

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 21, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brian Prigel at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Betty Barnes, Sandi Dickey, Clinton Bryan, Laura Mann. Council members absent: Terry Trantow. City Administrator Jan Brending was present. Audience: Bruce Brending, Wayne Woosley, Jacob Anderson, Dave Poucher.

Public Comment

Dave Poucher, Mayor of White Salmon

Dave Poucher said he was thankful for Jan Brending's assistance at the White Salmon city council meeting last week. He said she was an excellent resource and helped fill in the holes during a discussion.

Jan Brending said she was present during a discussion regarding the proposed interlocal agreement between Bingen and White Salmon regarding Bingen providing water and water connections to White Salmon. She said she explained how the process would work.

Bruce Brending, Bingen-White Salmon Police Department

Bruce Brending said that one of the results of the police department audit was that it was suggested the department adopt a mission, vision and value statements. Brending presented a framed finished product of the statements to the City of Bingen. He said the entire department had input into the development of the statements. Brending said it will be reviewed every couple of years. He thanked the Bingen City Council for their input.

Bruce Brending noted there has been an increase in residential burglaries during the day. He said it is probably more than one group or individual. Brending said it is important that when residents notice suspicious behavior that they contact the police department even if it turns out to be nothing.

Laura Mann asked if the homes are locked or unlocked.

Bruce Brending said it has been both but no homeowners have been present. He said the burglaries are not in one specific area.

Bruce Brending reported that the White Salmon city council authorized the expenditure of funds for a canine program. He said the city has received two grants which will pay for the start up of the program. Brending said the department is excited and that it is a big step forward.

Betty Barnes asked Brending if he has requested testing for a Sergeant's position.

Brending said that is correct. He said he is working with the civil service commission.

Bruce Brending said he applied for a scholarship for a mapping and analysis workshop and that he received one of the five scholarships given. He said there will be no cost to the city to attend the workshop.

Betty Barnes asked if the dog handler has been selected.

Bruce Brending said yes it will be Ben Harvey. He said the Clark County master handler interviewed the officers and made the recommendation for the selection.

Approval of Minutes – July 7, 2009

Laura Mann moved to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2009 city council meeting. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Klickitat County Young Leaders Association

Jacob Anderson provided an overview of the Klickitat County Young Leaders Association. Anderson said he would like to see the City of Bingen become a partner. He said the city writes a letter requesting partnership and then the board reviews the letter and takes action.

Laura Mann asked how many members the Association currently has.

Anderson said over 50. He said the association has been able to accomplish a lot of things already. He said an upcoming concert in September to be held at the Maryhill Amphitheater will be a big fundraiser and membership drive.

Betty Barnes said she sees the association as very positive.

Betty Barnes moved to write a letter to Klickitat County Young Leaders Association requesting a partnership. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Proposed Interlocal Agreement – Providing Water and Water Connections to White Salmon

Jan Brending reported that White Salmon approved the interlocal agreement at its city council meeting the prior week. She said she has provided a letter that was submitted to White Salmon about the agreement. Brending noted that at the end of Dr. Darlene Johnson's testimony said she her main issue was that the process did not seem fair to those who were on a waiting list for hookups.

Jan Brending said the language in the proposed agreement has been reviewed by Tad Connors.

The city council and staff discussed Bingen's future needs for additional water and water rights.

Betty Barnes moved to approve the proposed interlocal agreement between Bingen and White Salmon for providing water and water connections to White Salmon. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – June 2009

Jan Brending presented the treasurer's report for June 2009. She noted that she will be writing a letter to White Salmon requesting an increase in the ERU rate. Brending said the two cities have an agreement that sets the increase each year at \$0.25. She said the city's treatment plant budget is based on an ERU rate of \$10.50 which is \$0.25 more than is allowed by the ordinance and agreement.

Laura Mann moved to accept the treasurer's report for June 2009. Sandi Dickey seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

Terry Trantow Resignation

Jan Brending said Terry Trantow has submitted his resignation effective immediately. She said she will publish notice of the council vacancy so the council can consider applicants at its next council meeting. Brending said she will notify Catherine Kiewitt who is running for the position in the fall election.

City Hall Woodwork

Brian Prigel said the woodwork on the west face of city hall needs some work.

Jan Brending said she will contact a painting company to see if she can get some specifications developed so that the work is done correctly. She said it is important to use someone who has experience.

The council agreed to have the work done through the small works roster process.

Amtrak Station

Jan Brending said the city has received a copy of a letter from Amtrak to Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) stating that Amtrak has received funds for making improvements to the station.

Jan Brending suggested it would be appropriate for the city to write a letter to Amtrak and BNSF supporting the proposed improvements.

There was consensus of the city council to write the letter.

Park Watering

Council members expressed concern that areas in the park are still not getting enough water. Jan Brending said she has spoken to the public works crew about checking the sprinklers and making sure they are adjusted. She said the park may need to be watered more often or for longer periods of time. Brending said she noticed the trees on South Maple appear to not be getting enough water either.

Recycling Center

Laura Mann asked if the county has been contacted regarding the recycling center. Jan Brending said not yet. Laura Mann asked who would be the contact. Jan Brending said Tim Hopkinson.

Insitu – Request for Information – Campus

Brian Prigel reported that Insitu has released a Request for Information (RFI) for locating a campus in the Columbia Gorge area. He said he and Jan Brending attended the informational meeting held by Insitu.

Jan Brending said she attended a second meeting held by Klickitat County at which there were representatives from the county, Bingen, White Salmon, Goldendale, the state and private landowners. She said the county will be taking the lead on putting together a response to the RFI which include all options for locating a campus in Klickitat County.

It was suggested the City of Bingen and City of White Salmon write a letter to include in the response that supports the campus being located within the Bingen-White Salmon Urban Area. There was a consensus of the council to write the letter of support.

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 July 21, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 11394-11423 totaling \$17581.19. Current – \$6038.87; Street - \$1327.03; Water - \$5529.43; Sewer - \$825.87; Treatment Plant - \$3859.99.

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 July 21, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks 11375-11393 totaling \$13975.90. Current - \$5528.72; Street - \$1464.05; Water – \$2150.75; Sewer - \$560.00; Bingen Treatment Plant - \$4272.38.

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

City Clerk

Mayor