

# BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 4, 2007

The 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. City Clerk Treasurer Jan Brending and Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Bruce Brending, Jacob Anderson, Sarah Smith.

## Public Comment

*Bruce Brending, Bingen-White Salmon Police Department*

Bruce Brending said that he hopes to have a document to Tad Connors to review that provides for animal control by the City of Goldendale. Brending said that based on his discussions with the Goldendale Police Chief the total package would be \$15,000 per year. He said he hopes to have the Goldendale Police Chief at the next Bingen city council meeting.

Betty Barnes thanked Bruce Brending for being proactive on the issue and moving forward with a possible solution.

Bruce Brending said he thinks that an animal control officer will have a positive impact on the community.

*Jake Anderson, White Salmon*

Jake Anderson said he is vying for Don Struck's position on the county board of commissioners. He said that if he is chosen he will be attending the local city council and community council meetings.

## Approval of Minutes – November 20, 2007

The following corrections were made to the November 20, 2007 city council meeting minutes:

Page 3, 13<sup>th</sup> paragraph, first sentence should read as follows: "Betty Barnes said she would like to request funding for the planning for the community center and park planning instead of seeking funding for the skate park at this time."

Page 4, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph should read as follows: "Bruce Brending said he thinks it would be good for the police department to have a couple of portable kennels in case they have to pick up a dog and lodge them somewhere until the animal control officer could pick up the dog."

Page 5, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, last sentence should read as follows: "She said that in the light of changes in the White Salmon city council it might be appropriate to change the meeting to sometime in January."

Page 5, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, last sentence should read as follows: "She noted that it is likely that White Salmon will have a budget committee meeting scheduled for that night."

Page 5, 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph, first sentence should read as follows: "Brian Prigel said he thinks it would be a challenge for White Salmon residents to vote to become part of Bingen."

Laura Mann moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2007 as amended. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

## Final Public Hearing – Proposed 2008 Budget

Jan Brending provided an overview of the proposed 2008 budget. There was no public comment.

## Proposed Ordinance 07-05-540, Adopting the 2008 Budget

Laura Mann moved to adopt Ordinance 05-05-540, adopting the 2008 budget. Betty Barnes seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Brian Prigel said he believes that the city's budget documents have really improved in the last few years.

## Invitation to Bid Equipment, Thermal Imaging Camera – Results and Award

Jan Brending said the city received three bids for the thermal imaging camera: Cascade Fire Equipment - \$10,661.76, Seawestern Inc. - \$14,701.50, and General Fire Apparatus Inc. - \$10,317.00. She said the camera bid by General Fire does not meet the fire department's specifications. Brending said Fire Chief David Spratt has reviewed the bids and recommends the bid from Cascade Fire Equipment be accepted.

Betty Barnes moved to accept the bid by Cascade Fire Equipment for the thermal imaging camera in the amount of \$10,661.76. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Jan Brending noted that when the camera comes in she will do a press release and send thank you letters out to all contributors.

#### **Contract Agreement, Attorney Services – Annual Review of Agreement and Compensation**

Tad Connors said he is comfortable with the contract as it stands.

City council members and the mayor thanked Tad Connors for his services.

Tad Connors said he is glad to be working for the City of Bingen.

#### **Agreement with Washington Gorge Action Programs – Youth Center**

Jan Brending said the city's budget provides for \$3,000 in funding toward the youth center in return for services provided in the city.

Brian Prigel recommended approval of the agreement. He said that he believes the youth center is effective.

Betty Barnes moved to approve the agreement with Washington Gorge Action Programs to provide funding of \$3,000 for 2008 to the youth center in return for services provided in the city. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

#### **Agreement with City of White Salmon – White Salmon Pool**

Jan Brending said the city's budget provides for \$3000 in funding towards the White Salmon pool in return for services provided to residents of Bingen.

Laura Mann suggested that the city send a letter to Klickitat County in support of funding for the pool.

Brian Prigel said he does not feel it is Bingen's responsibility but could support White Salmon if it made such a request.

Jake Anderson said that at one time Klickitat County offered \$500,000 to White Salmon for the pool but it was used instead for water reservoirs.

Brian Prigel said he is not sure that is what actually happened. He said there was an agreement that the county would provide funding towards White Salmon's water system.

Betty Barnes moved to approve the agreement to provide funding towards the White Salmon pool subject to its opening in 2008 in return for services provided to the residents of Bingen. Tim Hearn seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

#### **Old Business**

##### *Klickitat County EDA Proposal – Review and Action*

Jan Brending provided an overview of the written EDA proposal asking for funding for community center and park planning. She said that she estimates it will cost approximately \$25,000 for the planning and the proposal asks for \$20,000 with Bingen contributing \$5,000.

Brian Prigel said he believes it is good to show that the city can provide some matching money.

Betty Barnes said she agrees that is important to show that the city is buying into the project.

The city council requested that the proposal note that the city is committing \$40,000 towards completing the skate park within the next two years.

Tim Hearn moved to forward the proposal to Klickitat County asking for the full \$25,000. Laura Mann seconded the motion. The motion failed 3 to 2 with the following vote: Barnes – Nay, Dickey – Nay, Hearn – Aye, Mann – Aye, Trantow – Nay.

Terry Trantow moved to forward the proposal to Klickitat County asking for \$20,000. Betty Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 2 with the following vote: Barnes – Aye, Dickey – Aye, Hearn – Nay, Mann – Nay, Trantow – Aye.

### ***Personnel – City Administrator Position***

Brian Prigel provided an overview of the draft job description for the city administrator position. He said that most of the duties are already performed by Jan Brending except for overseeing personnel.

Tim Hearn asked if there have been problems with personnel in the past.

Brian Prigel said yes. He said a little oversight would be helpful. Prigel said he would like to see a version of the job description approved.

Laura Mann asked if the city council is in agreement that it would like to have a city administrator position.

The city council discussed the supervisory responsibilities of the position.

There was consensus to reword the last sentence of the second paragraph under “Summary” to read: “Oversees city operations and reports directly to the Mayor.”

There was consensus to reword the second bullet under “Essential Duties and Responsibilities” to read “Oversees and coordinates overall operations of the City in carrying out the requirements of ordinances, laws, rules and regulations, and policies of the City Council and acts as a technical resource to department supervisors.”

Betty Barnes moved to adopt the job description for the position of City Administrator as amended. Tim Hearn seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Jan Brending provided an overview of the proposed amendments to the job description for the position of Deputy Clerk. She said the amendments just clarify the current duties of the position.

Brian Prigel said he recommends approval of the amendments.

Laura Mann moved to approve the amendments to the job description for the position of Deputy Clerk. Tim Hearn seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

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

#### ***SR35 River Crossing***

Brian Prigel said he attended another meeting regarding the SR35 River Crossing this past week. He said there appears to be agreement to keep the project moving forward. Prigel said a request for additional funding needs to be made to the federal or state governments. He said the Oregon representatives will be meeting together without the Washington representatives to discuss the issues. Prigel said a last meeting has been scheduled in January. He said the Oregon side needs to recognize the need for planning and hopefully the momentum of the project can be maintained.

Betty Barnes asked if the bridge collapse in Minnesota would help obtain funding.

Brian Prigel said possibly. He said it could lead to some additional infrastructure funding in the future. Prigel said hopefully the environmental impact statement can be completed within the next two years with some preliminary engineering also being done.

#### ***Depot Street Sewer Project***

Brian Prigel said the Depot Street sewer project has been completed. He said he made decision not to repave the trench cut across Maple Street because we will be reconstructing the road next spring. He said it has been graveled and will need to be maintained.

Jan Brending said she thinks the city has a couple of steel plates that might be used. It was suggested that if the city cannot locate the plates to check with Underwood Fruit to see if they have them.

Betty Barnes asked if White Salmon has hooked up Highway 14 businesses to the sewer line.

Jan Brending said not yet. She said their project has not been accepted as complete.

#### ***Bio Solids Wall***

Jan Brending reported that the bio solids wall is complete.

### *Infiltration and Inflow (I&I)*

Brian Prigel said he has put the Bingen plant supervisor on notice to survey for I&I during the rainy season. He said he does not know if any work was done during the last rainy period. Prigel said it is important to get a handle on the I&I problem when there is a spike in the flow at the plant. He said manhole covers need to be pulled and identify where the water is coming from. Prigel said he feels this winter will produce more rain this year.

### *Maple Street Reconstruction Project*

Jan Brending provided an overview of current cost estimate for the Maple Street Reconstruction project. She said the local share of the project is \$282,784.

Brian Prigel said he believes the bid documents should be modified so that components can be pulled if necessary. He said that the city will discuss the project with Klickitat County and SDS to see if they can provide any funding. Prigel noted the project is of great benefit to the Port of Klickitat.

Tim Hearn authorized the mayor to sign and forward the construction phase prospectus to the Transportation Improvement Board. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

### *Fire Pay*

Laura Mann asked a question regarding the fire pay that was included in the vouchers.

Jan Brending said the city council adopted a resolution that identifies the pay each volunteer firefighter gets for attending drills, fire calls, etc.

### *DNR Easement*

Laura Mann asked a question regarding the fee for a "DNR easement."

Jan Brending said the easement is for the outfall pipe from the plant into the river.

### *Police Committee Meeting*

Tim Hearn asked when the police committee meeting will be held.

Jan Brending said she will followup on that with the city of White Salmon.

### *Budget Committee Meeting*

Laura Mann suggested canceling the budget committee meeting. She said that if anyone wants to see the budget documents they can see them at city hall.

There was agreement to cancel the budget committee meeting scheduled for December 6 at 4:30 p.m.

### *Sandwich Board Problem*

Betty Barnes said there seems to be a problem growing with sandwich boards being placed on the sidewalks.

She said that gravel and dirt has also built up in from the Insitu facility (old winery building) and that it needs to be cleaned up. She said it should be the responsibility of business owners to keep the sidewalks clean in front of their businesses.

Jan Brending said that she intends to write a letter to business owners regarding parking and that she can also address sandwich boards and keeping the sidewalks clean.

### *Suksdorf House*

Terry Trantow reported that Jeff Rogers now has full control of the Suksdorf house. He said that Rogers wants \$75,000 for the house itself and is asking \$185,000 for the building and land. Trantow said the museum has pledged \$50,000 towards the purchase of the house. He said that he would like potential property owners to know that the museum is interested in buying the house since it is highly likely that it would be torn down anyway.

### **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 December 4, 2007. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 9478 through 9520 totaling \$56,528.09, manual checks 501067 totaling \$13,186.18, and payroll checks 9465 through 9477 totaling \$18,832.04 for a grand total of \$88,546.31. Current - \$17,519.69; Street - \$2,352.40; Water - \$2,474.23; Sewer - \$1,307.22; Treatment Plant - \$5,565.26; Dallesport Treatment Plant - \$4,292.03; 1973/1995

Water/Sewer Bond Redemption - \$9,450.00; Sewer Construction & Maintenance - \$4,590.00, Treatment Plant Replacement - \$27,809.30, Dallesport Billing Trust Fund - \$13,186.18.

The council adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

---

City Clerk

---

Mayor