

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2017**

COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Whitford led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Whitford called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. April 11, 2017. Councilmembers present: Jerry Gilmour, Pat Cort, John Camarata and Jasen Carlson. Councilmember Ben Whitehurst was absent. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer and Michelle Geiger – Safe Built.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve Councilmember Whitehurst's absence; second by Councilmember Cort.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED MARCH
28th, 2017**

MOTION: Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated March 28th, 2017; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WORK/STUDY MEETING DATED
MARCH 28th, 2017**

MOTION: Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated March 28th, 2017; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; second by Councilmember Camarata.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

None

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REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS

A. Staff Reports (informational only)

Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer

- The Annual Report Class put on by BIAS is in Yakima on the 19th. Debbie informed Council that she won a gift certificate at the BIAS Conference for 50% off the regular price of the class. The class will cost \$250.00; Debbie has attended this class every year.

A. Budget Report

- Mayor Whitford stated that the City is on task and pleased with the position of the budget.

B. Treasurer's Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Server Quote

- Councilmember Cort would like to get more information and have the City research other options or vendors.
- Councilmember Gilmour did not like how this quote was written. Councilmember Gilmour also inquired if this quote was in the budget; \$6,000 was in the budget for 2017 but not the entire quote of \$9,000.
- Mayor Whitford asked if there was a motion to approve the server quote.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to remand back to the treasurer for more information; second by Councilmember Gilmour.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

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NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 17-003R Chevy Tahoe Surplus

- Discussion was had regarding this surplus. This was Officer Anderson's Tahoe that the motor blew up and is beyond repair.
- Councilmember Gilmour asked about the water truck and when it is going to be put on surplus list. Mayor Whitford stated this could be discussed during Council Discussion.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve Resolution 17-003R; second by Councilmember Cort.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

B. Water/Sewer 2% Rate Increase per Kittitas Municipal Code (discussion, adopt at next meeting)

- This increase is to be done annually unless voted no by Council.
- Councilmember Gilmour is not in favor of this increase.
- Councilmember Camarata asked that this Ordinance be prepared and presented at the next Council Meeting.
- It was mentioned that the price the City pays for its water from Warm Springs will increase in 2018 by the Consumer Price Index.

PAYMENT APPROVALS

A. April 11, 2017 Payables \$27,988.05

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to pay April 11, 2017 payables; second by Councilmember Gilmour.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

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B. March Payroll/April Mid-Month Draw \$44,079.94

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to pay March Payroll/February Mid-Month Draws; second by Councilmember Cort.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Whitford informed Council that the City is looking at all options for cleaning City Hall. Cintas gave a bid and demonstrated their cleaning on the men's public bathroom.
- Mayor Whitford has not heard from Fire Chief Shuart regarding the pros and cons of the Fire Department Merger.
- Mike Meskimen is helping Mayor Whitford with the wording for the new sidewalk ordinance. Michelle with Safe Built thought she had an email with this information and will forward to Mayor Whitford.
- Mayor Whitford will be absent from the April 24th Council Meeting and asked Mayor Pro Tem Camarata to conduct the meeting.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Councilmember Gilmour stated that the water truck has not been used and the City either needs to fix it or surplus this item.
- Councilmember Cort thought that the 2% increase in the base water and sewer was an action that the City needs to take to cover the cost of inflation and the possible increase to the cost of the water from Warm Springs.
- Councilmember Cort has been working on getting the Non-Profit Friends of the Kittitas Depot set up. The first meeting will be at the VFW on Main Street in Kittitas on Saturday April 27th at 10: a.m. the group is looking for volunteers.
- The Friends of the Kittitas Depot would like to have all of the City stuff that is being stored in the train depot to be removed so when they have a cleaning party it is safe for the volunteers.
- The proof of insurance has been received.
- The group has made a list of inventory artifacts: a typewriter, telephones, lights etc. The

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Friends of the Kittitas Depot are putting a schedule together with a list of volunteers and their interested area; the volunteers will need to sign a release and safety agreement.

- May 22nd the horse riders will be coming thru on the John Wayne Trail and there will be refreshments and a donation jar set up to greet them.
- Councilmember Cort stated once the donations start coming in they can form the Non Profit and then apply for grants, the Milwaukee Railroad has money available for this exact project. They have also set up Friends of the Kittitas Depot Restoration page on Facebook.
- Councilmember Carlson stated that hopefully the County will get involved and this will help promote tourism.
- Councilmember Cort felt that all of this is falling into place with the tourism grant that the Chamber is currently working on.
- Mayor Whitford asked if the County could use funds from the Milwaukee Railroad as match money. Councilmember Cort stated yes.
- Councilmember Cort stated that they are writing a plan and there is a local citizen who has a passion for trains and has the ability to have some drawings made of the vision, Councilmember Cort feels that a visitor center will be good.
- Councilmember Gilmour inquired about the quotes on the painting of the water tower. It was explained that Brenda put the bids out to the MRSC Roster and the bid opening will be April 18th at City Hall at 10:00 a.m. Gray & Osborne will be there to assist.
- Councilmember Gilmour stated that he has seen a rat in Kittitas East of King on Okanogan due to the garbage that is not being dumped.
- Councilmember Camarata informed Council that he attended the COG Council of Government meeting and they discussed the Ellensburg Comprehensive Plan and the population. They are also working on the score sheet for the next round of applications.
- Councilmember Carlson inquired about the business Smoke & Barrel opening up and would like to see the City be as business friendly as possible.
- Citizen George Bottcher would like to talk with Councilmember Cort regarding the train depot restoration.
- Citizen George Botcher had submitted a letter of frustration regarding his building permit process to the Councilmember's and the Mayor. George went on to explain that he has lost

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potential renters due to the length it has taken him to get a permit issued, he has had a whiskey distillery approach him and is was allowed/not allowed and the commute the owner of this distillery would have to travel from Wenatchee would not be feasible.

- Mayor Whitford explained that Mr. Botcher has been attended to regarding the building permit process; Michelle and Mayor Whitford have had many emails, phone conversations etc., and were surprised by the letter. George needs to make a decision on the use because the building permit is contingent on the use. Mayor Whitford appreciates the conversation but it needs to be with Michelle at Safe Built and Mayor Whitford.
- George Botcher went on to talk about sprinkler systems and other topics; stating reading thru the code can be tricky.
- Mayor Whitford again explained that they will meet with George after the Council Meeting and have a meeting with the minds. George also needs to close out the permit that was issued several years ago before starting this new permit. Mayor Whitford also explained that if the use and assembly is for commercial use then an architect and engineer would need to be involved.

MOTION: Councilmember Cort made a motion to adjourn; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

ADJOURN: 7:40 p.m.

Attest:



Mayor Whitford *Pro Tem*



Debbie L. Lee Clerk/Treasurer