



NORTH BONNEVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Brian Sabo
Councilmember Terry Norris
Councilmember Margie Lee

Councilmember Travis Randall
Councilmember Joshua Good
Councilmember John Acton

City Council Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2022

7:00 p.m.

for full audio, visit www.northbonneville.net

Meeting Call to Order: 7pm

Roll Call: Present; Mayor B. Sabo, Councilmembers J. Acton, T. Randall, T. Norris, M. Lee, J. Good

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Changes & Additions: N/A

Public Hearings: N/A

Consent Agenda: Approval of the February 8th meeting minutes, approval of the February second half Vouchers for \$26,245.76. Motion by T. Randall, second by M. Lee. **Passed 5-0**

Guest Presentations: N/A

Public Comment: Maria of North Bonneville/AYSO/community volunteer - Husband volunteers with little league and basketball. Maria states how important the basketball court is to NB residents and families. After listening to last meeting, has concerns about the new proposed court. She feels the court doesn't need to move from its current location, and that grant money is not free money. She says she knows the heart and soul that went into the Adventure Park proposal, but may be too much. She suggests leaving the current court and re-doing it or leave it as-is and build the new one next to it to eliminate demolition costs. Greg Hartnell of the Bonneville Trails Foundation – reads a letter from the Executive Director of the BTF stating that the BTF will no longer be working with the City of North Bonneville for any projects unless communication can be repaired with administration. Please refer to full audio for reading of letter. Mary Helms of North Bonneville asks council to assist with cleaning up parking on Island Way. Sabo says there is on-street parking allowed on Island Way and there is an area for extra parking. Council will discuss.

Councilmember Comments: T. Randall thanks all for coming. Largest crowd since Covid started. He appreciates the comments. Tells Maria she is correct about grant money not being free and the court is staying where it is. J. Acton mentions that he got a new car and has had his truck parked on the road on Island Way, but will be moving it. Acton also discusses the last vote on the Adventure Park moving forward. He states that he didn't think they would meet the additional year deadline and wasn't surprised they pulled out. He says he didn't want council to be the scapegoat for incomplete projects. He also didn't believe that council would have gone forward with approving another match grant through the BTF. M. Lee asks if the vote should be repealed. J. Good suggests repealing and starting over possibly. He thanks Maria for her input on how much the court means to the community. Josh also brings up that the previous meeting was 3 hours of discussion with BTF director and the suggestion of going for another grant wasn't brought up until the end, and needed more complete plans to present before coming to council. He also suggests that any others coming forward with a project idea needs to have complete plans for construction as well as funding. He encourages the BTF to come back with specific numbers, money, and a better plan. Maria of NB responds that if the Trails move forward with projects, they need more community feedback.

Mayor's Comments: Mayor Sabo apologizes on the record for his demeanor at the last meeting, and also stated apology in the Pioneer article for taking the BTF/RCO grant discussion personally. Mr. Sabo also mentions that the City of Cascade Locks Mayor has passed away. He thanks everyone for their input and wanting to do the best for the citizens of NB.

Chief Administrative Officer Report: Deanna reports that the State Audit is done and she is working on the city's response in preparation for the exit conference. Deanna also shares that the software conversion needs to happen before the next calendar year due to the excessive amount of time working through software issues and fixing "glitches" within the program. She hopes to have a full comparison of the RFP respondees by the final March council meeting.

City Attorney's Report: Mr. Woodrich apologizes for not making it to the special training due to health issues. He suggests the council go online for the free trainings through links sent by Deanna. He says the training is just as valid as his in-person training.

Unfinished Business:

- **Skamania County COVID Update, Councilor Acton:** Acton reports that there are currently 22 active cases and 12 deaths in Skamania County.

New Business:

- **Ordinance 1145 granting relief from utility service charges to Low Income Senior Citizens.** Motion by J. Good, second by T. Randall. Mayor Sabo explains that the city is allowed to grant relief to low-income senior citizens. He gives council a financial impact sheet for how much would be lost in revenue to accomplish this. He explains the labor that has been saved by replacing damaged pumps evens out the cost. Josh thanks Sabo for bringing this forward, as it is hard to see fixed income folks struggling. **Passed 5-0**
- **Resolution #557 Declaring Special Market Conditions for purchase of a 2015 Ford F250.** Motion by T. Randall not to exceed \$6,981.35, not including tax, second by T. Norris. Mayor Sabo shares a picture of the new truck purchased from DES. He explains that the city had to be on a list for this and it came from the Fish and Wildlife fleet. The truck needs new tires, but runs well. He says we are also on the list for a mower and a track hoe. **Passed 5-0**
- **Expenditure approval of \$1,741.95 quotation for licensing and title transfer of the 2015 Ford F250:** Motion by T. Randall not to exceed \$2k, second by J. Acton. Must pay on appraisal/FMV of the vehicle, not the actual purchase price, and he feels this is wrong and should be based on the purchase price. **Passed 5-0**
- **Discussion on the RCO Grant award and the unanticipated additional costs to the city necessary to complete the project exceeding the original expenditure amount approved by council.** J. Good asks how much money the city has to pay for the RCO grant project so far. No motion made because uncertain of what would be voted on. Mayor Sabo responds that the original amount approved was \$34,250. Josh asks if the BTF offered any match. Sabo explains that when they were co-sponsors, they were going to shoulder 10% of the 25% and raise funds or perform work themselves. Josh asks if they ever said they would not come through with their 10%, to which Sabo answers no, but rules had changed when it was discovered that the BTF pulled their name off the project and it was only belonging to the city. He also explains that council, administration, and the attorney were working through an exemption for the BTF to be allowed to do the work based on the fact that they were a non-profit operating under different requirements. He states that it all changed when it was discovered that they were no longer on the grant. J. Good asks what the city's final total is after all of the changes and Sabo responds around \$88,250 including engineering. T. Randall mentions that amount is almost as large as the FD annual budget. Sabo states that the BTF's

actions were not intentional and they were unaware of the rule changes associated with that and the inability to use volunteer workers. Josh mentions that their hearts may have been in the right place, but the mistake is affecting the city's time and money. J. Good invites the BTF back for further discussion. Council asks Sabo for some numbers to just refurbish the old court as a money saving option, or to speak with the RCO to change the scope or possibly increase the grant amount. Refer to recorded audio for full discussion.

Joshua Good moves to remove the \$200,000 earmarked money for the BTF Adventure Park project, second by T. Randall. Passed 5-0 Tabling discussion regarding estimates on alternatives to the RCO grant to complete the sport court.

- **Approval of Playworld quote and PDA sale expenditure of \$19,737.11.** Motion by J. Good, second by T. Randall. **Passed 5-0** Mayor Sabo thanks Steve and Mary Helms for helping to closeout the PDA and sale of the pot shop, helping to purchase the promised playground equipment.

Closing Public Comment: N/A

Closing Council Comments: T. Randall thanks the citizens for sitting through lengthy discussions, and is hoping all of NB trusts that the council has the public trust and dollars in mind through their decision making. J. Good states that he may come across as harsh, but wants to do the right thing with the citizen's money, and sometimes requires answering hard questions. Sabo says that he hates that the BTF felt the need to quit because they have brought good things to the city. Josh reiterates that he would like to continue discussions and possibilities with the BTF. Paul Henry of NB says he admires the effort, that the BTF did not handle this correctly and should stick to trail-based projects and continue work on the trail to Stevenson and Beacon Rock, more desired by the citizens and increasing tourism.

Adjournment: 8:24pm