



**NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 13, 2011
Minutes**

Special Council Meeting – Finance Committee

Meeting Call to Order: 6:30 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Councilors Tim Dudley, Jim Runkles,
Jennifer Stratton-Pies
Absent:
Staff Present: Clerk /Treasurer John Spencer

Review of 2011 Year End Estimates and 2012 Budget.

John gave an overview of the 2011 estimates and budget as it stands. Brief Q & A ensued.

Adjournment: 6:45 PM

Mayor

Clerk



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Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 7:30 PM

Roll Call

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

Guests Present

Approximately 27 guests were present, including the Public Works staff, Fire Chief JB Tennison, Port Commissioner Kevin Waters, Chamber Executive Casey Roeder.

Agenda Changes and Additions

None.

Public Hearings

None.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included 8/23/11 Council Minutes, August payroll and 9/13/11 Vouchers.

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

Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Guest Presentations

None.

Public Comment

JB Tennison – Spoke regarding the Motorcycle Show and Shine. The fire fighter's association put in a lot of work and had 85 motorcycles attend. It turns out they were competing against another event in Woodburn. He also noted that they were able to give the Bonneville Hot Springs a lot of free advertising.

Cheryl Jermann – Questioned what the "Investigative Contract" on the agenda was and expressed a desire to see the city build its fund balances rather than spend them on grievance settlements.

Council Member Comments

Mayor Stevens announced that Councilor BreAnna Porter has resigned from the City Council, and thanked her for her time and efforts on the city's behalf.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Submitted. Brief Q&A followed.

Attorney Report

Ken noted that he has worked on various ordinances, but reserved comment for later.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 995 – Parking

John provided an overview, and recommended that the council not pass the ordinance since WCIA is re-working it.

Councilor Runkles said he feels the ordinance is headed in the right direction.

Discussion ensued.

Council directed staff to place Ordinance 995 on the September 27th agenda.

Resolution on Parking Rates

John explained that had the council passed ordinance 995, they would then have needed to set a rate for special parking permits. This issue will be brought back at the next council meeting.

Continued Lodging Tax Discussion

John provided a history of lodging tax expenditures and explained that he is looking for guidance for 2012.

Councilor Runkles asked for time to think it over and asked staff to bring it back to the next council meeting. John was also asked to grade all of the 2011 proposals per current policy.

Proposed Lodging Tax Committee

Casey Roeder, Bob Bianchi, John Mobley, Diane Hamilton and Councilor Dudley expressed desire to be on the committee.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to create a lodging tax committee comprised of Casey Roeder, Bob Bianchi, John Mobley, Diane Hamilton, Robert Miller and Councilor Dudley; 2nd by Jennifer Stratton-Pies.**

John asked for clarification regarding the committee's scope; Councilor Runkles explained he would like the committee to review the lodging tax expenditures and provide input at the next council meeting.

Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Approval of Settlement of Union Grievances

Mayor Stevens asked for executive session.

Adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Returned at 8:25 PM with no decisions made

Council took at 5 minute break, returning at 8:31.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to approve the draft settlement; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies for purposes of discussion.**

Councilor Runkles reviewed the history of the four grievances and noted that the union will drop the grievances if the city agrees to:

- Drop the on-call pay of \$500 and instead increase the Public Works employees hourly rates by \$2.25.
- Make a one-time payment of \$1,000 to each Public Works employee for the period from May-August, plus \$125 to James Brown.
- Reduce the one-day furloughs to ½ day furloughs per month for all employees.

He stated that the city has not been dealt with fairly and cannot afford to pay for lawyers and grievances.

Councilor Dudley noted that he does not feel the administration followed council's intent with the on-call issue. He would rather make up the back-pay rather than coming up with a raise. He noted that the \$1,000 limit was a budgetary issue; we can't afford more. Councilor Dudley feels that the city should make the furloughs right.

Ken noted that the city does not admit any liability with regard to the grievances.

Mayor Stevens noted that this is an up-or-down vote on a prepared document.

Councilor Stratton-Pies agreed with both Councilors Runkles and Dudley, and stated she feels the union is holding the city hostage. She stated she cannot agree with the settlement.

Councilor Runkles stated he feels we have to look at this from the long perspective, that neither side is happy with it, that it saves the city attorney fees, and that if the city loses in arbitration, it may face more costs. He suggested that the city has to look at everything it does very closely to make sure we are not in danger of future grievances. He is concerned about bankruptcy if we do not pass.

Diane Hamilton – Suggested that the Public Works staff need to stop making grievances.

Penny DeBraie – Suggested that we need to agree to disagree on some of these issues. She noted that everyone at her workplace had to take a pay cut and that the union needs to make concessions too.

Mary Armantrout – Noted that there are challenges on both sides and that its appalling things have gone as far as they have. She feels this is the best chance to stop it, and that going to arbitration will hurt the city more.

Charles Pace – Stated that any time you can put a conflict behind you, you should do so, and that while there are legitimate concerns the city would be better off to move on.

Mayor Stevens summed up by noting that the meeting the city had with the union was a true meeting of compromise and the fact that neither side is happy with the outcome is a good indication that we did a good job in compromising. He also stated that the union seems to understand the city's financial straits.

Cheryl Jermann – Noted that her husband took big cuts for the city, and that he hasn't sued the city for it.

Mayor Stevens noted that the \$2.25/hour "raise" is a trade off with the loss of \$500/month on-call pay, not in addition to that amount.

Councilor Runkles noted that the on-call pay is paid regardless of whether the employee is working or not; the employee's would actually be working for the money under the settlement agreement.

Yes: Councilor Runkles
No: Councilors Dudley and Stratton-Pies
Failed 1 – 2

Formation of Sub-Area Plan Committee

John suggested himself and Robert Miller. Councilor Runkles offered to join.

Consensus to form a Sub-Area Committee as discussed.

New Business

Approval of Bid for Update of Water System Plan

John gave background.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to accept the Gray and Osborn bid; 2nd by Councilor Dudley.**

Discussion ensued.

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

Approval of Investigation Contract

Mayor Stevens noted that the investigation will be funded entirely by WCIA (the city's insurance pool).

- **Councilor Dudley moved to approve; 2nd by Councilor Stratton-pies.**

Mayor Stevens explained that this relates to a harassment claim filed by a former fire fighter. Discussion ensued.

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

Preliminary Budget Discussion

Consensus that the council will email John comments and suggestions on the 2012 budget.

Ordinance 996 – Budget Adjustments

John gave background.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to approve 996, 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies.**

Councilor Dudley noted that Council approved a budget requiring the city to live within its means and that we've failed. Councilor Runkles expressed hope that we can learn from past mistakes.

Yes: Councilors Runkles, Dudley and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Ordinance 994 – Livestock Animal Regulations

Councilor Runkles asked if zoning ordinances are referenced in the ordinance. Ken explained how it will be folded into the zoning ordinance in the next version.

Councilor Runkles suggested that this be sent directly to the Planning Commission once it's reviewed by WCIA council.

Consensus to send this matter to the Planning Commission.

Bob Bianchi – asked whether the Planning Commission will have to have a hearing. Ken noted that even though it might not be required, it's generally a good idea to do so, but cautioned to wait for the next draft before making such decisions.

Approval of Web Site Contract Amendment

John noted that the idea behind this amendment is to facilitate public process, and that it will be paid by the Shoreline grant.

- **Councilor Runkles moved to approve the Web Site Contract Amendment, 2nd by Councilor Dudley.**

Yes: Councilors Jim Runkles, Tim Dudley, and Jennifer Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Closing Comments

Sharon Runkles – concurred with Penny DeBraie's comments that we have to work to live together and work these problems out and respect each other.

Cheryl Jermann – thanked council for voting as they believed. She noted again that it takes a team for the city to survive.

Adjournment

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to Adjourn; 2nd by Councilor Dudley.**

Yes: Councilors Jim Runkles, Tim Dudley, and Jennifer Stratton-Pies

No:

Adjourned 9:12 PM

Mayor

Clerk