



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Don Stevens
Councilmember Charles Pace
Councilmember Michael Hamilton

Councilmember Bob Bianchi
Councilmember Mike Baker
Councilmember Vacant

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday August 25, 2015 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Mayor Stevens and Councilors Bianchi, Pace, Baker and Hamilton - all present

New Business:

Transportation Grant Applications

Steve advised the Council he had submitted two [2] grant applications to the Washington State Transportation Board for possible funding to improve 2100 feet of Evergreen Road from Highway 14 to the Hamilton Creek Bridge. This action was taken because the road is losing its integrity as evidenced through a State road evaluation and grading process. Steve submitted for an arterial improvement grant and a road preservation grant for the same project. Each grant application has its own funding criteria and funding limits. Under provisions of the arterial grant Steve is seeking approximately \$470,000. Under provisions of the preservation grant he has broken the project in two because there are less funding monies available through this grant. The City will be advised in November whether or not we were successful in our funding efforts.

Street Light Status

Mayor Stevens advised he is in discussions with the Public Utility District to have them adjust our billing rates to reflect the fact certain City streetlights have been shut off as a cost savings measure.

Fire Rating Status

Steve noted that the fire-rating bureau that assesses the City's fire related health and safety strategies had threatened to reduce our rating from 5 to 6 due to inadequate compliance procedures. That lesser rating would have increased our citizen's insurance costs. However, the City has taken certain corrective actions to demonstrate our ability to sustain the "5" rating status. Hence, the rating bureau has advised the City staff, North Bonneville will receive a six [6] month reprieve during which time the City has to initiate certain actions. If at the end of this time the rating bureau is satisfied with our efforts, we should be able to sustain the lower rating. Public works staff will attend most of the compliance obligation. There was some discussion why the fire chief did not have these obligations.

Budget:

Steve advised this year's remaining Council meetings will focus on the budget. Steve said that he is working with John Spencer to develop the budget assumptions that will be relied upon for budget construction. The aim is to have an approved budget by the last meeting in November. All further finance committee meetings will start at 6:00 P.M until we have approved the budget and provided the Council concurs in that action.

Emergency Operating Center

Councilor Bianchi reminded the Council that local emergency management interests are sponsoring a planned Cascadian Earthquake event rehearsal next summer to help inoculate the community from the ravages of that pending catastrophic event. He said there were a number of emergency management procedures in the works to minimize the earthquake's impact. Council Bianchi also noted there he is seeking Ham radio operators who will help provide communications during this planned event. It was noted the planned event coincides with Gorge Days and that these two events will need to be coordinated.

Adjournment: 6:55 P.M.



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City Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday August 25, 2015 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Call to Order 7:02 PM

Roll Call: Mayor Stevens and Councilors Bianchi, Pace, Baker and Hamilton [all present]

Audience: 9 persons present

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Changes & Additions

Addition: Request for billing relief consideration Doug McKenzie [placed under new business]

Addition: Changing starting date for Finance meetings from 6:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. until the budget is concluded [placed under new business]

Consent Agenda

Approval of July 28th Minutes and August 25th Invoices, less Sierra Springs Invoice 23259, Hearing Examiner invoice 23245 and Pulse Consulting invoice 23257

Council noted that July 28th minutes needed some corrections or clarifications. The minutes have been corrected. A discussion ensued about the reason the water fountain was inoperable and the quality of City Hall water.

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve the minutes and invoices with those excepted and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi, Baker and Hamilton

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

Approval of the Sierra Springs Invoice 23259

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to approve invoice 23259 and seconded by Councilor Baker

Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi and Baker

No Councilor Hamilton

Abstain

Passed 3-1-0

Continuing Invoice 23245 to the next Council meeting [September 8th]

This item was continued because it relates to a land use matter that may be appealed to the City Council.

Councilor Baker made a motion to continue invoice 23245 to the September 8th Council meeting and seconded by Councilor Hamilton

Yes Councilor Pace, Baker, Bianchi and Hamilton

No
Abstain
Passed 4-0-0

Approval of Pulse Consulting Invoice 23257

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve Pulse Consulting invoice 23257 and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi and Baker
No Councilor Hamilton
Abstain
Passed 3-1-0

Guest Presentations [none]

Public Comment:

Cheryl Jermann said that she had been working with Robert Miller to develop a plan, site location and financial sources for purposes of constructing a facility to host concerts as a means to promote tourism to help finance City needs.

Diane Hamilton noted she was receptive to the idea the Councilors should be compensated for their time and devotion to City business, but more important, a need for those coming on the Council to have training opportunities whereby they are schooled in government rules and procedures. She said the Council should add training sponsorship to the budget discussion.

Councilmember Comments

Councilor Bianchi continued his earlier discussion about the planned Cascadian Earthquake event rehearsal that will occur next summer. The epicenter has been identified and North Bonneville is envisioned to sustain a 7 on the earthquake scale, which has the potential to knock out all utility systems, communications and roadways. Council Bianchi said he is seeking Ham radio operators who will help provide communications during this planned event. He also said there was a need for volunteers to take emergency training courses to help their fellow citizens recover from this planned disaster. He noted the planned event coincided with Gorge Days and that these two events needed to be coordinated. He thanked Steve and Devin Jackson for their efforts to construct transportation grant applications.

Councilor Baker advised the audience the City is able to keep its 5 fire rating at least for the next six months and in the interim efforts will be made to sustain that rating long term to assure the City's insurance costs remain low. He also noted that a gentleman by the name of Adam Schaeffer was on the agenda this evening for appointment to the Public Development Authority and he was pleased that a family man of his stature would volunteer for this public service position.

Councilor Pace cautioned when we received inquiries from other public agencies as we did yesterday concerning potential fish barrier projects we need to be careful in our responses so as not to open us up to possible legal or financial liabilities.

Councilor Hamilton suggested a moment of prayer at the beginning of Council meetings to provide for a little more camaraderie. He also noted that consideration ought to be given to constructing a fish viewing area along Hamilton Creek as a tourism draw. He also inquired what kind of revenue Skamania Port District businesses generate for the City coffers if at all and does the Port District pay property taxes? Attorney Ken Woodrich responded to Councilor Hamilton's inquiry about Port District Revenue: he advised that the District does not pay property taxes but businesses located on Port property pay a 12.48% leasehold tax. This tax is in lieu of and equivalent to the paying of a property tax. Some of this

leasehold tax comes back to the City a tax receipt

Mayor Stevens said that in his mind he did not view the Council as volunteers. He believes a volunteer is someone who can quit at any time whereas an elected official is a longer time commitment requiring a greater investment of time. He was of the view it would be appropriate to provide the council members a stipend such as they have done in Stevenson for many years. The Mayor also commented on Councilor Hamilton's fish viewing proposal. He noted that there had been proposals to generate tourism activity by capitalizing on the Chum Salmon that spawn in Hamilton Creek. The efforts have not moved forward because of infrastructure costs. There is also the issue of parking and some level of concern about tourists stressing the fish by their presence in close proximity to the spawning area.

Administrator's Report none

City Attorney's Report none

Unfinished Business none

New Business

Change of the finance committee meeting [as part of the Council meeting] from 6:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. until the budget is approved

The Council by consensus agreed to this action for the budget duration

Relief from a water bill due to water leakage in the sum of \$1,037.66 – the property owner is Doug McKenzie

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to provide this relief consideration in the amount of \$1,037.66 and seconded by Councilor Baker

Yes Councilor Bianchi, Baker, and Hamilton

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

Appointing Adam Schaeffer to the North Bonneville Public Development Authority [PDA]

Councilor Baker made a motion to approve this appointment and seconded by Councilor Pace

Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi, Baker

No

Abstain Council Hamilton

Passed 3-0-1

Appointment of Jim Goldring to serve as regular commission member position #2 until 12/31/2015

Councilor Hamilton made a motion to approve this appointment and seconded by Councilor Baker

Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi, Baker and Hamilton

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

Ordinance 1053 - an ordinance of the City of North Bonneville, Washington, amending North Bonneville Municipal Code Title 20 zoning by amending Chapter 20.08 general provisions and Chapter 20.22 [CBD] Central Business District

Councilor Hamilton made a motion to approve this land use ordinance and seconded by Councilor Bianchi
Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi, Baker and Hamilton
No
Abstain
Passed 4-0-0

Washington State Auditor's office letter of engagement for purposes of performing an accountability audit for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2014

This item did not need Council action

Closing Public Comments

Cheryl Jermann hoped that the citizens of the community took this upcoming preparatory disaster exercise seriously and noting that she has already experienced a gas explosion that endangered this community and noting there is a 26 inch gas line running the length of the community

Closing Council Comments

Adjournment

Councilor Bianchi moved to adjourn and seconded by Councilor Baker
Yes Councilor Pace, Bianchi, Baker and Hamilton
No
Abstain
Passed 4-0-0

Adjourned approximately 8:08 PM

Mayor

City Clerk