

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2011**

Mayor Camarata called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., February 22, 2011. Councilmembers present: Gay, Helland, Hink, Gilmour and Huber.

Staff present was WWTP Operator Bach, Chief Brent Nierman, and Officer Buddy Shuart.

Mayor Camarata led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Gilmour doesn't agree with the minutes where it states moving into the remodeled City Hall building is an administrative item. He stated if the Mayor would have had his way it wouldn't have happened as early. Councilmember Helland stated he believes once you occupy a building it is really hard to get the contractors to come back and fix everything.

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2011, regular meeting. Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and Councilmember Gilmour voting no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

UGA – Executive Session

Hiring Part Time Assistant Clerk

City Hall Photos/Projects

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the amended agenda and Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

Dorothy Nicholas – She has a complaint about citizens storing junk on their property. Mayor Camarata asked her to come into the office to see him with the details regarding this.

Richard Hink – He would like to know when the leaking water line on King Street will be fixed. He said he knows it has been reported and wants to know what kind of action will take place to fix this. He also has a policy question. He feels there is a policy that needs to be passed by Council. He stated he was threatened by a city employee back in October 2009 in front of City Hall. He claims the employee approached him and said if Richard didn't stop saying stuff about him then he would kill Richard. He knows this same employee threatened a city council member also. Mayor Camarata explained if he wants to complain about a city employee he needs to come in and fill out a complaint form at City Hall. Richard stated he is not complaining about this employee but wants Council to put together a policy to deal with these issues in the future.

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REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Gray & Osborne – Mike Meskimen explained the Main Street Sidewalk and Storm Drain Project will be starting with the surveying next week. This will be paid by TIB and COG grants. Councilmember Huber explained we would like to make a picture board for each project the city does and has done in the past. Mike Meskimen mentioned he was contacted by Public Works Lead Bosch and is collecting photos from past Gray & Osborne projects in the City. He will provide those to the City as soon as they are compiled.

Police Department – Chief Nierman is requesting surplus some of our police vehicles. He handed each Councilmember a proposal. He would like to surplus 3 vehicles and get 2 from the county. We would receive \$8,700 on the 3 vehicles to be surplus which would pay for the 2 new vehicles. In addition, we received over \$1,900 from the insurance claim on the Crown Victoria that was damaged. There was \$4,000 revenue budgeted for the Ford Explorer that the water department would like to purchase. The new vehicles will cost between \$2,000 and \$5,000. The county will be offering the vehicles to the local agencies prior to the county surplus sale. Councilmember Huber would like a resolution drawn up to surplus these vehicles.

Library Board – Mayor Camarata introduced the new library manager, Brandi Chandler.

Treasurer's Report – See handout

Monthly Budget Discussion – Revenue Review – Mayor Camarata explained the following:

- The police department received an insurance settlement for \$1,900
- We now get our fuel from Exit 115 Mini Mart and get a fuel discount
- Yard Waste collection procedure was changed
- Sales Tax is higher than the prior year

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Photo Project – Councilmember Huber will be managing the photo project. She will be collecting photos for this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Department of Ecology Fine Screen Project – Contract Amendment #3 – Councilmember Gay moved to approve this amendment which is for \$0 but allows for time to do landscaping in better weather. Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Gray & Osborne Engineering Contract Amendment #1 for Storm drain Project – Councilmember Gay moved to approve this amendment to the Gray & Osborne engineering services contract and Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Part Time Office Clerk – Councilmember Huber explained the City Clerk, herself, Mayor Camarata, and Chief Nierman made up the interviewing committee. We received quite a few applicants and interviewed 4. The recommendation to the Council is to hire Leslie Johnson. Councilmember Gilmour stated he thought

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Brandi was already hired. Councilmember Huber stated this is for the part time office clerk. Councilmember Helland wanted to make sure we do a background check. Councilmember Gay moved to approve Leslie Johnson in this position and Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of February Bills – Councilmember Hink asked what the Moon Security billing is for. Councilmember Huber asked what the check to Walter E. Nelson for cleaning supplies is for. Councilmember Helland has a concern that there is a split between the City Hall and Fire Department if the Fire Department wants to purchase their own supplies. He believes it would be cheaper to buy all supplies from one supplier for the entire city. Checks #14402 to #14435 and #E770208 for \$21,080.84 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Hink and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Flooding – Mayor Camarata explained Greg Newhall sent the city a letter thanking those that helped with the flooding at Cole's Crossing I. The ice was a big part of the flooding issue.

Health Department Grant – The Health Department has a \$1,200 school zone grant. Signs and paint could be purchased with this money. Chief Nierman explained a "walk to school day" for the school children where the kids will walk with chaperones and be given disposable cameras for them to take pictures. This is to heighten the awareness of the school zones. Mike Meskimen with Gray & Osborne explained there is a grant program for Safe Routes to School. He will keep us informed of this.

Bridge on John Wayne Trail – This box culvert will be installed in March.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Well Pump – Mayor Camarata explained he will get with WWTP Foreman Howard to see where he is at on getting a new pump.

UGA – Councilmember Gay explained we will continue the meeting until later in the week so our attorney and planner can be present. Councilmember Helland questioned if it was the same group that asked for our support a few years back that is now against our UGA. Councilmember Huber moved to recess the council meeting until February 24 at 7:00 p.m. and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion for executive session for one hour. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

The meeting was recessed and to be continued Thursday, February 24, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

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The meeting was reconvened on Thursday, February 24, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

7:00 P.M. MAYOR CAMARATA ANNOUNCED COUNCIL WILL GO TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR 1 HOUR TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE LITIGATION REGARDING THE UGA

7:40 P.M. – MAYOR CAMARATA ANNOUNCED THE RECONVENE OF THE COUNCIL MEETING AND NO ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Councilmember Huber moved to approve our attorney filing a motion for reconsideration on the Washington Growth Management Hearings Board decision denying our UGA request. Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no. If we lose the motion for reconsideration, council has the option to appeal to Superior Court.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Attest: Mayor John Camarata

Clerk/Treasurer
