

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting - March 5, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Mayor Poucher called the council meeting of March 5, 2008 to order at 6 pm. Council members Roberts, Johnson, Keene and Marx were present. Mayor Poucher announced C. Landgren was excused. Staff members present were: Clerk/Treasurer, Lori Kreps; Public Works Director, Mike Wellman; Fire Chief, Bill Hunsaker; Police Chief, Bruce Brending; Planning Consultant, Dotty DeVaney; The Enterprise- Jesse Burkhart and approximately 20 members of the public.

II. TOWN HALL

Discussion on proposed Ordinance regarding Disorderly Conduct

- Don Tackley, 205 Riverwatch Drive, spoke in favor of the approval of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Tackley spoke about certain violations that the police are aware of and he said the police need greater authority to act.
- Chief Brending spoke about the disorderly issues that have become apparent recently. He said this Municipal Ordinance gives them more tools to use before a situation escalates out of control. This Ordinance is modeled after the one used in Goldendale.
- Mr. Tackley questioned the fines and penalties. The Chief pointed out that the State sets these fees.
- Karen Skiles, 556 NE Wauna, expressed her wishes to encourage the council to adopt this ordinance. She said it is my neighborhoods desire to protect our property values and we believe this ordinance will help do that.

Herb Hardin, 995 NW Loop Rd, said he wants the council to rescind Ordinance 13.126.020. He said it requires a landowner who lives outside the City, who connects to the White Salmon water system, to pledge, in perpetuity, his or her land to be annexed into White Salmon at an indeterminate future time, under unknown future conditions.

Mayor Poucher said we don't coerce anyone to sign it and they are free to drill their own well. C. Marx said he believed the City does need to look at some of their Zoning Ordinances.

Mayor Poucher said that the City will be addressing the zoning and annexation issues in the next 2-3 months.

Planning Consultant, Dotty DeVaney, said she wrote a grant last year to prepare an annexation study and the City was awarded that grant. She said rather than throwing out all annexation because our Zoning Ordinance doesn't work, it warrants taking a look at the annexation issue as a whole and including in the scope of that work an evaluation of zoning tools that can make people in urban growth boundaries more comfortable with the idea of annexation.

Mayor Poucher thanked Mr. Hardin for his information and concerns and stated that the city will take these issues as presented under advisement.

Don Smith, 175 Palos Verdes, chair of the planning commission, commented on Herb's concerns. He said he looked through his closing documents with the City, which dated back to June 1996, and he was unable to locate any such reference to a requirement for annexation. Perhaps the city could take a look at this issue pertaining to annexation by reviewing the issued documents.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting - March 5, 2008

III. PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearing.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1) **Minutes of City Council Meeting - February 20, 2008.** C. Roberts made a motion to approve the February 20, 2008 Council Meeting Minutes, C. Marx seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

2) **Proposed Dedication of Public Infrastructure for Wyers End Planned Unit Development.** Mike Wellman recommended that the city accept the water / wastewater system at Wyers End. Wellman suggested the following, mostly administrative, be done before the mayor and he could sign off.

- 1) One note says connection and impact fees and all other outstanding charges must be paid prior to issuance of building permits. Mike would like to add, and the occupancy of any units.
- 2) The streets are not up to city standards and cannot be accepted into the city of White Salmon as public streets.
- 3) That any maintenance and operations be done in accordance with City of White Salmon standards and the Department of Health standards.
- 4) The sewer system cannot be degraded or compromised at anytime.
- 5) The storm water must meet Dept of Ecology standards for discharge both currently and in the future.

Dotty DeVaney recommended the dedication. She said the dedication step that we are at now is fairly well defined, fairly narrow in scope and fairly clear.

Henry Fisher Developer Wyers End Project said he was concerned about changing the wording because it was different than what was approved in the original findings. Currently, of the 28 building sites, 18 building permits have been issued and paid for.

Ken Woodrich, City attorney, said that if we have building permits outstanding we have a means of collecting fees such as those for Dotty DeVaney's services. As far as adding a condition or occupancy, it probably should have been in the prelim if that is what we were intending to do.

C. Keene made a motion to accept the dedication of Public Infrastructure for Wyers End PUD. C. Roberts seconded the motion

Mayor Poucher explained that this dedication was only for the acceptance of the infrastructure under the ground for the water delivery and sewer systems. The only thing we are talking about is that this infrastructure is being accepted as the City's.

Clyde Knowles was concerned about 2 water connections which are now 29.

Henry Fisher said that his plan was to use the two large meters that were originally on the trailer court property to circulate the water through a private water system. The city asked that they turn it into a public system and he agreed to this and it was more expensive for him.

Mike Wellman verified that the State said this is a net decrease and therefore you can do that without affecting any of the water issues.

Henry pointed out that on November 15, 2007 he submitted this map and so far the delay has not hurt him, however the council needs to know that if they go much beyond a month he is going to start incurring damages. In the findings section C 27 it says that when we submit it should be reviewed by city staff in a timely manner.

Motion Approved 4-0.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting - March 5, 2008

V. ACTION ITEM (Deferred)

No Action items deferred

VI. ACTION ITEMS (New)

1) Appointments by Mayor Poucher to the Civil Service Commission Mayor Poucher requested reappointment of Michael Mornault to continue in his position. He also asked for the new appointment of Paul Anderson. A motion to approve by C. Roberts, seconded by C. Johnson. Motion carries 4-0

2) Request by Fire Chief Hunsaker to purchase a 1979 ladder truck from the Lyle Fire District for \$4,000. Funds are to be used from the Fire Reserve.

Mayor Poucher explained the importance to the firemen who will be safer with this equipment.

C. Marx, questioned if there would be a decrease of our fire rating.

Fire Chief Hunsaker said that was a possibility. The equipment extends to 75 feet and is in good condition. Currently building heights are at 35 feet and there are no plans to increase that at this time.

Jan Brending, City of Bingen reminded the Council that the city needs to pay sales tax on this purchase.

C. Keene made a motion to approve the purchase of the fire truck for \$4,000 plus sales tax from the Lyle Fire District. C. Roberts seconded motion, Approved 4-0.

3) Ordinance 2008-03-813 Amending Section 13.16.080 regarding inter-city water charges and allocation of sewer charges and providing for severability and an effective date. This is to clarify that the two 6 inch and one 3 inch water meters to Bingen are covered under our inter-local agreement. C. Keene made a motion to approve Ordinance 2008-03-813. C. Johnson seconded the motion, Approved 4-0.

4) Ordinance 2008-03-814 of the City of White Salmon establishing a disorderly conduct municipal code.

Police Chief Brending said this would give them better tools to resolve issues before they escalate. He said it was modeled after a Goldendale ordinance which was passed in December.

Attorney Woodrich pointed out some typos that needed fixed. He said he had not sent a copy to our prosecutor for his review. If the prosecutor has any concerns Woodrich will bring amendments before council.

C. Roberts made a motion to approve Ordinance 2008-03-814 with corrections. C. Keene seconded the motion, Approved 4-0.

VII. DEPARTMENT HEAD / COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Police Chief Brending: Arrests in January were 6 and in February there were 7. There were 10 citations in January. Expenses included: Radar repair, 2 polygraphs for police officers, towing of police car from Goldendale, signage for new head quarters.

2) Fire Chief Hunsaker: no additional report at this time.

3) Clerk/Treasurer Lori Kreps: We have paid our taxes. We got the final bill for our excise taxes which were a little over \$21,000. The Budget Committee approved this payment at last weeks Monday meeting. If we would have waited we would have incurred more penalties and interest. Also, we had a managed audit (at our request) for the period from July 2007 through

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting - March 5, 2008

December 2007. These returns had also been done wrong and we owed an additional amount of approximately \$1,300. If we paid that bill within 30 days the State agreed to not charge any interest or penalties for the full 6 months. The Budget Committee approved this payment too. Bills have been paid late in the past and we are now paying them on time. Year 2007 is almost closed. Jan Brending, City of Bingen has been helping me and she is a great asset. We are not paying Jan as she is doing it as a favor. Question from C Keene: Where did the excise tax money come from and did it not have to be approved by council? Yes, it should have been approved by council but in order to save over \$100.00 the Budget Committee approved payment before March 1, 2008.

4) Public Works Director Mike Wellman: Discussed rates that were passed at the last meeting. Base rate went down, especially in the county. Robin Hale of Bridge RV Park had some concerns and visited with Mike for answers to his questions. Mike pointed out that the city is willing to work with the owners of larger sized meters. Wellman is working with Mr. Hale and Mike described several ways to control the flow of water. Attorney: If we do get some larger meter downsizing and we see some conservation; can we adopt some of these facts into our water plan and potentially free up some meters? Mike said yes. Wellman said the pilot filters have been installed at the head works. All the water tests to date are exceeding State standards. Mike believes we have a good chance at getting a grant from the State Department of Ecology. Hwy 14 sewer project has not been accepted because the pump basin keeps filling up with ground water. Colville Tribal is coming tomorrow to repair that.

Robin Hale, requested a reduction in his bill until the time that his meter size can be reduced. Mayor Poucher said that the new billing rates will take effect on the bill which will be mailed out on April 30, 2008. This bill covers the period from mid March to mid April.

C. Keene asked if our ASP software will be able to accommodate the new billing.

Lori Kreps, said that it is going to be fairly easy. Our ASP software specialist is going to come to City Hall to train our utility clerk as she has never had professional training. We want to make sure she is doing her job correctly. The specialist is going to look at our rates and look at our system and make sure everything is working properly.

VIII. APPROVAL OF CHECKS

Vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 as of the date March 5, 2008. C. Johnson reviewed the Accounts Payable and made a motion to approve the Claim Checks 36604-36647, 36601-36603; in the amount of \$47,556.20; Payroll Checks 20592-20620 in the amount of \$41,678.82; seconded by C. Roberts, Approved 4-0.

IX. COUNCIL AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council:

C. Keene, questioned Dotty DeVaney, about the status on the CTEC grant for the annexation study? Dotty said they prepared a RFQ and council approved it. She said we have received qualifications from at least one service provider. The annexation committee is meeting next Wednesday and they will review the scope of the grant before they contract the work. The money is allotted in two fiscal years.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
City Council Regular Meeting - March 5, 2008

C. Roberts: At the business partners meeting the issue of snow removal was the topic of discussion. Mayor Poucher said he would have Tom Smith meet with the group at their next meeting to discuss snow removal issues. We are continuing to work with the Chamber on signage for the city.

C. Marx: He is concerned about loosing a parking spot at the sidewalks crossing to High School Pharmacy at Estes and Jewett . Chief Brending said he doesn't know if that has been approved by Wash Dot. They are the ones that have to approve it because it is crossing 141. Marx said if we are not going to use it we should free it up.

Public:

Donna Marx, Lincoln St, questioned the size of the meters for builders. Mike Wellman said that anything larger than a 3/4 inch meter will be brought before council for approval.

Clyde Knowles, Wauna, asked about total hookups and meter sizes at Wyers End. Mike Wellman said there were 29 and they are all 3/4 inch. Clyde asked if these were free gratis from the City? Mike, yes.

Clyde also asked if we are banking here in town. Mayor, yes. Clyde asked if we are receiving the best interest? C. Johnson said we are looking into increasing the revenue on banking. Lori Kreps said that currently most of the money is invested with the Washington State Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) at approximately 4.5%.

Clyde asked if we get bids for the vehicle fuel used by the city and how long ago did we go out for bid? If we are not bidding with someone for the price of fuel he thinks we should reconsider. Wellman said we need to reduce the gallons consumed.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION / ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was called into executive session at 8:05 for ongoing Litigation. Mayor Poucher announced the meeting will take 15 minutes. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

David Poucher, Mayor

Lori Kreps, Clerk Treasurer