

NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 23, 2012
Finance Committee Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 6:04 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Jerry Arthurs, Councilors Charles Pace,
Jennifer Stratton-Pies, Patience Udall and Mike Baker
Absent: Mayor Stevens
Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer / Administrator John Spencer

1 Unfinished Business

2 2013 Budget

John briefly reviewed departmental goals and verbiage in the budget and asked council to provide input.

John reviewed a staff recommendation on additional staffing and revenue options. Discussion ensued.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

6:57



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 23, 2012
Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Roll Call

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

Guests Present

Approximately 21 guests were present, including members of the planning commission.

3 Agenda Changes and Additions

Mayor Pro-Tem Arthurs added to the agenda a discussion on a skate park.

John noted that the water system plan is not on the agenda tonight; that it will be put on the agenda for final vote once the state makes their comments on the plan.

Consensus to add Water System Plan under unfinished business.

4 Public Hearings

2013 Revenue Sources and Resolution 450 – Property Tax Levy.

Quincy Anderson – Discussed potential water rate increases, urging council against them. She also thanked the council for their discussion during the finance committee.

Irene Bitikofer – Advocated against a property tax increase.

Judy Nappe – Stated that she did not have a copy of the property tax levy resolution. Copies of the resolution were distributed to the public.

Katie Walker – Suggested that more information be made available on the internet.

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to adjourn the public hearing until the next regular meeting; 2nd by Councilor Udall.**

Yes Councilors Pace, Baker, Stratton-Pies, and Udall

**No
Passed 4 – 0**

5 Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included the 10/2/12 Council Minutes, 10/9/12 Council Minutes and 10/23/12 Vouchers.

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

Councilor Pace asked a question regarding the vouchers.

Councilor Pace stated that the minutes of Oct 2nd were inaccurate regarding the potential status of the Gorge Commission acting as an “umbrella” organization, and asked for an amendment to the Oct. 9th meeting minutes.

- **Council Pace moved to exclude the 10/2 minutes, 2nd by Councilor Stratton-Pies**

On amendment

Yes Councilors Pace, Baker, Stratton-Pies, and Udall

No

Passed 4 – 0

On motion as amended

Yes Councilors Pace, Baker, Stratton-Pies, and Udall

No

Passed 4 – 0

Councilor Pace verbally provided alternative text to the minutes. John will edit the minutes and bring them back at the next meeting.

Guest Presentations

6 Greg Hartnell – Heritage Trails

Greg did not make a presentation, but made himself available for questions.

Public Comment

Jim Runkles – Presented a letter to council regarding concerns he has about the Planning Commission and the Heritage Trails Committee.

Cheryl Jermann – Suggested that the council speak with the planning committee before the council makes any responses to the letter presented by Mr. Runkles. She also noted that the Pink in the Gorge Cancer Walk will be held at 9:00 AM Sunday morning.

Katie Walker – Spoke about the proposed water plan, asking numerous questions about details of the plan. She urged the council against making hasty decisions regarding this plan and urged the city to consider other financing options for the water system. She provided a written version of her comments, which are attached.

Sharon Runkles – Made it clear that her departure from the planning commission was not related to her husband’s comments.

Michael Hamilton – Read a letter to the council in which he discussed his feelings regarding the city clerk/treasurer/administrator’s actions and regarding the actions of the United Nations. He also presented a couple of articles for the council’s consideration.

Quincy Anderson – Discussed her views regarding the city’s draft water system plan and regarding actions of the United Nations. She presented related documents to the council.

Jan Skyhar – Stated that she is opposed to anything with ties to Agenda 21.

Council Member Comments

Councilor Baker – Stated that he was against the entrance sign improvements proposed by planning commission.

Councilor Udall – Stated that she did not support a sign at the city entrance. She stated that she has not prepared an ordinance regarding council’s residency requirements, but wishes to discuss it. Ken noted that planning commissioners are appointed and that the council can do as it wishes regarding their requirements. He also suggested that there is a preemption problem regarding city ordinances about council residency (ie. city ordinances can not preempt state law).

Mayor Pro-Tem Arthurs – Noted that he does not intend to maintain his position on council. He agreed with the intent of Councilor Udall’s comments, but worried that the state law will not allow the council to take action on this issue. He stated that he had planned on resigning tonight and may resign at the next meeting. He noted that he isn’t aware of Agenda 21, but doesn’t feel the council is the appropriate place for discussion on it.

Council recessed for from at 8:11 to 8:17

Councilor Pace – Suggested Councilor Udall listen to a previous council meeting regarding residency issues for council. He expressed disappointment regarding Councilor Arthur’s pending departure. He thanked Jim Runkles for his letter and expressed that his main concern from Mr. Runkles’ comments regarded hotel/motel expenditures. He noted that he is familiar with Agenda 21 and that he has studied the water plan. He felt that it does not derive from Agenda 21. He responded to questions raised during public comment regarding the plan.

Mayor Pro-Tem Arthurs – Commented that he believes the city’s employees are extraordinary. He continued to discuss their pay and benefits, and expressed concern regarding the city’s well being if the city loses key employees.

7 Clerk/Treasurer's Report

John provided his report in written format and verbally provided some additional updates:

- State Auditor would like to know if the council prefers holding the exit conference in person or conference call.

Consensus to hold a conference call

- The WCIA audit went smoothly.
- John distributed minutes from the Community Garden meeting as well as the annual report from the Mid-Columbia River Economic Development Commission.

A discussion ensued regarding an email from Ray Hays about water leakage. Ken provided insights regarding water system losses.

Further discussions ensued regarding John's efforts on code enforcement and the negotiations regarding the collective bargaining agreement.

8 Attorney Report

None.

Unfinished Business

9 Draft Water System Plan

Council requested hard copies of the water system plan.

New Business

10 Nellie's Pies Sign Request

Moved to the next meeting since representatives of Nellie's Pies were not available.

Heritage Trails / City Entrance Sign

Mike Baker asked if there is an order for a new sign. Greg stated that there is no such sign, but the planning commission was recommending raising the entrance sign higher and freshening it up. They have ordered a log-shaped sign under the Grand Elder reading, "The Bigfoots Welcome You."

Residency Requirement for Council

Previously discussed.

Resolution 450 – Property Tax Levy

Moved to next meeting.

Ordinance 1013 – Budget Adjustments

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to approve ordinance 1013; 2nd by Councilor Baker**

Discussion ensued regarding the size of the budget requests and the causes for the request.

Yes Councilors Stratton-Pies and Udall

No Councilors Pace and Baker, and Mayor Pro-Tem Arthurs

Failed 2 – 3

Ordinance 1014 – Water Deposit

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to approve ordinance 1014; 2nd by Councilor Baker**

John provided a brief background on this ordinance.

Yes Councilors Baker, Stratton-Pies and Udall
No Councilor Pace
Passed 3 – 1

Skate Park

Mayor Pro-Tem Arthurs presented the possibility of installing a temporary skate park, using an example from Mount Vernon. Discussion ensued.

Closing Comments

Jim Runkles – Clarified that there are two entrance signs that are being discussed. He continued to express his concern that the Bigfoot efforts have not been presented publicly and approved by council as required by state law.

Cheryl Jermann – Suggested the council should listen to the planning department’s side of this discussion. She asked what the definition of public notice is.

Greg Hartnell – Noted that he does not live in North Bonneville nor own land here. He stated that the planning commission has always kept their processes public and encouraged participation. He continued to provide his opinions regarding what the heritage trails committee has done.

Adjournment

Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to Adjourn; 2nd by Councilor Baker.
Yes: Councilors Pace, Baker and Stratton-Pies.
No: None
Passes 4 – 0

Adjourned 9:28 PM

Mayor

Clerk