



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 9, 2011
Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 6:32 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Councilors BreAnna Porter, Jim Runkles, Tim Dudley, and Jennifer Stratton-Pies
Absent:
Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer John Spencer, Attorney Ken Woodrich

Guests Present

Approximately 15 guests were present, including Skamania County Sheriff Dave Brown, Assistant North Bonneville Fire Chief Brian McKenzie, Stevenson City Administrator Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, and two members of the North Bonneville Planning Commission.

Agenda Changes and Additions

None.

Public Hearings

None.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included 7/26/11 Council Minutes, 8/9/11 Vouchers, and July Payroll.

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

Councilor Runkles expressed concern regarding the size of the labor lawyer's bill, but stressed that he approves of the contract and use.

Yes: Councilors Porter, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Guest Presentations

None.

Public Comment

Mary Armantrout – Expressed concern regarding the potential closure of the cable TV fund and encourage continued operation.

Cheryl Jermann – Thanked the Public Works team for mowing the blackberries on East Cascade.

Sharon Runkles – Observed that there are a lot of cars in front of the gym and suggested the city may be being taken advantage of.

Council Member Comments

Jim Runkles – expressed concern about various vehicles parked in the CBD and asked whether there are limitations on this. Don explained that each residence is allowed two vehicles and businesses one vehicle. The city is surveying the vehicles and working to address the issue.

BreAnna Porter – Asked whether we have thought about requiring a payment for parking on city property. Discussion ensued.

Jim Runkles – Noted that the area around Hamilton Park had been mowed as they requested and complemented city staff for their responsiveness.

BreAnna Porter – Said that she has brought up the cable TV issue every month and that the city has been transparent on this issue.

Don Stevens – Apologized for not reading Councilor Tom Herzig’s resignation letter at the last council meeting and proceeded to do so. Mayor Stevens also noted the city owes Mr. Herzig a debt of gratitude for his service. Discussion ensued.

Clerk/Treasurer’s Report

Submitted.

John briefly discussed the city’s financial situation. Brief discussion ensued.

Attorney Report

None.

Unfinished Business

Lodging Tax

Mayor Stevens recommended moving this issue after the sub-area plan discussion.

Level 2 Grievances

Ken discussed procedural options for handling the grievances.

8062

No one from the union was present to state their position.

Councilor Runkles asked whether any of the grievance issues were brought to the Mayor before the grievances were filed. The mayor explained that they were not.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to affirm the Mayor’s response to grievance 8062; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Discussion ensued regarding whether more information should have been supplied by the union and whether the city can sit down and discuss the issues collaboratively with union representatives.

Yes: Councilors Porter, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

8085

- **Councilor Porter moved to affirm the Mayor’s response to grievance 8062; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Councilor Runkles clarified the gist of the grievance. Mayor Stevens verified that the utilities manager made the choice regarding who received on-call pay and then filed a grievance regarding this choice.

Yes: Councilors Porter, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

New Business

Moratorium on Medical Marijuana Growing

Sheriff Brown explained the history of the moratorium (Ordinance 991) and his reasons for requesting passage of it.

Councilor Porter asked about regulations on the medical use of marijuana. Sheriff Brown noted that the city doesn’t have that authority, but does have authority on how and where it is grown. Ken noted that state statute preempts city authority on all other issues.

Councilor Porter asked how the city would verify legitimate growers. Sheriff Brown suggested the city would probably develop a registry through the business licensing process.

Ken noted that the city council lacks a majority plus one to adopt the emergency moratorium.

Discussion continued regarding what regulations the city might pass to handle medical marijuana growing.

Tabled until Councilor Dudley arrived.

Returned to this issue after the sub-area plan discussion.

- **Councilor Dudley moved to approve Ordinance 991; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Yes: Councilors Porter, Dudley, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 4 – 0

Interlocal RE Air Compressor for Fire Department

John gave a brief overview of the history and status of the contract. Brian McKenzie and Mary Ann Duncan-Cole answered questions about the cost- and control-sharing components of the contract. Discussion ensued.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to approve the Air Compressor Contract; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Yes: Councilors Porter, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Restarting the Budget Committee / Finance Meetings

John requested restarting the committee. Discussion ensued regarding timing and form of the meetings. No decision was made.

Surplus Police Shotguns and Light Bar

- **Councilor Porter moved to approve Resolution 427; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Councilor Runkles asked about potential uses of the light bar, and requested the blue light be removed if the bar is sold to anyone other than a police entity.

Ken confirmed that the value listed for the shotguns was total, not individual values.

Yes: Councilors Porter, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

CBD Sub-Area Plan

John gave a historical synopsis and suggested that the council provide feedback and remand it back to committee. Robert Miller provided further detail on the plan.

Councilor Runkles asked whether the Planning Commission has asked the state whether we can lower the speed limit on Highway 14, and expressed concern that we shouldn't advertise as a tourist destination until the city has developed itself as such. Discussion ensued regarding the city's attributes. Councilor Runkles asked whether there is concern about Indian reaction to the discussion of developing Moffet Creek and using totem poles.

Councilor Porter said her only reservation was that the starting point was completing Heritage Trails and the Children's Loop. She suggested that Heritage Trails are sufficient now and that a higher priority would be a facility of some sort. She asked whether a survey was done to find out what tourist facilities would most interest people. She suggested that the Planning Commission needs to work to fit projects properly into hotel/motel tax regulations.

Mayor Stevens suggested that the planning commission asked whether the council likes their general direction and that the detail is not critical right now.

Councilor Runkles confirmed the idea that the general direction is toward marketing the city as a tourist area.

Councilor Porter said she would like to see the plan identify a specific facility for development in addition to the Heritage Trails. Councilors Porter and Stratton-Pies liked the idea of developing some sort of children's museum.

Cheryl Jermann suggested the plan should find ways to incorporate hiking facilities and historical structures.

Ron Winter noted that people have trouble finding the city.

Consensus that the Planning Commission is moving in the right direction with the proposed sub-area plan.

Mayor Stevens suggested that Council provide further specific suggestions outside the meeting.

Sharon Runkles noted that the city should try to attract a tourist population that will bring the least amount of crime.

Go/No-Go on Community Garden

John introduced intern Amanda Shanahan. Amanda provided an overview of accomplishments on the community garden.

Councilor Runkles asked whether anyone has expressed interest in the garden manager position and asked about size of the fence. Amanda noted that no one has expressed interest yet and the fence is 7 feet.

Darlene Mills noted that fundraising is on-going and that a garage sale project is likely to be successful.

Councilor Porter asked whether the project is likely to succeed without city funding. She continued to note that she fully supports the project.

Ken discussed the implications of the fundraising campaign and receipting donations in light of the recently passed donations ordinance (Ordinance 990).

- **Councilor Runkles moved to approve the policies and procedure of the community garden handbook, to affirm that the garden must be funded through fees and donations, and to authorize the receipt of donations; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Yes: Councilors Porter, Runkles, and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Potential Closure of the Cable TV System

John gave an overview of the history of efforts to maintain the Cable TV system and reviewed financial projections.

Councilor Porter stated that the system should be closed sooner in order to avoid a general fund subsidy.

Ken noted that there is value in the system components and that the city could likely make some money surplussing them.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion tabled to 8/23.

10 minute recess.

Closing Comments

Jude Nappé – Spoke in favor of the idea of some sort of children’s museum.

Mary Armantrout – Noted that as a teacher, she has in the past used multiple agency resources to provide educational opportunities for school children.

Adjournment

- **Councilor Porter moved to Adjourn; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.
Yes: Councilors BreAnna Porter, Jim Runkles, and Jennifer Stratton-Pies
No: None
Adjourned 9:03 PM**

Mayor

Clerk