

BINGEN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 20, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brian Prigel at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Clinton Bryan, Betty Barnes, Laura Mann, Catherine Kiewit. Council members absent: Sandi Dickey. City Administrator Jan Brending and Attorney Tad Connors were present. Audience: Bruce Brending, Lloyd and Debbie Olson.

Public Comment

Lloyd Olson, Community Garden

Lloyd Olson reported that the community garden delivered over 3,600 pounds of food to the food bank and doubled the number of local gardeners.

Approval of Minutes – October 6, 2009

Changes to the minutes of the October 6, 2009 city council meeting were noted as follows:

Page 1, 4th paragraph should read as follows: “Page 1, 9th paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows ‘Michelle Halbin said that they found cities in Washington that do allow small animals such as domesticated fowl such as ducks and chickens.’”

Page 4, 10th paragraph, 2nd sentence should read as follows: “She said it is their belief that the line is not leaking or if there is a leak it is very small and would not have been what caused water to come up through the asphalt.”

Page 5, 1st paragraph, 1st sentence should read as follows: “Catherine Kiewit suggested making the parking space available for motorcycles only.”

Catherine Kiewit moved to approve the minutes of the October 6 city council meeting as amended. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Agreement with Washington Gorge Action Programs – Community Garden

Jan Brending provided background information to the city council regarding the use of 405 and 407 W. Humboldt for a community garden. She said the city has had a lease agreement with Washington Gorge Action Programs for the use of the property. Brending said the proposed agreement for 2010 is the same as 2009.

Betty Barnes noted that the city has intentions to someday use the property with other property it owns for a community center. Barnes said the city council previously decided making the property usable to the community for a community garden was a good idea.

Laura Mann asked how many local gardeners are using the garden.

Lloyd Olson said the number increased from 3 in 2008 to 7 in 2009. He said it does take time for community gardens to develop and grow.

Betty Barnes moved to approve the lease with Washington Gorge Action Programs for the use of 405 and 407 W. Humboldt as a community garden at \$8.00 per month for 12 months. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 09-09-563, Amending the Rate Structure for Wastewater Treatment and Service in the City of Bingen

Jan Brending said the two cities have signed an amended interlocal agreement that provides ERU rate for 2009 will be \$10.50 with an increase each year of 10% rounded to the nearest dollar. She said the proposed ordinance amendment puts that agreement into place.

Laura Mann moved to adopt ordinance 09-09-563, amending the rate structure for wastewater treatment service in the City of Bingen. Betty Barnes seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 09-10-564, Amending Bingen Municipal Code 10.14.030, Commercial Area Parking

Jan Brending said the proposed amendments provides for the first parking space on the north side of W. Steuben just west of Oak Street to be designated for motorcycles only. She said the proposed ordinance

also provides for 2-hour parking on the west side of South Ash Street next to Beneventi's. Brending said there have been complaints that employees park adjacent to Beneventi's reducing customer parking.

Jan Brending said a list of signage corrections have been provided to the public works crew. She said the signage corrections should help make it clearer as to where 2-hour parking is designated. Brending noted that the parking signage in front of Napa on Oak Street will be changed to 15-minute parking as required by ordinance. She said that 2-hour parking signage will also be installed on the west side of the 100 block of North Maple, adjacent to Los Reyes Restaurant.

City council members and staff discussed the current parking ordinance and clarified where parking is limited.

Laura Mann moved to approve ordinance 09-10-564, amending Bingen Municipal Code 10.14.030, Commercial Area Parking. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Small Works Roster Bid – Daubenspeck Park Sport Court, Bid Results and Award

Jan Brending reported the city received 3 bids for the sports court project: BCE Inc., White Salmon – \$43,328.92; North Fork Excavating, Woodland - \$73,659.95; and TruFrame, Battleground - \$76,012.05. She said the bid tabulations have been verified and she has verified that BCE Inc. is a qualified bidder. Brending noted that the engineer's estimate is \$41,762.68.

Jan Brending said the city has a Klickitat County EDA grant for \$20,000 and will need to identify additional funds of \$23,328.92. She recommended that the additional funding come out of the Community Development fund. Brending said she discussed the recommendation with the budget committee who agrees.

Betty Barnes moved to accept the bid for the Daubenspeck Park Sports Court in the amount of \$43,238.92 with the additional necessary funding coming from the Community Development fund. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Small Works Roster Bid – City Hall Wood Trim, Bid Results and Award

Jan Brending said she contacted at least 4 different companies in an attempt to get bids on redoing the exterior wood trim at city hall. She said she thought at least one company would submit a bid but it did not come in. Brending recommended the city public works crew work on the trim to get a varnish on it as soon as possible. The city council agreed.

Request to Purchase Snow Blower

Jan Brending said David Spratt has suggested the city purchase a snow blower that could be used primarily at the city/fire hall. She said the snow blower can also be used at the treatment plant. Brending said the estimated cost for a snow blower is \$925 and recommended that ½ of the funding come equally from the current expense and fire equipment funds with the other ½ coming from the wastewater treatment plant fund. Brending said it is difficult to remove all the snow from in front of the fire hall doors with a backhoe and that the snow blower will make the job easier.

Laura Mann moved to authorize the purchase of a snow blower at an estimated price of \$925 with ½ of the funding coming equally from the current expense and fire equipment funds and the 2nd ½ coming from the wastewater treatment plant fund. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Law Enforcement & Fire Fighter's Disability Board (LEOFF Board) – Appointment of City Representative

Jan Brending said the mayor of Goldendale, Arletta Parton has volunteered to continue serving as the representative for the 3 cities on the LEOFF Board. Brending said the board normally meets for approximately 15 to 20 minutes in Goldendale which is why a representative is selected from that community.

Clinton Bryan moved to support the appointment of Arletta Parton as the city representative on the LEOFF Board. Laura Mann seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report – September 2009

Jan Brending presented the treasurer's report for September 2009.

Betty Barnes moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for September 2009. Clinton Bryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

Old Business

Lighting and Camera – Public Works/Recycling Location

Jan Brending asked that the discussion on lighting and camera costs be delayed until the next meeting because the city is waiting for another quote. She said the city has received a quote for a single-camera system that is \$2,525.20. Brending said it includes a monitor for viewing the camera recording. She said additional cameras can be purchased for \$620 each. She noted that the city may want to consider installing a camera at the public restrooms at Daubenspeck Park. Brending said vandalism occurs in the restrooms almost every day during the summer. She said the camera would be installed outside the restroom facility so that individuals entering the facility could be monitored and questioned when vandalism occurs.

Proposed Ordinance 6.02, Household Pets and Proposed Amendments to Ordinance 6.08, Livestock – Continued Discussion

Catherine Kiewit said she is concerned that the proposed ordinance might develop opposition from the community because of the permitting requirements. She suggested that a simpler ordinance might be more appropriate and offered suggestions such as a lifetime registration option or adding in an exceptions clause to the livestock ordinance for things like a duck that could be determined on a case-by-case basis.

The city council discussed the proposed ordinance for household pets and amendments to the livestock ordinance including whether or not the number of pets should be limited per household. There was a consensus of the council to develop an option using the existing livestock ordinance that would simplify the language and permitting requirements to allow a pet such as a duck. The council will then consider which direction it would like to move forward with.

Burn Ban and Yard/Garden Debris Disposal – Discussion

Jan Brending provided information to the city council regarding alternatives for handling yard and garden debris. She reminded the council that most residents cannot obtain a burn permit. Brending said she and David Spratt are recommending that city crew pick up yard and garden debris from residences for a 2 or 4 week period in November. She said the crew will then haul the debris to the transfer station. Brending said residents would not be limited to the number of bags or stacks of debris but would be required to bag leaves and smaller debris and stack the larger debris so it is easy for the public works crew to pick up. Brending said that bringing in a container to the public works site is another option but would require public works crew to work on a Saturday and there may be issues in how to limit the dumping of debris to Bingen residents only. Brending also noted that many residents do not have the capability of hauling their yard and garden debris to the public works site.

Betty Barnes moved that the city provide yard and garden debris pick up on Mondays during the month of November. Catherine Kiewit seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

The council asked that notice be provided on the utility billing.

Clinton Bryan asked what state statute's provide in the way of penalty of burning without a permit.

Tad Connors said he will check.

Clinton Bryan suggested the city may not need to adopt a burn ban because in many ways there is already one in place.

The council agreed to delay action of a proposed burn ban ordinance until the next meeting.

Sidewalk and Right-of-Way Maintenance (Snow Removal and Vegetation) – Discussion

Jan Brending provided sample ordinances relating to sidewalk and right-of-way maintenance. She asked the council to carefully review the two ordinances that address clear site at intersections.

The city council discussed whether or not the city should require snow removal from sidewalks. The council will review the sample ordinances and discuss the issue at the next council meeting.

Mayor's Update and Council Comments

White Salmon Swimming Pool

Laura Mann said she attended a recent parks and recreation committee meeting in which the budget for the pool was discussed. She said the pool ran with a \$36,000 deficit this year. Laura Mann said she will be submitting a citizen letter asking White Salmon to keep the pool open and consider increasing its prices for swim lessons and sessions.

Laura Mann said she would like to recommend the City of Bingen increase its contribution for swimming pool services from \$3,000 to \$6,000.

Betty Barnes said she thinks it is important to let White Salmon know how important it is to fund the police department. She said the current proposed 2010 budget provides for 1 police chief and 6 officers. Barnes said the department has not had 7 officers and a police chief as required by the interlocal agreement since January 2006 and has not had 6 officers and police chief since the spring of 2006. She said it is important to try and keep the swimming pool open but not at the expense of the police department.

Laura Mann provided information on the possible development of a parks and recreation district.

Laura Mann said that if the council provides \$6,000 a letter could be written that also stated the city of Bingen hopes that the additional funds will relieve the pressure on White Salmon's current expense fund.

Laura Mann moved to increase the city of Bingen's contribution for swimming pool services from \$3,000 to \$6,000 as the benefits to Bingen have increased along with the cost of running the pool. Betty Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried 3 to 1 with the following vote: Bryan – Nay, Barnes – Aye, Kiewit – Aye, Mann – Aye, Dickey – Absent.

Skate Park Planning

Jan Brending said she would like to recommend that the public workshops for skate park planning take place after the first of the year.

Council members recommended that if the planning workshops are held in January they should be held at the end of month due to the number of Hispanic families who travel to Mexico during the holidays.

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 20, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: checks 11664-11687 totaling \$21661.91. Current – \$4956.06; Street - \$2000.04; Community Development - \$998.50; Street Construction & Maintenance - \$3257.00; Water - \$6324.29; Sewer - \$866.35; Treatment Plant - \$2259.67.

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 20, 2009. The council by unanimous vote does approve for payment the following list: payroll checks 11645-11663 totaling \$12862.26. Current - \$5289.42; Street - \$1288.24; Water – \$1868.28; Sewer - \$503.94; Bingen Treatment Plant - \$3912.38.

At 9:20 p.m. the city council adjourned.

City Clerk

Mayor