



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Brian Sabo
Councilmember Terry Norris
Councilmember Margie Lee

Councilmember Travis Randall
Councilmember Judie Whitcomb
Councilmember John Acton

North Bonneville Workshop Agenda September 11th, 2018 6:30 p.m.

Council Workshop

Workshop Meeting Call to Order- 6:29pm

Roll Call – Present; Mayor Sabo, Councilmembers J. Acton, T. Norris, J. Whitcomb. Absent; T. Randall, M. Lee

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- **Water Rate Audit-** Emily Sabo has completed a water billing audit. The audit was for the last 5 years, reporting on the last 3 years. Provided charts and pricing key on worst cases. Chart includes all rates and changes, ordinances, etc. Some showed 0 consumption for water with consumption for only sewer. Most accounts even out to only be off around \$50 by the end of December of 2017. November and December of 2017 had zero errors due to a small audit and fix by Tom J. There were three types of errors- human error in entering numbers transposed, averaging calculator offsets, and unexplainable differences. Most households had reads every cycle, but there were a noticeable number of zero reads around the winter months (ice/snow preventing from checking meter). When all was said and done, we owe citizens around 10k and the citizens owe us 13k. There were a couple of households that did not even have accounts created and no billings. Those have since been remedied. The auditor from last year was given a few sample households to gather data for a guess on what was owed- at the time, they were guessing the city would owe upwards of 150k . After the research was done, we are in a much better spot with the financial difference than anticipated.

Adjournment: 7:06pm



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City Council Meeting Agenda September 11th, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Call to Order- 7:13pm

Roll Call – Present; Mayor Sabo, Councilmembers J. Acton, T. Norris, J. Whitcomb. Absent; T. Randall, M. Lee

Pledge of Allegiance- followed by one minute of silence for 9/11/11

Agenda Changes & Additions- Add Nutter use of street sweeper contract to new business and excuse M. Lee

Public Hearings:

Consent Agenda: Approval of 8-28-18 minutes and current invoices. Motion by J. Acton, second by J. Whitcomb Passed 3-0

Guest Presentations

Public Comment –

Richard Vantrease of NB -Ham radio operator. Looking at using the Head End TV Bldg. at the end of Cascade. After speaking with Tom J, understand the current use contract is coming up for renegotiation. Wanting to gather some interested ham operators and sponsors to possible use an area in the building for a repeater. It would possibly help because we're in a dead zone and it may bring better service. Could we add language to approve group maintaining the repeater in that area. Tom J- also for emergency use- This was talked about long ago. Richard- in emergencies, operators are required to keep the airwaves clear. T. Norris- this was big talk a couple years ago, but not a large response. Tom- if the option is open, we're not closing the door- this would be no cost to the city but a great help. B. Sabo- you would likely have to deal with the company who will be using the building. Ken W- if nonexclusive, it could be arranged. Richard- common to co-locate repeaters. T. Norris- what's your back ground. Richard- I have a general operator's license, and there are groups who have more than that. B. Sabo- lets get your contact info.

Greg Johnson of NB- *to Richard Vantrease*- We need that kind of support. We did an emergency scenario and NB would be toast on the radio. Wanted to let everyone know the burn ban is still in effect. Engine 81 is in the shop fixing a radiator. Big expense, but must be done. Other vehicles are doing well.

Cheryl Jermann of NB- I saw the lodging tax discussion on the agenda- can you tell us how much was in dedicated funds? The building next door is cheap- should consider purchasing that as a city for a tourist spot for revenue. Also went to post office and ran into someone who mentioned that the fire department should be drug tested. B. Sabo- we're not drug testing unless there's probable cause or it's required by law such as our CDL holder. Fire department CDL holders would be held to the same standard. Ken W. – pre-employment drug testing still happens, but only under reasonable suspicion do you test again. B. Sabo- hearsay is not reasonable suspicion.

Councilmember Comments-

J. Acton- repeater is an important piece! I hope there's interest- I also am part of the Hood River Ham Radio group. T. Norris- Thanks for coming. Thank you Emily for the audit.

Mayor's Comments –

There's about 234k in all tourist funds. The previous administration had said that 60k was dedicated, but the previous budget said 50k. 123k for tourist facility and 111k for tourism promotion. In regards to drug testing. It is not required by our policy to drug test except pre-employment, in case of an accident, and under reasonable suspicion. I attend the fire meetings and show up to most calls. I can tell you there is nobody under the influence or causing issues with drugs or alcohol. There have been a couple in the past and they were kicked off and never returned. Cheryl- I know who it is and what happened, I can tell you. B. Sabo- I won't go by hearsay. Ken- legally you cannot do that without probable cause- it's in the constitution. B. Sabo- I trust the Chief and assistant Chief to pay attention and I know they would handle it.

City Clerk Report- attached

City Attorney's Report- none

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- **Resolution 517 amending Lodging Tax Policy**

Tom J- Amends 2011 Resolution. Used to be tourism committee, lots of decisions and processes. Now we have a small income due to the loss of Hotel/Motel tax from the Hot Springs. This gets rid of the need for a committee, the timeline to ask for funding is not restricted to the fall, and the lingo is cleaned up to be more basic. Motion by T. Norris, second by J. Acton Passed 3-0

- **Ordinance 1106 increasing balance of Tourism Facility Fund-**

Cheryl Jermann- what are we going to do to generate some revenue? Why spend hundreds of thousands on a facility that we will get no return from? B. Sabo- that's why we are locking in in one fund so that it doesn't dwindle while there are decisions made about the best way to use it. D. Adams- I would love to hear your ideas about how to bring in revenue. This dedicates some funds to the tourist facility fund and will not be touched. Just ensuring that the money doesn't get piddled away. With the loss of the hotel/motel income, this is a good way to keep a chunk for future projects. Possibly grant match money, etc... Motion by T. Norris, second by J. Whitcomb Passed 3-0

- **Nutter/Street Sweeper use contract**

Tom J- We've done this in the past- Nutter would like to hire our street sweeper and one staff member for 1-2 hours/day during their project. The contract is settled on a rate of \$100/hour with an hour minimum, to be billed at any point and payable within 15 days. Good source of a little extra revenue. Motion by T. Norris, second by J. Whitcomb Passed 3-0

- **Excuse Councilor M. Lee**

Motion by J. Acton, second by T. Norris Passed 3-0

Closing Public Comment-

Cheryl Jermann of NB- The public needs to see the agenda ahead of time. Haven't seen them in my email for a couple of weeks. I just want to mention that I'm not against funds going towards the playground, but we need to put money into something that will bring in revenue. What about a larger fee for park use, disc golf use. We need things that bring in money, not cost the city more money. B. Sabo- so, self sufficient? Cheryl- yes. Ken W- I'll send a model from White Salmon for their recreational use. If we put one together this winter, we can put it into place prior to next summer.

Emily Sabo of NB- Now the Public Information Officer for the FD. Regarding drug testing- It's my job to keep a good public image of the FD. All of our members know not to show up to calls and meetings under the influence. It is not our business what they do on their own time, but we do pay close attention when we are at the department.

Closing Council Comments –

J. Acton- what's going on with the Bigfoot Lodge? Tom J- waiting for a new proposal from them. There were some plan changes. Working on the charging station, which will come back before council.

Motion to adjourn- 8:20pm by T. Norris