



**NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 27, 2011
Minutes**

Special Council Meeting – Finance Committee

Meeting Call to Order: 6:30 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Jim Runkles, Jennifer Stratton-Pies,
Marvin Showalter

Absent:

Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer John Spencer,

Review of Current Balance Sheets

John provided balance sheets and discussed year-end fund balance estimates.

Review of Draft 2011 YE Estimate and Draft 2012 Budget Changes

John gave an update of changes made to the 2011 year end estimates and to the 2012 budget.

Discussion: Options for Balancing the Budget

John discussed staff recommendations on balancing the budget. Discussion ensued regarding options to balance the budget.

Consensus that efforts taken so far are appropriate

Adjournment: 7:05 PM

Mayor

Clerk



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 11, 2011
Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 7:30 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Jim Runkles, Tim Dudley, Jennifer Stratton-Pies

Absent:

Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer John Spencer, Attorney Ken Woodrich

Guests Present

Approximately 17 guests were present, including Bob Bianchi, Charles Pace, Marvin Showalter, and former councilor Tom Herzig.

Agenda Changes and Additions

None.

Public Hearings

Cable TV System

Cheryl Jermann – Suggested that the city should “take the money and run.”

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included 9/27/11 Council Minutes, 10/11/11 Vouchers, and September payroll.

- **Councilor Dudley moved to approve the consent agenda items; 2nd by Councilor Runkles.**

John discussed the sewer grant revenues and expenses, noting that the Sewer Fund will not be able to repay the entire Water Fund loan this year.

Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Guest Presentations

None.

Public Comment

Mary Armantrout – Asked the council to use the microphones better (people are having a hard time hearing). She also read a letter from Shirley Sanders, Postmaster, regarding a person who allegedly slept on the post office floor recently.

Bob Bianchi – Discussed the vacancies on planning commission and asked for council presence at Planning Commission meetings. He also discussed the commission’s efforts regarding animal ordinances – specifically the issue of the cost of conditional use permits.

Tom Herzig – Expressed his desire for the public to get council packets before council meetings, perhaps Monday mornings, so they can make more meaningful comments at council meetings. Discussion ensued regarding how best to make the documents accessible. It was generally agreed that posting the documents to the web site and making a copy available at the counter would be sufficient.

Council Member Comments

Councilor Runkles:

- Discussed the option of posting a sandwich board outside (between city hall and post office) with the agendas. He expressed hope that this might increase interest in city issues.
- Asked for a new schedule for council members to attend planning commission meetings.
- Asked what the city is saving by being closed on Fridays. Mayor Stevens noted it's not an issue of monetary savings, but reduced ability to staff city hall. He also noted that we're now open from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM due to the scheduling changes. Councilor Runkles expressed a desire for city hall to be open on Fridays.
- Discussed the issue of the person in the post office and asked whether the sheriff contract dictated certain hours (it does not).

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Submitted. John also discussed the close-out of sewer grant and its impacts, provided an update on the library gate, and noted that the August cost-of-living index was about 3.8%. This will be used to compute an increase to water and sewer rates in March, 2012.

Attorney Report

Ken noted that he attended the WA State attorney's conference, where a number of discussions were held, including:

- Using Facebook as an opportunity to make documents available and create a social forum for the city.
- Updates on medical marijuana issue – Seattle has chosen to do very little prosecution on marijuana cases. Therefore, there's been a 55% drop in crime rates (which shows how many resources were going toward medical marijuana). Seattle is now in the process of developing a way to prosecute levels of psychoactive THC in auto drivers' bloodstream. The law and developments in this area are very active.

Unfinished Business

Approval of Tennis Court Backdrop Proposal

Ken suggested that this project may meet the definition of a "public work," thus requiring it to be bid out as a small works project.

Tabled pending further research.

Ordinance 995 – Overnight Parking

- **Councilor Dudley moved to approve Ordinance 995; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**
Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Resolution 429 -- Parking Fees

John suggested a rate higher than that of Pak Rat Mini Storage.

Councilor Dudley suggested that it is not fair to compare the city parking permit with a storage lease at Pak Rat Mini Storage since the city would not be offering the same service in terms of security.

- **Councilor Dudley moved to approve Resolution 429; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

It was clarified that this is an annual fee. Discussion ensued regarding the number of vehicles parked in the CBD, the limitation of permits in the ordinance, and whether they should be seen as revenue-generators.

Councilor Stratton-Pies expressed a disagreement with the idea of renting out parking spaces.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to amend Resolution 429 by setting the price at \$480; Died for lack of a 2nd.**

Discussion ensued.

- **Councilor Dudley moved to amend Resolution 429 by setting the price at \$420 and to specify 12 parking spaces as rentable; 2nd by Councilor Runkles.**
Yes: Councilors Runkles and Dudley
No: Councilor Stratton-Pies
Passed 2 – 1

Update on Cable TV System

John and Mayor Stevens provided an update on the progress of negotiations to sell the cable television system. It was noted that these negotiations are the result of placing the request for proposals in the paper and sending it to various telecommunication companies. Staff intends to bring finalized documents to council on October 25th.

Councilor Dudley expressed the opinion that City Hall should receive free service. John noted that this is in the current proposal.

New Business

Request for Advanced Council Packets by Tom Herzig

Consensus to publish packets on website.

Disc Golf Association Funding Request

Mayor Stevens stepped down as mayor to present the proposal in his role as North Bonneville Disc Golf Association President. Councilor Dudley presided,

Don requested lodging tax funding to assist with a PDGA (Professional Disc Golf Association) competition being held in North Bonneville on November 13th. He noted that the event is exciting because it is the first of its kind in the Gorge, and a great tourism opportunity, bringing in spectators from Portland to The Dalles. The request is for funding of sweatshirts to present to major competitors. They would then wear the course logo at other events providing ongoing marketing for the city. This idea is similar to Nike supporting events with their logo.

Councilor Runkles asked whether Don anticipates full participation in the tournament and whether there have been similar events in the area. Don said that the tournament will probably turn contestants away and that this is the first event to be hosted anywhere in the Gorge between Portland and the Tri-Cities.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to approve the lodging tax request; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**
Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Mayor Stevens resumed his post.

Appointment of Sharon Runkles to Planning Commission

- **Councilor Dudley moved to approve Sharon Runkles' appointment; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Ken noted that the Councilor Runkles and Commissioner Runkles must maintain a "Chinese Wall" on any adjudicative issues that may come before the planning commission.

- Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies**
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Closing Comments

Cheryl Jermann – Expressed disappointment that the Children's Pumpkin Hunt was cancelled.

Charles Pace – Suggested approving only a franchise for the cable system and discouraged the sale of city property. He also expressed his appreciation that the disc golf event will bring people in during November (a low tourism month). Finally, he thanked the council for their effort on the budget.

Cheryl Jermann – Asked whether the households have been notified on the parking issue.

Adjournment

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to Adjourn; 2nd by Councilor Dudley.
Yes: Councilors Jim Runkles, Tim Dudley, and Jennifer Stratton-Pies
No: None
Adjourned 8:40 PM**

Mayor

Clerk