

NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 28, 2012
Finance Committee Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Councilors Jerry Arthurs, Charles Pace,
and Mike Baker
Absent: Councilors Stratton-Pies and Dudley
Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer / Administrator John Spencer

Unfinished Business

2013 Budget

John completed a review of preliminary revenues for the 2013 budget. Councilors asked a variety of questions around this topic.

New Business

John reviewed a spreadsheet showing 2013 hotel/motel revenues and requested disbursements. Discussion ensued.

Adjournment

6:53



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 28, 2012
Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Councilors Jerry Arthurs, Charles Pace, Mike Baker
Absent: Councilors Stratton-Pies and Dudley
Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer / Administrator John Spencer, City Attorney Ken Woodrich

Guests Present

Approximately 19 guests were present, including Chamber Executive Director Casey Roeder, Bonneville Hot Springs Resort Marketing Manager Mary Faso, Community Volunteer Jake Myers, Planning Commissioner Bob Bianchi, and Gorge Winds Cooperative Volunteers Margie Fickett and Lori Loranger.

Agenda Changes and Additions

Councilor Pace asked to discuss excusing councilmembers for cause. He asked whether Dudley or Stratton-Pies asked to be excused. Mayor Stevens explained that Councilor Dudley has resigned as of this evening. Discussion ensued.

Public Hearings

None.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included the 8/14/12 Council Minutes and 8/18/12 Vouchers.

John noted a typo – Councilor Stratton-Pies was not present at the last meeting.

Discussion ensued on vouchers.

- **Councilor Baker moved to approve the consent agenda; 2nd by Councilor Arthurs.**
Yes: Councilors Baker, Arthurs, and Pace
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Guest Presentations

None.

Public Comment

Cheryl Jermann – Provided her opinions on hotel/motel proposals, and on resolution 448.

Mary Armantrout – Agreed with Cheryl's points on hotel/motel expenditures and suggested saving some hotel/motel funds for later. She also stated that the city should charge entrance fees for Gorge Days.

John Blackwell – Spoke against the idea of a kayak rental at the boat launch.

Dave Bitikofer – Spoke against the idea of a kayak rental at the boat launch, but suggested the city needs to install restroom facilities there. He also spoke against the idea of allowing pay in-lieu of opting out of insurance.

Jake Meyer – Thanked the public works crew for their help with the Bigfoot efforts.

Council Member Comments

Councilor Arthurs – Expressed his dismay that people read that the council is trying to receive health insurance and expressed his dismay at falling victim to an internet scam. He suggested pursuing the skate park, perhaps finding someone to look for a grant. He also stated that he has not resigned and does not feel compelled to do so.

Councilor Baker – Stated that he wants to listen to all opinions regarding hotel/motel expenditures and to reach decisions that are in the best interests of the city.

Councilor Pace – Expressed his appreciation of Councilor Dudley's time as councilmember, and asked that the city express gratitude as well. He stated that Greenleaf Lake is an asset of the city and that it's natural for the city to look at options for it; he also understands the issues that residents brought up about the idea of placing kayak rentals there. He stated that this evening is the first time he has seen the materials regarding benefits for elected officials. He stated that he also has concerns about the in-lieu compensation, but noted that it results in savings – a sharing of benefits – rather than a pay-increase.

Mayor Stevens– echoed Councilor Pace's comments regarding Councilor Dudley's time on council, expressing his appreciation for the work he has done.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Provided in written format, John also discussed Skate Park Donations and Weed Spraying (Garlon/Roundup) by LCFEG.

Attorney Report

Ken noted an email concerning the use of hotel/motel tax money after July 1, 2013 which indicates that pre-paying for event operations may not be allowed. He suggested running the issue by the state auditor's office.

Mayor Stevens suggested the possibility of moving Gorge Days up one week to avoid this issue. Discussion ensued.

Councilor Pace asked Ken for an opinion regarding the in-lieu payment. He noted that passage would be needed by a majority of the body (3 councilors). Ken declined to comment, stating that this would be a better question for the labor attorney.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Resolution 448, Medical Benefit In-Lieu Payments

John provided background on this issue.

- **Councilor Baker moved to pass resolution 448; 2nd by Councilor Arthurs for discussion purposes.**

Councilor Arthurs expressed concern about the city's finances and whether Jennifer should be allowed to receive full benefits. John provided an overview of the situation, explaining that full benefits are required under the collective bargaining agreement and that the in-lieu payments are a way of saving money.

Discussion ensued.

Yes: Councilor Baker

No: Councilors Arthurs and Pace

Failed 1 – 2

John asked for a retroactive approval of the July in-lieu payment. Councilor Pace and Ken Woodrich stated that the approval was given at the last meeting.

Discussion: Un-Paid Medical Benefits for Council

John provided background.

Baker noted that he and Arthurs have other insurance. Discussion ensued.

Ken noted that the city would need to build in safeguards on this issue.

Consensus for John to look into this further.

Break for 5 minutes at 8:35 – back at 8:40

Nellie's Pies

With council's permission, John gave a quick overview of the idea of making a zoning ordinance change to allow for temporary structures in CBD. Desi Nelson of Nellie's pies gave an overview of her plans for renting space to set up a temporary business.

Discussion ensued.

Ken noted that the city must charge fair market value of the land.

Pay for Council

Councilor Arthurs discussed his belief that if he received pay for his work on council, he could write off his expenses on his income taxes. He proposed paying future council members \$1 per month (this would not apply to current council members).

Councilor Baker expressed his support of the idea.

Councilor Pace expressed his support for properly paying councilmembers for their work.

2013 Hotel/Motel Requests

Bonneville Hot Springs

John gave background, explaining he proposed the ideas of developing the boat launch and heritage trails trailhead. Mary Faso expressed the Hot Spring's feeling that these are good ideas and they are interested in pursuing them. She noted the Troutdale billboard has been a great success. Discussion ensued.

Gorge Winds

Margie Fickett and Lori Loranger provided an overview of their proposals, stating that their events would happen in the Spring. Discussion ensued.

Chamber of Commerce

Casey Roeder provided an overview of the Chamber's activities and their proposals. Discussion ensued.

Runkles

Jim and Sharon Runkles provided an overview of their proposal. Discussion ensued.

Heritage Trails

Jake Meyer provided an overview of the Heritage Trails proposal. Discussion ensued.

Too-Hot-For-The-Streets Car Show

JB Tennison provided an overview of the car show proposal.

Disc Golf

Mayor Stevens, acting as a volunteer with the Disc Golf Association, gave an overview of the Disc Golf Association proposals. Discussion ensued.

Staff Proposals

John provided background. Discussion ensued.

Closing Comments

Cheryl Jermann – Complained about the hotel/motel process and asked council to look at zoning requirements for open-space.

Jim Runkles – Asked who gave LCFEG authority to use Garlon. He also stated that as a volunteer he is not doing any work that union employees would otherwise be doing.

Casey Roeder – Asked what the follow-up will be on the Hotel/Motel proposals.

Councilor Pace – Stated that he has no interest in undermining Washington codes [regarding hotel/motel expenditures]; that the city will always comply with the law.

Adjournment

- **Councilor Pace moved to Adjourn; 2nd by Councilor Arthurs.**
Yes: Councilors Pace, Baker and Arthurs.
No: None
Passes 3 – 0

Adjourned 10:18 PM

Mayor

Clerk