI on the stat sheet each month.

Bruce Brending said there has been no increase though he would expect an increase with additional staffing.

Tim Hearn said he thought there would be a decrease because the establishments have closed in Bingen.

Bruce Brending said that most of the DWIs are associated with alcohol consumption at home or across the river.

### **Mayor's Update and City Council Members**

#### ***Water Conservancy Board***

Brian Prigel said he attended another water conservancy board meeting where the board reviewed the city's four applications. He said one of the applications will require re-noticing because of an incorrect legal description. Prigel said the board will likely make a decision at their October or November meeting.

Brian Prigel said the city has been buying water from White Salmon as the usage in Bingen has gone up during the summer. He said White Salmon is aware of the usage.

Tim Hearn asked if the city can purchase water rights from a place like Texas.

Brian Prigel said no. He said the water rights have to be proven to be hydraulically connected to our existing water rights.

Brian Prigel said discussions have taken place with the owner of an existing well who may be interested in selling water to the city. He said some preliminary investigation has taken place with some additional follow up needed.

*Public Works Projects Update*

Jan Brending said the street striping is almost completed. She said she is working to get the paperwork completed for the bio solids wall project and for the crosswalk project. Brending said the city has received the pipeline permit from BNSF so the Depot Street sewer project can move forward.

Brian Prigel said the city is continuing to move ahead with the design of the Maple Street reconstruction project and hopes to have a final preliminary design available for city council approval in the near future.

*Quiet Zone Meeting*

Jan Brending noted that White Salmon is holding a Quiet Zone diagnostic meeting on August 30 at 1:00 p.m. She said she and the mayor have been invited to attend. Brending said Bingen's attendance would be to just gather information about the process.

*Fire Department Fund Raising*

Betty Barnes reported that \$3,000 has been raised for the purchase of the thermal imaging camera. She said raffle tickets are available for sale with several gift certificates to local establishments as the prize.

Laura Mann asked if the raffle tickets will be sold at Huckleberry Festival. Betty Barnes said hopefully.

Brian Prigel said the estimated cost of the camera is \$16,000 and that \$3,000 is a good start.

**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 August 21, 2007. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 9138 through 9165 totaling 17,683.76, payroll checks 9120 - 9137 totaling \$13,380.73 for a grand total of \$31,064.49. Current - \$8,763.19; Street - \$2,235.44; Water - \$3,229.24; Sewer - \$814.69; Treatment Plant - \$11,154.30; Dallesport Treatment Plant - \$4,867.63.

The council adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor