



## NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Don Stevens  
Councilmember Charles Pace  
Councilmember Michael Hamilton

Councilmember Bob Bianchi  
Councilmember Mike Baker  
Councilmember Craig Forster

### **Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 9, 2014 6:00 p.m.**

#### **Meeting Call to Order 6:10 PM**

**Roll Call** Finance Committee members Mike Baker; Bob Bianchi; Michael Hamilton; and Craig Forster were present

Note: Councilor Charles Pace showed up later and Mayor Don Stevens was absent due to business but excused

#### **Unfinished Business** – continuation of budget discussion

John Spencer provided a draft document that offered several methods of reducing the City's costs and or raising revenue. It was understood that many of these options were not very feasible for budget resolution but it was Council's aim to place all options on the table for consideration at the onset. John noted that his revised preliminary estimate contemplated a shortfall in the general fund of \$55k at year's end and taking into account we started the year with a \$41k surplus and this means we will have expended roughly 96k more at year's end than revenues received.

John noted that unless the City Council initiates some monetary actions now - the budget shortfall will continue to grow in 2015. The shortfall in the general fund does not reflect poor management, rather a lessening of tax revenue sources available to the City relative to service delivery demands. He has revised his sewer and water projections upward reflecting a better understanding of the utility increases that occurred in May. That utility increase lessened shortfall projections in the sewer and water accounts to the extent they are less likely to be in a deficit mode by year's end.

Some of the budget items discussed included: reduction of building inspector costs; savings from the new union contract; raising utility rates; replacement of water meters; use of employees for tourism related purposes; placing a tighter cap on overtime and summer help; initiating a levy lid limit; construction of a park district; imposing an Ad Velorum Tax; selling community assets; consolidating fire district's; furloughing staff; increasing the excise tax; consolidating the road and general funds; partnering with other organizations.

#### **New Business**

Discussion on charging a small fee for use of the disc golf course

There was a belief among the finance committee - it would be hard to get folks to pay for use of the disc course because of how it was arranged and particularly without someone present to collect the playing proceeds. Mike Baker suggested installing a donation box at the gazebo with a message affixed soliciting for revenues. The Committee concurred with this suggestion.

Adjourned at 7:05 PM



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### City Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 9, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### Meeting Call to Order 7:15 PM

**Roll Call** Mayor Pro Tempore Mike Baker; Councilor's Bob Bianchi; Michael Hamilton; Charles Pace, and Craig Forster were present

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Agenda Changes & Additions

Excusing Mayor Stevens under new business

#### Public Hearings

A public hearing to consider revenue sources and Ad Velorum Tax

Steve provided a general overview of the budget noting the City has very little revue to pay its financial obligations and expressing a need for the Council to consider means of enhancing revenues and/or cutting costs. John Spencer said he is forecasting a \$100,000 reduction in general fund revenues, due, in part, to contemplated construction activity that did not materialize. John noted there is a staff level expectation the City Council will approve the 1 percent Ad Velorum Tax, which will generate a little more than \$2,000.

Cheryl Jermann spoke - advising against cutting law enforcement as a possible budge solution. She was receptive to the idea of forgoing the interfund loan transfers for one year. She did not believe furloughing staff was a good idea as she believes staff has done its fair share to lessen the City's budgetary obligations. Finally, she is not keen on the selling of City assets to remedy the budget situation.

Councilor Pace suggested, among the mix of budgetary solutions, we look at the Business and Occupation Tax [B&O], although he was not necessarily advocating its usage.

#### Consent Agenda

##### August 26 Minutes

Councilor Pace moved to approve the minutes and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Councilor Hamilton asked that a sentence be added to the minutes after his comments about why we would continue using the Chevron credit card and maintain a line of credit at the Chevron? The sentence would state: while doubling the limit of the City's credit card limit for these [Chevron] purchases.

Councilor Forster made a motion to correct the August 26 minutes by inclusion of that sentence and seconded by Councilor Pace.

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 5-0-0

Motion to approve the consent agenda as amended

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 5-0-0

### **Guest Presentations**

No presentations

### **Public Comment**

Cheryl German did not see why we should use staff to initiate certain tourism ventures if we were hurting for revenue. Additionally, she did not see the Sheriff being receptive to a \$30,000 reduction in law enforcement services.

### **Councilmember Comments**

Councilor Bianchi responded to Mrs. Jermann's comments by noting that when staff is working on valid tourism related projects they are paid out of the tourism funds and that action relieves the general fund from compensating their public works efforts. He also requested an understanding of how many dispatch calls were generated for North Bonneville related incidents relative to the amount of actual times the North Bonneville Fire Department responded to those dispatch calls rather than another agency. This request is in response to comments made by Fire Chief, JB Tennison, at the last Council meeting.

Councilor Forster said he was very supportive of the City's law enforcement and public safety efforts and did not support cuts in those areas.

Councilor Pace advised the Council to keep an open mind and not to remove financial options from the table until they had a clear understanding of the City's financial needs. He added: don't be afraid to make the budget decisions you need to make.

Council Hamilton complained that the accounting of Attorney expenses to negotiate the union contract was incomplete. He wished to know if there were other costs in addition to the costs that were tabulated in the Council memorandum from Steve Hasson, and, in particular, costs to the City to subsidize employee time off for this purpose as well as an understanding of any related costs prior to 2013 that may have factored in the overall costs.

Councilor Pace responded to Councilor Hamilton's comments noting there were ongoing costs leading up to and perhaps overlapping the negotiation process but those costs were directed at resolving grievances. The previous contract and or statutes require the City to provide employee's time off for this purpose and to compensate that action.

Steve was asked to get together with the Mayor and see if there were any other costs that had been recorded that might shed light on Councilor Hamilton's cost concerns

Mayor Pro Tempore Baker said he was very supportive of using City staff to install a webcam device at City Hall that was directed at the first disc golf par because it would attract public interest from afar and also provides some small level of security and noting the incidents of vandalism in proximity to City Hall.

He also thanked those present for their participation in this evening's meeting and asked rhetorically should we consider the disincorporation of the City and given our budget woes and uncertain future?

Councilor Hamilton asked for an executive session where he could speak about an employee issue.

The Council cautioned against doing that without the Mayor present and Attorney Woodrich said that the Council's oversight of staff was limited because that was the Mayor's responsibility. Councilor Hamilton said he wanted to talk about the Fire Chief and the fire department in executive session.

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

Steve wanted to clarify the \$30,000 number that Mrs. Jermann referenced related to new monies the Sherriff was seeking in addition to the \$72,000 the City paid for basic law enforcement. He also noted that the attorney, acting on the City's behalf, reduced the City budget costs considerably.

#### **City Attorney's Report**

None

#### **Unfinished Business**

None

#### **New Business**

##### **Excuse Mayor Stevens from this evening's meeting**

Councilor Forster made a motion to excuse Mayor Stevens and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster

No

Abstain

Passed 5-0-0

##### **Granting Ron Broersma permission to apply for land use permit(s) to use City property**

Ron Broersma has leased a building in the Central Business District and opened a restaurant called the DamRoadHouse. The building is situated on the property such that the building's footprint encompasses the whole building. Thus, any outside activity associated with his business would be on the adjoining City property and that action [to use City property] requires certain land use approval. Mr. Broersma is seeking permission from the Council to apply to the North Bonneville Planning Commission for land use approval.

Attorney Woodrich advised that after the planning commission took action then Mr. Broersma would also need to enter into a license or non exclusive lease agreement with the City and pay some fair market value for use of City property.

Councilor Pace advised that Mr. Broersma had the opportunity to seek a concessionaire's permit to sponsor some activity or action on City property.

Councilor Forster moved for approval and seconded by Councilor Hamilton

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster

No

Abstain

Passed 5-0-0

**Adoption of Resolution 477 clarifying the purpose and intent of the City's finance committee**

Councilor Hamilton moved for approval and seconded by Councilor Forster

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Hamilton and Forster  
No  
Abstain Councilor Pace  
Passed 4-0-1

**Amending the grant commitment with Washington State Department of Ecology for purposes of updating the Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program**

Councilor Forster moved for approval and seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Baker

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, and Forster  
No  
Abstain Councilor Hamilton  
Passed 4-0-1

**Affirming the Contract with HDR Engineering whereby they complete a portion of the Comprehensive Shoreline Management Plan**

Councilor Bianchi moved for approval of the contract with the proviso it not exceed the stated sum of \$20,568 and seconded by Councilor Forster

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, and Forster  
No  
Abstain Councilor Hamilton  
Passed 4-0-1

**Resolution 475 Adopting the 2014 Solid and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan**

Councilor Bianchi moved for approval and seconded by Councilor Hamilton

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 5-0-0

**Approval of a solid waste and moderate risk waste plan through an interlocal agreement constructed between Skamania County, The City of Stevenson and North Bonneville**

Councilor Bianchi moved for approval and seconded by Councilor Forster

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster  
No  
Abstain  
Passed 5-0-0

**Discussion about parking issues on City streets after hours – this is not an action item**

Councilor Bianchi informed the Council he has been looking at the City's parking code and its language is inconsistent or murky. He has constructed some changes he wished to share with Council. If the Council is receptive to certain parking modifications he will bring this issue and some suggestions to the planning commission for their consideration.

The Council was receptive to Councilor Bianchi's parking pursuits and in agreement he should bring those suggestions to the planning commission.

**Closing Public Comments**

Shelly Pace said she was supportive of the City's efforts to help promote the new pizza business.

**Closing Council Comments**

Councilor Hamilton advised that he was not in agreement with the Shorelines Management Act because it deprived people of their property rights without just compensation.

Councilor Pace noted that the collection of ceremonial arrowhead points donated by Paul Frye may be an outstanding collection of considerable value and prestige. He also noted that he was present when the City's sewer outfall pipe was being inspected by a diving crew. He said a fishing platform and net had been placed next to the pipe and Richard Lafayette had to remove it for safety purposes.

**Adjournment**

Councilor Forster moved to adjourn and seconded by Councilor Bianchi

Yes Mayor Pro Tempore Baker; Councilor's Bianchi, Pace, Hamilton and Forster

No

Abstain

Passed 5-0-0

Adjourned approximately 8.40 PM

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**Mayor**

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**City Clerk**