



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

*Mayor Don Stevens
Bianchi*

Councilmember Bob

October 3, 2016

**North Bonneville Council Meeting
Tuesday September 27, 2016
6:00 p.m.**

Council Workshop: Note - the workshop discussion period is from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. followed by the Regular Council Session - it is possible that workshop discussion items are continued into the regular council session.

Workshop Meeting Call to Order – Councilor Forster absent
Unfinished Business None

New Business

Council receiving pay [at Craig Forster’s request]

Councilor Forster was not present and so this item was deferred to next Council meeting

Status Heritage Trails Non Profit Agreement [at Brian Sabo’s request]

Councilor Sabo requested this item be moved to the regular agenda

Budget Update

John Spencer passed out a revenue summary document dated 9/22/16, which lists 5 years of budget activity associated with each of the City’s funds. John’s intent is to provide council with a revenue picture in anticipation of two revenue hearings that will be held next month. He said at the next meeting he would start a discussion concerning the expense budget. He noted this is a summary document because the details associated with the City’s revenue picture would otherwise take hours to explain.

John took the Council through each of City’s revenue funds explaining their purpose, funding sources and how various revenue projections were determined. He said he anticipated the Council approving the annual one [1] percent property tax known as the ad Velorum. He noted that City has been blessed with a huge increase in sales tax and some of this increase reflects tax on the large infrastructures projects that were just completed. John said he also contemplated the city would increase its internal sewer and water utility taxes to 15%. He said if the utility tax increase is approved, that action will help subsidize many of the items on the City’s wish list. John noted that the City revenue from fines has tripled since we contracted with the Skamania County for court services.

He said that our ending fund balance will be slightly less than last year and noting the many costs the City incurred attending to the November 2014 storm that wrecked havoc on the community. John discussed the moving around of monies through interfund process next year to provide matching revenues for various grant proposals the City is pursuing. Discussion followed about setting up a park equipment fund but not taking monies from the skate park fund for consolidation purposes. John called attention to the fact that the City’s water and sewer rates increase annually because they are tied to a CPI.

As John went through the revenue summary there were questions about different funding sources that need some follow up investigation. John said he would review these items and report back his findings at the next meeting or sooner.

Devin Jackson was present and provided a slide show of the construction progress associated with installation of a replacement 14" water main. The slide show also provided information about the repaving of Evergreen Drive that was underway concurrent with the water project. The slide show visually captured many of the conflicts that had to be overcome to install the water line because of lack of construction documents that could otherwise be relied upon to verify underground utility placement. Devin noted the transportation project will be complete this Thursday, September 28. In closing he provided a short overview of how the city should provide for the road's care and maintenance.

Steve advised council he had been working with Councilor Bianchi and Tom Jermann to update the fire volunteer section of municipal code and noting the present section was constructed in 1940. Steve said they had managed to develop new language and had placed it in a draft resolution now available for council review. He noted this item had been placed on the October 11th Council agenda for possible passage, hence he requested Council review the document between now and then.

Adjournment The Council adjourned the workshop meeting at 6:50 P.M.



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City Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday September 27, 2016

Regular portion of the Council Meeting reconvened 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Councilor Forster absent

Audience: 10

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Changes & Additions Excuse Councilor Forster's absence.

Public Hearing

Ordinance 1069 an ordinance for purpose of adopting a "Complete Streets" approach to the City's Transportation processes.

Steve advised the complete streets program was another component part of the City's transportation program. The intent of this effort is to identify various transportation components and develop a plan that shows their interrelationship. This action improves the City's ability to do transportation planning and is helpful to construction of the City's land development strategy. Additionally, having a Complete Streets program makes the City eligible for grant monies the legislature has set aside to develop this program.

John Spencer added that this transportation policy already mimics what the City is doing as reflected in the City's Transportation Improvement plan [TIP]. He said it is looking at the entire transportation system not just the paving of streets. For example: the City's efforts to color the bus shelters and make them more visible and friendly is part of the City's transportation development strategy. This Complete Streets program calls attention to all the City's transportation elements such as its extensive trail system. If the City is to develop a Complete Streets program it will also need to develop goals and objectives and establish measurable benchmarks to assure the City is working towards a comprehensive transportation planning process. What the City measures and how it establishes its benchmarks will need to be added annually to the TIB. Mayor Stevens announced the public hearing was open and welcomed comments. There being no public comment the Mayor closed the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Approval of September 13 Minutes and September 27 Invoices

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to approve the minutes and invoices and seconded by Councilor Norris.

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Whitcomb and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

Guest Presentations:

Honoring Jed Wasson as North Bonneville's Citizen of the Year

The Mayor noted that Jed has greatly contributed to our community and citing his many contributions such as repainting of the bus shelters, rehabilitating the City Hall Breezeway and restoring the Hamilton Creek Bridge. The Mayor presented Jed with a plaque and conveyed great appreciation for these public

contributions to public applause.

Honoring Darlene Mills for her ongoing efforts to create a viable City Community Garden

Lonnie Gates shared with the audience how Darlene Mills had among her many public contributions founded the City's community garden that was rapidly becoming a food lifeline for our citizens and that her generousities should be complemented with various forms of public recognition. The Council was more than receptive to finding a way to properly honor her contributions. Mayor Stevens cited some of the many things that Darlene has done for this community calling her a bundle of energy and a very strong lady.

Jed Miller – NB Fire Department update

Jed provided an overview of fire department developments touching on several points of interest. Jed noted he was elected to this position earlier this year and had the good fortune to triple the membership within one month of his election. Additionally, he noted they were fortunate to now have four female firefighters. He said some of this increased membership resulted from good timing as the volunteer firefighter numbers generally go up in the spring and summer. Also the fire volunteers have been able to reestablish a fire auxiliary which has raised considerable revenue to help purchase needed fire equipment such as flashlights.

Jed said one thing he has done recently is redistribute clothing to better accommodate our firefighter needs and noting that the clothing size has been an issue and particular with gloves and hoods. He noted the SCBAs [air tanks] were past their expiration date and there is doubt they can be recertified, if not, then we need to purchase new ones. He said, "I don't know if the solution is to have them retested or purchase new ones." He noted they have 40 high pressure air tanks but they have never been used, rather they have been sitting in the back room for five years now and are expired. Jed said the turnouts were fine and noting they have sufficient boots and helmets but they do need gloves, hoods and air packs.

He noted that he had established a good mutual aid relationship with Fire District 5 and they were training together. He said they were looking at training with Fire District 4 and noting they have a house they intend to burn down together and that should provide a good training experience. Jed also noted he had established working relations with the new fire chief at Cascade Locks and the staff at Bonneville Dam who are receptive to helping us with incident responses. He said that Northwest Natural has helped them with training exercises and noting there is a lot of natural gas in the area and the firemen need to know how to respond to its presence in an emergency situation. He said that driver training and CPR trainings were scheduled this upcoming month with 9 firefighters scheduled for drivers training. Jed said he intended to have everyone caught up with where they need to be legally.

Jed wanted to thank the public works crew for helping to replace the fire truck batteries as the truck would not run without that mechanical work. Steve noted that the City had placed \$12,000 in next year's budget for air tanks. He also noted that if they intend to burn down a house as a training exercise that the City is a partner with the Southwest Clean Air Agency out of Vancouver and it would be good to alert them of that intent. Councilor Norris inquired whether the high pressure tanks could be recertified to which Jed replied he did not know. A discussion follow concerning the viability of the air pressure system in the fire house set up to fill air tanks. Jed said that the other districts did not rely upon it and there is the capacity to have a high pressure compressor system but the fire house electrical system would have to be rewired for 3 phase. Mayor Stevens said there should be an effort made to see if the expired high pressure air tanks can be recertified and if they can then an effort should be made to rework the fire hall's electric system to accommodate that need.

Public Comments:

Bev Charlton noted that Darlene Mills is a wonderful lady and has served as her mentor in developing the community garden. She noted that without Darlene's assistance there would not be a garden. Bev said even though it is important to recognize Darlene for pioneering this effort there are others who have selflessly given time and energy to the garden's development and efforts should be made to recognize them in the future. She suggested a bench be installed to honor Darlene with space to recognize other individuals from time to time.

Jake Meyer

Jake wanted to thank Terry Norris and Bev Charlton for showing up to last week's planning commission meeting.

Steve Whitcomb

Requested a microphone be installed at the podium so the audience could hear the conversation

Councilor Comments:

Councilor Sabo inquired whether the PDA was being audited by the State to which Mayor Stevens replied yes they were.

Councilor Norris thanked Jed Miller and Tracy Hamilton for their efforts to rebuild the fire department. He also inquired of Steve whether the chlorine levels that were elevated during the water line replacement had been returned to normal. Steve replied yes.

Councilor Bianchi wished to thank the staff for their efforts during the replacement of the water line. He said that perhaps the City should invest in an answering machine to handle circumstances involving repetitive questions. He asked the Fire Chief to review Ordinance 1070 which is intended to rewrite the volunteer firefighter section of municipal code.

Mayor Stevens wished to thank the staff for their efforts involving the water line replacement and the necessity to address issues and concerns associated with drinking water safety and the public for their patience while changes were made to the water system.

Administrator's Report: none

City Attorney's Report: none

Unfinished Business

Status Heritage Trails Non Profit Foundation Agreement

Mayor Stevens handed out a draft agreement and said he had been working with MRSC on the agreement that Tom Jermann had constructed on behalf of the Heritage Trails Foundation. The Mayor said that in MRSC's review they had found four items that they questioned and thus we are in the process of cleaning up those issues and that is its current status. He said his effort was to protect the public's interest. The Mayor said he intended to do some final tweaking and then send it to attorney Ken Woodrich for his review.

Councilor Sabo thanked the Mayor for his efforts to resolve this issue but questioned whether we had a similar agreement with the Disc Golf and the Community Garden and the response from the Mayor was no. **Councilor Sabo** said an effort should be made to have similar contracts for consistency of application.

Jake Myer thanked Mayor Stevens for his efforts to reach out and improve communication with the forming nonprofit. He said he had optimism that he could reach better relations with the City Administration.

Steve H. said his concern was that some of the work that the Trails Committee may wish to do and be reimbursed for is work that could be done by staff regardless if they were doing that type of activity now and that could result in labor negotiation conflicts. He said we really need a letter from the Union advising they are fine with you doing this type of activity for the City.

Mike Hamilton inquired whether it was possible for the fire volunteers to do activities without government intrusion? **Councilor Sabo** said that the fire auxiliary had registered with the state.

Revisions to City of North Bonneville Council rules of procedure

Steve H. noted this was yet another item that was moving along slowly and it was not an item that

needed a resolution and or an ordinance for its passage but could be voted up or down by council vote. Steve said he was recommending this procedures document be tabled until the next meeting to provide adequate notice because the copy he received from Councilor Sabo did not identify all the changes he had made to the document. Thus, to move forward with passage of a document without affording the public or the council full disclosure of its content disadvantages discussion and will be viewed as sneaking something through for adoption because it is not transparent. He said how can you act on something that has not been revealed?

Councilor Sabo said that Steve and the Mayor don't understand these are the Council's rules we do not need others' input. He said that the changes he made came from his compilation of MRSC templates.

Steve H. reminded Councilor Sabo we all serve the public not each other and the public needs to be involved in the discussion by knowing the changes.

Councilor Sabo said this concern about full public disclosure was a stall tactic because he believed that Steve's motivation was he did not wish to leave this table. He said, this is our table and our council and you are not part of it so you have no say so.

Attorney Woodrich said the document did not need a resolution or ordinance but a simple council vote but on the other hand the Council ought to know what they're voting on. He said what Steve is pointing out is a concern that everyone knows what it is they are deciding.

Councilor Bianchi expressed concerns about the document's construction. He said there are assignments that conflict with our ordinances.

Attorney Woodrich chimed in, stating now that he was reviewing this modified document, he wished to express that the Council has no authority to interfere with his legal assessments as he represents the City in its entirety – the citizens, the legislative and the administrative bodies - not the Council itself. In other words: he said - I am not subject to direct orders from the council. Along this line of thought the Council cannot direct staff to do anything either and the new document suggests you can. He said staff direction comes from the Mayor as he represents the administrative arm of this local government. He apologized that he had not had a chance to adequately review the document for its content. He said he had reviewed Councilor Sabo's green highlighted changes but had not had a chance to view Steve's additional noted changes [highlighted in Yellow] and that was likely Steve's concern. The Council cannot exceed its statutory authority and to the extent its language suggests otherwise it has to be dismissed because it is powerless.

Councilor Bianchi said he had concerns about the document's language, authorities and procedures. He said that some of the changes suggested conflict with other City code.

Councilor Sabo said the changes he made were in response to perceived snafus but that he did not go through the whole document. He said the concerns that Councilor Bianchi was bringing up were not items he had reviewed.

Attorney Woodrich said that when Councilor Sabo opened the door it made it available for other's scrutiny. He also said he would prefer that the Council have rules consistent with their authority otherwise it is misleading and it needs to be as clean as possible before adoption.

Councilor Bianchi said now that he needs more time to review the document. He said there are points in this document that are not in the Council's jurisdiction to do.

Councilor Sabo said that even if the language was not highlighted it has been available meeting after meeting and he wonders why things are just now surfacing.

Mayor Stevens said Councilor Sabo should recall when he brought this to us initially it was three paragraphs so much has changed since its inception.

Councilor Sabo asked Council to review this one more time with the intent of voting on this at that the next council meeting.

Mayor Stevens with council's concurrence determined that those seeking changes should have them

those to him no later than Tuesday the 4th so he can forward them to the attorney for review so the final product can be placed in the Council packet October 7th.

New Business

Excusing Councilor Forster

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to excuse Councilor Forster and seconded by Councilor Norris

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Whitcomb and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

Adoption of Ordinance 1069 – relating to the adoption of a Complete Streets Transportation Planning Process

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to adopt the Complete Streets Transportation Planning Process and it was seconded by Councilor Norris

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Whitcomb and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

Closing Public Comments

Diane Hamilton wanted clarification of language found in ordinance 1070 relating to the definition of the term “auxiliary”; does it mean firefighters coming here from elsewhere to address a health or safety concern? She inquired it is not a person paid by the City for their services?

Councilor Bianchi responded it means a non-command individual who cannot go out on a fire. It should be understood the term does not conflict with what the fire auxiliary is doing.

Closing Council Comments

Councilor Bianchi said he would encourage those present to review draft Ordinance 1070 as it is scheduled for adoption at the next council meeting.

Councilor Norris I appreciate everyone’s efforts to work together as a team

Councilor Sabo thanked Jake Myers for his efforts.

Adjournment

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Councilor Whitcomb.

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Norris and Whitcomb

No

Abstain

Approved 4-0-0

Meeting was adjourned approximately 8:25 PM

Mayor

City Administrator