



## NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Don Stevens  
Bianchi

Councilmember Bob

### North Bonneville Council Meeting Tuesday October 25, 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**

Roll Call: Councilor Whitcomb was absent

#### **Unfinished Business**

##### **Budget Update**

John Spencer provided a budget update – he asked if everyone had a copy of the budget and noting it had been placed in the Council packets. He said his aim this evening was to take them on a tour of this document and answer questions. John noted this was the first time he had provided them with detailed revenue information reflecting the various funds brought into the City. He said the numbers in the document would change before adoption and that this year’s budget was slightly less than last year. John noted a budget is a plan and a work in progress. He said the Council received a monthly analysis from Steve advising the status of the budget.

John noted he had brought up at the last Council meeting the potential of increasing the Real Estate Excise tax [REET] from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one percent, but upon further research, found the City was ineligible to take that action because this City did not operate under the provisions of the State’s growth management act [GMA] that is an eligibility condition.

John continued explaining the budget department by department. He said he has yet to reapportion the FTE’s to reflect what percentage of employee’s time is allocated to differing tasks and noting that the work investment changes from year to year. Steve recommended that John increase the amount for the State audit review to \$14,000. John noted that he had placed \$7,000 in the budget for labor attorney purposes and that was predicated on smooth labor negotiations. He noted that several interfund transfers should be paid off this year which action demonstrates an improving budget picture.

Steve noted there was money earmarked in this budget document for City Hall rug replacement but because the rug was recently cleaned this line item should be removed with the money directed elsewhere. John noted that he had beefed up the volunteer fire department’s budget to accommodate its many needs and growing department staff. He said this was the largest fire department budget since 2007.

John said that Stevenson's new policy on the allocation of their building inspector to assist the City had saved us considerable money. He noted that to-date we have spent more in certain budget line items than what we had budgeted in this years adopted budget, hence we would need to amend the budget prior to year's end to bring it in alignment with expenditures.

John noted that because the Council had recently increased the internal sewer and water tax rate with its distribution directed to the general fund that action will strengthen the general fund. He also noted that every other year we budget approximately \$30,000 for sewerage sludge removal but we were not able to remove all of it this year so \$10,000 has been set aside next year for sludge removal.

In response to an inquiry from Councilor Sabo, John identified how much money had been set aside next year for various consulting services. John noted that the Council does adopt this budget document rather they adopt a summary document that identifies how much money has been allocated to each budget line item. John noted the City has set-aside match money for possible transportation and/or sewer grants and if we do not receive these various grant requests - that money will be released for other purposes.

#### **New Business**

Steve noted that the city had received a commercial and investment real estate purchase and sale agreement from an individual who is interested in purchasing the City's M-19 property, which is the large land parcel to the east of the Beacon Rock Golf Course and south of the train tracks. The person is interested purchasing this for residential development purposes. Steve asked the Council if they were receptive to surplusing this land parcel for that purpose. Tom Jermann added the land also has some mixed use land capability. Councilor Bianchi noted that about 70% of the City's land area is not subject to property taxes and thus there is a need to grow our property tax base. After discussion, the Council said they were receptive to considering the sale of this land. Steve advised he would bring back a resolution to the next meeting that would afford surplusing of the property.

**Adjournment** The Council adjourned the workshop meeting at 6.55 P.M.



## NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

*Mayor Don Stevens  
Bianchi*

*Councilmember Bob*

### City Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday October 11, 2016

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

**Roll Call: Councilor Whitcomb was ill**

**Audience: 10**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Changes & Additions**

Excusing Councilor Whitcomb dues to illness

#### **Public Hearing**

**Public Hearing Public Hearing Revenue Hearing associated with the 2017 budget to include input on approval of the Ad-Valorem Tax**

Mayor Stevens opened the public hearing for comment and there was none so he closed the public hearing.

#### **Consent Agenda**

**Approval of October 11<sup>th</sup> Minutes and October 25<sup>th</sup> invoices**

Councilor Forster made a motion to approve the minutes and invoices and seconded by Councilor Sabo.

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

**Guest Presentations: None**

#### **Public Comments:**

Travis Randall informed the Council that the Slingshot business would be closing in January. He also thanked the City for sending the street sweeper out to Look-In Lane and cleaning the trail.

#### **Council's Comments**

Mayor Stevens thanked Travis for his efforts to paint the pathway in proximity to Look-In-Lane

#### **Administrator's Report:**

Steve handed out a memo on how lodging tax dollars could be spent as they are a restricted fund. He also provided a memo on the reasons an electric charging station was an item for tourism dollar consideration and then read the memo into the record for the public's benefit.

**City Attorney's Report: None**

**Unfinished Business None:**

**New Business**

**Excusing Judy Whitcomb due to illness**

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

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

**Ordinance 1072 Rescinding Council Compensation [the Council may choose to rescind their pay permanently or alternately - zero out the council budget this year]**

Steve noted at the last council meeting there were discussions about rescinding the Councilor's compensation by resolution because no Councilor has taken this compensation since it was made available a couple years ago and a belief the money would provide more value if spent elsewhere. With that assessment in mind, Steve has constructed a resolution that would provide for that action. He noted that alternately, the Council could determine to just zero out the money placed in this budget line item and retain the option to receive the money. Councilors Sabo inquired whether the Council could donate their compensation at the end of the year to a worthy cause such as parks and playgrounds. Attorney Woodrich advised that each Council would have to receive their compensation first and then donate it to a City cause of their choosing.

No motion was made so the resolution died for a lack of a second

**Allowing alternate procedure for use of hearing examiner for adjudicative land use actions in accordance with Ordinance 1048 – this action is in response to a request from Foundation Recovery Network and the NB Planning and Zoning Commission to have this land use action heard by Joe Turner, the City's hearing examiner.**

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to have an independent hearing examiner hear this matter pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance 1048 and seconded by Councilor Forster. The motion was followed with discussion about how the hearing examiner process works.

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, and Forster

No Councilor Norris

Abstain

Passed 3-1-0

**Adoption of Resolution 490 AD-Valorem Tax**

Steve advised the Council they had the right to increase the property tax by one percent beyond that assessed by the County assessor each year and noting the cost impact to a Citizen from that action was a few cents per month. Steve said it was important for the Council pass this increase because the City was seeking a grant for lift station 2 and a granting precondition was the City demonstrate they had done everything possible to assume the cost burden before seeking these grant monies.

Councilor Forster made a motion to increase the Ad Valorem tax as part of the property tax levy process and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Councilors Bianchi and Forster

No Councilor Sabo and Norris

Abstain

Failed 2-2-0

A tie vote that the Mayor could not break because it was a funding issue and hence the motion to approve failed

Approving North Bonneville Tourism Committee's recommendations – because these are revenue requests each one should be considered separately. The requests are as follows:

**Approval of a \$20,000 funding request by the City of North Bonneville to install an electric vehicle charging station to be located in a City parking lot within the Central Business District [CBD]**

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to fund the electric vehicle charging station and seconded by Councilor Norris.

Yes Councilor Bianchi  
No Councilor Sabo, Norris and Forster  
Abstain  
Failed 1-3-0

**Approval of a \$3,500 funding request from the City of North Bonneville to install a billboard size sign to be located on the City's recently rezoned property, known as S-43, located along SR 14.**

Councilor Forster made a motion to fund this construction/installation of this sign and seconded by Councilor Forster

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 4-0-0

**Approval of a \$12,500 funding request from North Bonneville Discovery Trails Committee and/or the North Bonneville Trails Foundation for trails interpretation purposes, ongoing Bigfoot Search Geo Tour as well as a North Bonneville Bigfoot's Relay Event.**

Councilor Forster made a motion to fund the trail's request and seconded by Councilor Norris

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 4-0-0

**Approval of a \$1,425 funding request from Mark Mayfield, owner of the Beacon Rock Golf Course, to provide golf course promotional information at the Portland Golf Show, an event that occurs early in 2017**

Councilor Sabo made a motion to approve this golf funding request and seconded by Councilor Forster

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 4-0-0

**Approval of a \$14,000 funding request received from the Skamania County Chamber of Commerce to sponsor the 2017 Gorge Days event that occurs in July and represents the City's largest weekend related event during the course of the year. This tourism request includes coordination of the annual car show that occurs during Gorge Days.**

Councilor Bianchi made a motion to fund the Chamber and seconded by Councilor Norris

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

**Approval of a \$25,000 funding request from the Skamania County Chamber of Commerce for promotion, marketing and visitor information services associated with the Chamber's year around operation.**

Councilor Forster made a motion to fund this Chamber request and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

**An endorsement request - from Renee T Kach, affiliated with the Friends of the Gorge, requesting the City agree to be a participant in future costs associated with the design and development of a trail system that would connect the City of NB with the Pierce National Wildlife Refuge and Beacon Rock State Park for purpose of creating a greater awareness of North Bonneville as a recreation tourist designation.**

Attorney Woodrich clarified that the request was for future tourism monies not for general funds and also cautioning that the request would have to meet the tourism fund eligibility requirements.

Councilor Forester made a motion for the City to participate at some future time in this trail construction/connection venture and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Forster and Norris

No

Abstain

Passed 4-0-0

**Closing Public Comments**None

**Closing Council Comments**

Councilor Norris thanked the audience for their attendance

Councilor Bianchi said he would try again next year to have a charging station approved in the community.

**Adjournment**

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

Yes Councilors Sabo, Bianchi, Norris and Forster

No

Abstain

Approved  
Passed 4-0-0  
Meeting was adjourned approximately 8:04 PM

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**Mayor**

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**City Administrator**