



## NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Don Stevens  
Councilmember Charles Pace  
Councilmember Michael Hamilton

Councilmember Bob Bianchi  
Councilmember Mike Baker  
Councilmember Craig Forster

### **Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday May 26, 2015 6:30 p.m.**

#### **Finance Committee:**

Meeting called to order 6:30 P.M.

**Roll Call** all present

#### **New Business**

Council discussed holding workshops at the first council meeting of the month [the second Tuesday] during the months of June, July and August. This format would afford Councilors opportunity to discuss matters in depth rather than initiate actions in a formal, time constrained setting. Citizens will continue to have input similarly as they do now but in a more relaxed give and take atmosphere. This workshop proposal will be taken up during the Council meeting. If this action is approved, the Mayor will write a piece for the newsletter apprising folks of the change in summer format.

#### **Old Business**

**Adjournment:** 6:48 P.M.



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### City Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday May 26, 2015 7:00 p.m.

**Meeting Call to Order** 7:00 PM  
**Roll Call:** All members present

**Audience:** 4 visitors  
**Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Agenda Changes & Additions**

Considering the summer workshop proposal under new business

#### **Consent Agenda**

**Approval of May 12<sup>th</sup> Council Minutes and the May 26<sup>th</sup> invoices, less the Sierra Springs invoice 23094 intended to be voted on separately**

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve this action and seconded by Councilor Forster. Considerable discussion followed concerning the nature of the bills presented for payment. Of special interest was the amount paid monthly to three [3] different phone companies [AT&T, Sprint and Century link] for phone service.

Yes Councilor Baker, Pace, Bianchi, Forster and Hamilton  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 5-0-0

Councilor's Hamilton and Forster, agreed with Council's blessing, to evaluate the City's phone billing charges with the intent of avoiding phone business duplications and thus, gaining economies of scale, if possible.

#### **Approval of Sierra Springs invoice 23094**

Councilor Forster made a motion to approve this action and seconded by Councilor Baker. It was noted this invoice represented a two month payment period.

Yes Councilor Baker, Pace, Bianchi and Forster  
No Councilor Hamilton  
Abstain  
Passed 4-1-0

**Guest Presentations** None

**Public Comment**

Cheryl Jermann – requested that information be placed in the newsletter about the passing of former Councilor Tom Herzig

Steve Whitcomb – expressed concern about the condition of the lawnmowers, believing there were unmet maintenance issues. He also commented on the fact that certain public facilities were being painted by volunteers and observing that the town and the park looked good from the attention.

**Councilmember Comments**

Councilor Pace said he was not aware of lawnmower problems and noting the City had recently purchased a new one but also observing: if there were problems they should be addressed.

**Administrator’s Report** Steve noted City staff was evaluating locations on City property adjacent to Highway 14 for placement of signage announcing the City’s assets to passersby for promotion and economic development purposes. He said the municipal signage would be placed beyond Washington State Department of Transportation’s Highway 14 right-of-way and also noting the Columbia River Gorge Commission’s signage standards don’t apply to City property.

**City Attorney’s Report** – Attorney was not present

**Unfinished Business** – None

**New Business**

As a follow up to comments made in the finance committee meeting – Mayor Stevens asked the Council if they were receptive to changing the Council meeting format for the months of June, July and August. The intent would be to convert the first council meeting of the month into a workshop format with minimal official actions for purpose of discussing public issues in greater depth.

Councilor Forster made a motion to approve the summer Council workshop format and seconded by Councilor Baker with the proviso the public be appraised of this action and their continued ability to participate in meetings through public comment opportunity.

Yes Councilors Baker, Hamilton, Forster and Bianchi

No Councilor Pace

Abstain

Passed 4-1-0

**Closing Public Comments**

Robert Miller noted that he had heard three or four good ideas promoted during the course of the meeting and was wondering whether the upcoming workshops were intended to delve into the fruits of these ideas and convert them into actions. He also inquired whether the City had a marketing plan. He said he would like to see a plan and direction the City intended to go.

Cheryl Jermann wondered whether the monies given to the chamber for NB promotional purposes represented the best utilization of these proceeds.

**Closing Council Comments**

Councilor Hamilton said if the City did a better job of coordinating what items to place on the agenda, that foresight would reduce the need for the attorney’s presence and thereby reduce his billing costs. He also inquired whether the Public Development Authority [PDA] posted meeting notices when they met as well as where they met. Finally, he observed the Sherriff’s

monthly report did not adequately convey what law enforcement actions were North Bonneville specific.

Councilor Pace commented that North Bonneville not only has great scenic attributes but also unique fish spawning grounds that make this place very special. He said that we should be careful about what we say to the Gorge Commission about signage placement on public lands within the municipality as we do not wish to provoke an adversarial relationship. He also noted budget deliberations will arrive shortly and we want to make sure we are taking proper actions to be in accordance with statute requirements.

Councilor Baker inquired whether tourism dollars might be available for creation of a Chum Salmon trail and viewing station.

Mayor Stevens asked each Councilor to bring a topic for discussion to the next Council meeting scheduled for June 9.

**Adjournment**

Councilor Forster moved to adjourn and seconded by Councilor Baker

Yes Councilor Baker, Pace, Bianchi, Forster and Hamilton

No

Abstain

Passed 5-0-0

Adjourned approximately 7:46 PM

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**Mayor**

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**City Clerk**