



*NORTH BONNEVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL*

Mayor Don Stevens  
Councilmember Terry Norris  
Councilmember Brian Sabo

Councilmember Travis Randall  
Councilmember Judie Whitcomb  
Councilmember – Vacant

**North Bonneville Workshop Meeting  
September 26, 2017  
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 – all present**

**Unfinished Business – Budget**

The budget can be concluded once we have guidance on the Administrator's Salary, the PT receptionist position to be added to existing staff at the front desk, and the water/sewer rate increases. If the water/sewer rates do not pass, then it puts us in the negative. Discussion re reducing consultant fees and some supplies. C. Sabo states he will not support any additional administrative staff. Mayor Stevens says the state requires that water and sewer rates pay for itself; hence the need for a rate increase.

**New Business**

**Adjournment**



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### City Council Meeting Agenda September 26, 2017 7:00 p.m.

#### Meeting Call to Order

#### Roll Call

#### Pledge of Allegiance

**Attendance** - Councilor Forster resigned on Sept 13, 2017. All present including new appointee Travis Randall.

#### Agenda Changes & Additions –

##### Public Hearings:

- Hearing on setting the Ad Valorem tax revenue – Administrator goes over this tax and states we are waiting on the County to deliver the accurate numbers; they are running behind this year and expect to have the numbers around October 1<sup>st</sup>. Once in hand, we have an Ordinance and Resolution ready to go.
- Hearing on commercial water and sewer rates (applies to FRN) – Resolution 501 was passed. This was a housekeeping measure primarily. Each year, the city is to amend the cost of living increase. We charge it but a resolution should codify it. Going forward around February, that needs to be updated via Resolution. We eliminated the room requirement at FRN and replaced it with a commercial rate based on their 4-inch meter. As it relates to the RV park, full time residents are treated like a house. Only the transient campers were changed and they are billed by consumption.
- Hearing on the Residential Water and Sewer Rates – Resolution 502 discussion
- Hearing on the 2018 budget – concern over a \$30,000 raise for the Administrator; EDC can write grants for us going forward for \$6000

##### Consent Agenda

- Approval of invoices and meeting minutes – Motion by C. Sabo; seconded by C. Whitcomb; approved by all except C. Randall; passed

##### Guest Presentations

- Announcement of Bridge of the Gods toll increase meeting at Hegewald Center in Stevenson on September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

##### Public Comment

- C. Jermann – is hearing the homeless are camping in the baseball park and one was on her property; need to move for safety of citizens; cannot afford a raise for Administrator
- D. Donohoe – thanks fire volunteers; they should be recognized

- D. Hines – Community Garden – donated 122 pounds of vegetables to Cascade Locks Food Bank and other entities
- J. Jackson – plans to raise roses in the Garden for Mother’s Day and Memorial Day. Needs signage.

**Councilmember Comments**

- C. Sabo – Likes J. Spencer but he is a consultant. He is not here to recommend raises in the budget.
- C. Norris – Union got raises. Public Works Director got a chunk. A 30% raise for Administrator is a little over the top. The front desk people don’t know what they are doing.
- S. Hughes – Concerning the two people at the front desk, one FT and one PT, our two lowest paid workers are frequently out sick and it greatly impacts their teams. When I arrived, there was zero cross training available to any new person coming onboard. The only other person at the front desk (who is FT) has learned A/P, A/R and Payroll in her 3 months here and has done a great job but realistically, it will take two years to learn the full job. She has not even started to learn Utility billing, but she gets blamed for everything related to utilities because she is often the only one sitting there as a customer comes through the door. If we had an FTE dedicated to utilities, that problem would be solved and you would not be hearing negative remarks about utilities. The feedback I received from the other three bookkeepers who started and then quit was that the wages were too low, 5% of customers coming through the door were very rude (and they didn’t want to put up with it), and we need more staff. You value the administrative team by paying competitive wages and proper workforce planning. I have printed AWC salary comparables for you. The Administrator position average for this size city should be \$73,572. Cities of this size do have Volunteer Fire Chiefs receiving a stipend but no salaried Fire Chiefs. That is also in the AWC salary survey for your perusal.
- C. Whitcomb – We need to look at the positives instead of focusing on the negatives all the time.

**Mayor’s Comments**

**Administrator’s Report** - see attached 2017 AWC comparables re salaries

**City Attorney’s Report**

**Unfinished Business:**

- Motion to approve Councilor John Acton – John must be a resident of the city for one year and then he can apply. That will occur in December.
- Motion to approve the commercial water and sewer rates – discussion of CPI – C Norris moves to approve; C Randall seconds; Resolution 501 unanimously passes
- Motion to allow Council Members to serve on the Nbfd – C. Norris moves to approve; C. Sabo seconds; passes unanimously
- Motion to approve C. Randall, a Council Member, to serve as a volunteer fire fighter by C. Norris, seconded by C. Sabo, unanimously approved

**New Business**

- Resolution 502 deals, in pertinent part, with residential water and sewer rates. IACC had advised recently that our rates are below the comparables in our region and if we want a lift station grant, we should think about raising these rates. This resolution brings the water up to the average but sewer is still lagging behind. No one was willing to make a motion to increase water and sewer rates so the motion died.

**Closing Council Comments**

C. Randall – thanks to the public for coming out

C. Norris – good input; I want more money for the fire dept

**Motion to adjourn at 8:45****Executive Session**

Note: Council may adjourn to executive session and/or special meeting in accordance with RCW 42.30.110