

NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 11, 2012
Finance Committee Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Councilors Jerry Arthurs, Charles Pace,
Jennifer Stratton-Pies, and Mike Baker

Absent:

Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer / Administrator John Spencer

Unfinished Business

2013 Budget

John discussed the utilities budgets with council. Discussion ensued.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

6:45 PM.



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 11, 2012
Minutes

Meeting Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Don Stevens, Councilors Jerry Arthurs, Charles Pace, Mike Baker, and Jennifer Stratton-Pies

Absent:

Staff Present: Clerk / Treasurer / Administrator John Spencer, City Attorney Ken Woodrich

Guests Present

Approximately 10 guests were present.

Agenda Changes and Additions

- **Councilor Pace asked the council to excuse Councilor Stratton-Pies from the last meeting due to a death in her family.**
Consensus to excuse Councilor Stratton-Pies
- **Councilor Arthurs asked to excuse Mike Baker from the next meet for vacation.**
Consensus to excuse Councilor Stratton-Pies

John requested the addition of a striping contract to the agenda since the work is dependent on dry weather.

Consensus to add the contract to the agenda

Public Hearings

None.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included the 8/28/12 Council Minutes, 9/11/12 Vouchers, and August Payroll.

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

Councilor Pace asked for a change to minutes regarding his comments.

Yes: Councilors Arthurs, Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 4 - 0

Guest Presentations

John read an email from Pete Barber of the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group regarding blackberry spraying. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment

Cheryl Jermann – Asked the council to listen to the public regarding the boat launch project. She also asked various questions about the proposed towns-to-trails program.

Tom Herzig – Made a suggestion regarding herbicide that is effective on blackberries. He spoke against the expenditure of tourism dollars to attract tourists, particularly speaking against disc golf, gorge days and marketing. He also asked about the status of the personnel audit.

Judy Nappe – Asked various questions about the boat launch gazebo idea.

Robert Miller – Spoke against the mobile/itinerant vendor ordinance, expressing concerns and suggested a 180-day sunset clause.

Diane Hamilton – Expressed concern that there is a boat parked in the municipal parking lot, and that she believes the city has spent a lot of hotel/motel funds with little lasting impact. She also asked whether the city is getting reports on transients living by the lake.

Jim Runkles – Reminded the audience that this is the anniversary of 9/11 and suggested peaceful discourse.

Cheryl Jermann – Suggested that the city could spend money on an enclosed gazebo and that the city does not need to spend all the hotel/motel money.

Tom Herzig – Responded to Jim Runkles' statement. He also questioned why the city needs tourism money now when staffing hasn't changed much in 20 years.

Robert Miller – Stated that the city needs to change the way things are done in order to change the outcomes the city has seen.

Mayor Stevens – Noted that there has been a change in the economy and some of the city's revenue has shrunk. He thanked the public for their input.

Council Member Comments

Councilor Baker – Noted that no hotel/motel expenditures have been approved. He expressed dissatisfaction with the council vote regarding in-lieu payments at the last meeting. He suggested that Greenleaf Lake, which belongs to the city, should be made use of by the city.

Councilor Arthurs – Noted that the city cannot give hotel/motel money back to the Hot Springs; that in absence of a city tax, the county would levy hotel/motel taxes within the city. He also noted that the city is required to spend this money on tourist promotion. He concurred with Robert Miller's suggestion regarding the mobile/itinerant vendor ordinance.

Councilor Pace – Noted that when he ran for council he said he would work to maintain

infrastructure, attract businesses, and support employees. He expressed appreciation for the public comments.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Provided in written format. John provided additional updates, including the date of the next audit and the auditor's response to a hotel/motel tax question. He also apologized for providing the wrong name for the city's new employee in the written report. The employee's actual name is Jeff Denny.

Discussion ensued regarding Councilor Arthur's presence at the next CBA negotiation and regarding the appropriateness of spending money on registration for volunteers' conference attendance.

Councilor Arthurs left the meeting during this discussion.

Attorney Report

Ken responded to Tom Herzig's comments on city finances, noting that the funding structure of government has changed dramatically over the last 20 years.

Unfinished Business

Un-Paid Medical Benefits

- **Councilor Pace moved to table this discussion, 2nd by Stratton-Pies.**

Council recessed for a 5-minute break at 8:16, returning at 8:25

New Business

Skate-Park

A brief discussion ensued.

Consensus to create a Skate Park fund.

Ken noted this will require an ordinance. John said he would put it on the 9/25 agenda.

Ordinance 1011

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to approve ordinance 1011, 2nd by Councilor Baker**

Ken suggested adding the following language to section 5.06.160:

"F: Termination of licensee's license agreement with the city by default or otherwise under its terms."

Councilor Pace asked about the differences between "mobile" and "itinerant" under this ordinance. Discussion ensued.

Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies called the question.

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies

No: Councilor Pace

Failed 2 – 1 (required a majority of full council to pass)

Councilor Pace noted he is not opposed to the idea of this ordinance.

Resolution 448

No action.

License Agreement with Nellie's Pies

No action.

USDA Grant

Don provided background.

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to approve the USDA grant agreement, 2nd by Councilor Pace**
Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 - 0

Ordinance 1012

Ken suggested 2.06 should read "at the commencement of new terms of office subsequent to the adoption of this ordinance."

Don described Councilor Arthurs' reasons for requesting this ordinance.

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to approve ordinance 1012 with the recommended changes, 2nd by Councilor Pace**
Yes: Councilor Baker
No: Councilors Pace and Stratton-Pies
Failed 1 - 2

Appointment of Council Member

None.

2013 Hotel/Motel Requests

Councilor Baker suggested that the council vote on each proposal as presented.

Councilor Pace suggested doing so by component within each proposal.

Bonneville Hot Springs

Heritage Trails Station – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal. John noted that hotel/motel funds could not be used to put the structure on Hot Springs' property.

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies
No: Councilor Pace
Passed 2 - 1

Fall Concert – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies
No: Councilor Pace
Passed 2 - 1

Billboard – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 - 0

Boat Ramp – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilor Stratton-Pies
No: Councilors Baker and Pace
Failed 1 – 2

Disc Golf

Events – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Gazebo — Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies
No: Councilor Pace
Passed 2 – 1

Heritage Trails – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Pace and Stratton-Pies
No: Councilor Baker
Passed 2 – 1

Gorge Winds

Annual Fling – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilor Stratton-Pies
No: Councilors Pace and Baker
Failed 1 – 2

Food & Farm Connection – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Chamber – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal. Discussion ensued.

- **Councilor Baker moved to accept the Chamber of Commerce Proposal, including \$5,500 for Gorge Days administration.**

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies
No: Councilor Pace
Passed 2 – 1

Runkles – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal, noting that the Runkles could assist the Chamber of Commerce with Gorge Days.

Yes: Councilors Pace and Stratton-Pies
No: Councilor Baker
Passed 2 – 1

Fire – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Staff Proposals

Johnny Limbo – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Stratton-Pies

No: Councilors Baker and Pace

Failed 1 – 2

Discussion ensued regarding the appropriateness of a Headliner Concert.

- **Councilor Baker moved to approve the concept of \$5,000 for a headliner concert.**

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies

No: Councilors Pace

Passed 2 – 1

Salaries – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies

No: Councilors Pace

Passed 2 – 1

Marketing Staff – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes:

No: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies

Failed 0 – 3

Signage – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker and Stratton-Pies

No: Councilors Pace

Passed 2 – 1

Facility set-aside – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Consensus that this expenditure is mandated by policy

Staff time for gazebo – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies

No:

Passed 3 – 0

Boat Launch Gazebo – Councilor Baker reviewed this proposal.

Yes: Councilors Stratton-Pies

No: Councilors Baker and Pace

Failed 1 – 2

Discussion – Recording of Executive Sessions

Councilor Pace expressed his belief that the following are benefits to recording executive sessions, but not making them public: 1) they could be used if a councilor were accused of damaging city interests by publicly repeating something said in executive session; 2) they could be used to check the soundness of attorney advice. He

also suggested that such recording could be protected from disclosure under attorney-client privilege.

Ken noted that even if there were a policy, all council members would have to consent to it – otherwise the taping could be a criminal violation. Ken also expressed concern about the risks of leaked tapes.

Discussion ensued regarding potential public record requests and effects of such recordings on executive session discussions.

Discussion - Working Conditions for Deputy Clerk

Councilor Pace expressed his belief that changes in the hours worked is a topic for council consideration that requires city council action. Discussion ensued.

Ken deferred to the labor attorney on this matter. Mayor Stevens agreed to discuss this matter with MRSC.

Striping Contract

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to approve the WSDOT striping contract for \$2,800, 2nd by Councilor Baker**
Yes: Councilors Baker, Pace and Stratton-Pies
No:
Passed 3 – 0

Closing Comments

John – Noted that the council does not have the authority to direct the mayor to take any particular actions.

Cheryl Jermann – Expressed her dissatisfaction with the city's use of volunteers.

Jim Runkles – Urged council to scrutinize the amounts requested in hotel/motel funds and to cut some of the expenses through the contract process. He also expressed dissatisfaction with the challenges placed before those who wish to volunteer with the city. He also stated that he would pay his own way for the IACC registration.

Adjournment

- **Councilor Stratton-Pies moved to Adjourn; 2nd by Councilor Baker.**
Yes: Councilors Pace, Baker and Stratton-Pies.
No: None
Passes 3 – 0

Adjourned 9:55 PM

Mayor

Clerk