

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Prigel at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Betty Barnes, Laura Mann, Terry Trantow and Sandi Dickey. City Administrator Jan Brending and Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Bruce Brending.

Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2008

Changes to the December 16, 2008 city council meeting minutes were noted as follows:

Page 2, insert new paragraph after 13th paragraph (bottom of page): “Betty Barnes asked if David Spratt had been instructed on how to account for water usage for fire hydrants. Ken Alexander said he will provide information to David Spratt.”

Page 3, 10th paragraph should read as follows: ‘Betty Barnes said it is important that staff understand the need to watch expenses. She said the city staff should be notified that the city will not likely authorize the use of landscape service for the Steuben Street landscaping.’

Page 5, 4th paragraph should read as follows: ‘Sandi Dickey asked if Javier Sanchez has submitted a variance application. Jan Brending said he has not come in to complete the application. Brending said she will follow-up with Sanchez.’

Betty Barnes moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2008 city council meeting as corrected. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Conditional Use Permit Application 2008-003, Innovative Composites Engineering – Review and Approval of Decision

Laura Mann asked if Tim Hearn needs to sign the decision or Terry Trantow.

Jan Brending said Terry Trantow can't sign the decision as he was not present when the conditional use permit was approved. Brending said the three council members tonight should sign the decision.

Laura Mann moved to accept the findings of fact, conclusions of law and decision for Conditional Use Permit 2008-003, Innovative Composites Engineering. Betty Barnes seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearings – Ordinance 09-01-555, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 3.10.040, Disposition of Money Collected Pursuant to BMC 3.10 and Ordinance 09-02-556, Amending the 2009 Budget

Jan Brending said the two proposed ordinances implement changes to the budget in how funds that are received for the optional sales tax and property taxes are allocated. She said ordinance 09-01-55 changes how the optional sales tax is allocated. Brending said the original ordinance allocated all of the monies to the community development fund. She said the proposed ordinances allocates the monies received for the optional sales tax with 91% of the funds going to the general (current expense) fund and 9% to the community development fund. Brending said the second ordinance amends the budget showing the new allocation and in addition changes the property tax allocation between the general (current expense) fund and street fund from 69%-general fund and 31%-street to 63.5%-general fund and 36.5% street fund. Brending noted that with the adoption of both ordinances the general fund and street fund will no longer be using beginning cash (cash reserves) to balance the 2009 budget.

Laura Mann moved to adopt ordinance 09-01-555, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 3.10.040, Disposition of Money Collected Pursuant to BMC 3.10. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Laura Mann moved to adopt ordinance 09-02-556, Amending the 2009 Budget. Betty Barnes seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Klickitat County Board of Health Appointment

Jan Brending said the city has received notification from the Klickitat County Department of Health that the term for the Cities of White Salmon and Bingen appointment to the Board of Health has expired. She said the current representative, Jorjann Plimmer, is still interested in serving on the board. Brending noted that White Salmon will be making a decision on the appointment at their meeting tomorrow night. She said she spoke with David Poucher, White Salmon Mayor, who is recommending Jorjann Plimmer be reappointed.

Betty Barnes moved to reappoint Jorjann Plimmer to the Klickitat County Board of Health as the Cities of White Salmon and Bingen representative. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

City Goals and Priorities for 2009

Jan Brending reviewed her memorandum of January 2 looking at the 2008 accomplishments and providing a list of goals for 2009. She noted that the list does not establish any priorities although she recommends the city focus on establishing a new sewer agreement with White Salmon before working on the water agreement. Jan Brending said she would like to see the dog ordinance adopted before the council begins working on other ordinances. She noted that as staff she will begin looking at proposed changes to the zoning ordinance.

Betty Barnes asked if the zoning ordinances is where the water rate issue related to conditional use permits and light industrial uses would be addressed.

Jan Brending said no, it would be handled through a change in the water rate structure which is a separate ordinance.

Betty Barnes said she would like to see the issue added to the goals for 2009.

The council thanked Jan Brending for putting together information related to possible projects that might be funded by the federal “economic stimulus package.”

Betty Barnes said she would like to see the conditional use permit application by Custom Interface for their facility on Steuben added to the list.

Jan Brending said the city has received an application from Custom Interface and the council will hear that proposal at a meeting in February.

Laura Mann suggested the city consider a snow removal ordinance.

Jan Brending noted the city does not currently have such an ordinance.

Betty Barnes said she has looked at several ordinances. She said she talked to the downtown businesses and to Darrell Armstrong. Barnes said she is concerned that the city’s two public works employees do not know how to run the grader. She said Armstrong has offered to teach them during the summer and that he advised Barnes that public works should contact Richard Hepner at SDS for assistance with snow removal.

Laura Mann suggested that one of the things a snow removal ordinance could contain is the requirement to park on one side of the street during a snow event so that the other side can be cleared.

Brian Prigel said if the council desires a snow removal ordinance then they should look into it. There was consensus of the council to look into developing a snow removal ordinance.

Dog Ordinance Amendments – Continued Discussion

The city council discussed how taking an obedience class could be used in the ordinance. There was consensus that it could possibly be used in lieu of requiring additional insurance if the dog was deemed potentially dangerous or in reducing a fine.

The council discussed the idea of requiring dogs to be spayed or neutered. The ordinance currently provides for a higher licensing fee for dogs that are not spayed or neutered.

The city council will review the current ordinance with proposed amendments and will begin going through it line by line at the next council meeting. Staff will provide some language options for certain areas of the ordinance.

Mayor’s Update and City Council Comments

Damaged Gutters and Downspouts

Jan Brending said gutters and downspouts at the treatment plant and city shop were damaged by the snow and ice. She said she contacted C&M Gutters who are the company that will be installing new gutter and downspouts at the treatment plant to see how much it would cost to repair the damaged gutters and downspouts. Brending said it C&M has quoted \$470 for the city shop and \$320 for the installation of snowguards on the shop building. She said the treatment plant damage will cost \$650.

Brending recommended the city council amend the contract with C&M Gutters to include repair of the gutters and downspouts at the city shop and treatment plant.

Laura Mann moved to amend the C&M Gutter contract to include repair of the gutters and downspouts at the city shop and treatment plant. Terry Trantow seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Maple Street Project

Jan Brending said the lighting and electrical still need to be completed in addition to several punchlist items. She said there is a problem with one of the larger (WSDOT) lights at the corner of Maple and Lakeview Blvd. Brending said the way the light base is currently installed the light will interfere with an overhead power line. She said she and Brian will need to look at the light and try to figure out if it can be moved or possibly turned. Brending said another option is to use a decorative light but it will probably not provide enough lighting for the intersection.

Dry Creek

Jan Brending said there was a problem with Dry Creek on December 28 and January 1. She said the new grate became clogged with leaves and the water ran over the curb and into the highway. Brending said she met with Stoner Bell and David Spratt to discuss possible options. She said the options discussed include increasing the height of the wall/curbing and removing the first set of grates and installing a vertical grate.

Brian Prigel said another option might be to install some kind of temporary barrier such as plywood during a high rain event to force the water to the west into the new stormdrain.

Jan Brending said she will work with Stoner Bell to develop a memorandum outlining the options and costs. She noted that the project was built as designed and that Bell Design had noted that public works was still going to need to clean the grates of debris.

Expenditures – Treatment Plant

Jan Brending said Tom Hons is requesting to attend a class in Port Angeles. She noted that he needs a certain amount of educational credits to maintain his certification. Brending said she spoke to Hons about covering the expenditure within what is currently budgeted.

Jan Brending said in addition Hons is requesting the purchase of two weirs to meter I&I in manholes. She recommended that if Hons can cover the expenditures within his current budget then they can be purchased.

The council agreed to both items – using current budget to cover the expenditures.

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 January 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 10834-10842 totaling \$2772.74. Current – \$2382.74; Water - \$195.00; Sewer - \$195.00.

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 January 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks 10833 totaling \$10,995.47. Current - \$3,409.78; Street - \$812.98; Water – \$1087.88; Sewer - \$287.39; Bingen Treatment Plant - \$1861.54.

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 January 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks 10796-10809 (dated December 22 and December 31, 2008) totaling \$13260.39. Current - \$5003.65; Street - \$1968.92; Water – \$1722.31; Sewer - \$671.01; Bingen Treatment Plant - \$3894.50.

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 January 6, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 10810-10826 (dated December 30, 2008) totaling \$10795.44. Current – \$4747.69; Street - \$1849.18; Water - \$1665.81; Sewer - \$417.51; Bingen Treatment Plant - \$2115.25.

At 8:50 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor