

CITY OF KITTITAS
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2005

Mayor Cousart called the adjourned meeting from March 8, 2005 of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. March 11, 2005. Three Councilmembers were present. Councilmember Allphin and Huber were absent.

Approval of Minutes

Jerry Gilmour requested the minutes be changed to note that the council did not have the opportunity to interview the applicants for the Office Assistant position. The minutes were not approved.

Additions to the Agenda

- 6. E Application for Community Hall rental for Luz Villa
- 6. F Business License application for Eric Wulf Landscaping
- 6. G Business License application for Lydig Construction
- 6. H Business License application for DC Hays Electric
- 8. D George Bottcher regarding sidewalk tearout

Report of Officers

Chief Dunnagan announced the resignation of Tyson Forrest as he will be graduating and seeking employment elsewhere. There will be a potluck for him on Sunday, March 13th at 6:00. Tom Woolsey is back as a reserve officer.

No one was present from the Library Board.

Utility worker Val Bosch had nothing to report

Public Hearings

Ordinance 05-754, 2004 Budget Amendment was read in part. Public hearing opened. No comment. Public hearing closed. Councilmember Gilmour motioned to approve the second reading of Ordinance 05-754. It was seconded by Councilmember Arington and approved by the council..

Ordinance 05-754, 2004 Budget Amendment was read by title only. Public hearing opened. No comment. Public hearing closed. Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the third reading of Ordinance 05-754. It was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

Ordinance 05-757, repayment of inter fund loans was read in part. Public hearing opened. No comment. Public hearing closed. Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the second reading of Ordinance 05-757. It was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

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Ordinance 05-757, repayment of inter fund loans was read by title only. Public hearing opened. No comment. Public hearing closed. Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the third reading of Ordinance 05-757. It was seconded by Councilmember Keys and approved by council.

Correspondence, Complaints and Applications

Councilmember Gilmour motioned to approve the business license application for Earth Friendly Construction. Seconded by Councilmember Arington and approved by council.

Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the business license application for Don L. Cox. Seconded by Councilmember Keys and approved by council.

Councilmember Gilmour motioned to approve the business license application for Eric Wulf Landscape Const. Seconded by Councilmember Arington and approved by council.

Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the business license application for Lydig Construction. Seconded by Councilmember Keys and approved by council.

Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the business license application for DC Hays Electric. Seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

Jack Miller presented a plot map of the new proposed development off of Clark Street. There was discussion about the stipulations in regards to easements, streets and curbs. It was determined that he need a more detailed proposal and design to present to the council. It will be rescheduled for the March 22nd council meeting.

There was a hearing to discuss a dog variance application for Krause to have a third dog. Chief Dunnagan advised the council that there were prior responsibilities that the Krause's had in regards to the dogs. Councilmember Gilmour brought up the fact that the council had just denied another variance for a third dog and it would not be fair to allow this one. Councilmember Gilmour motioned to deny the Krause variance request for another dog. Seconded by Councilmember Arington and approved by council.

Councilmember Gilmour motioned to approve the Community Hall rent application for Luz Villa. Seconded by Councilmember Keys and approved by council.

Old Business

Codification of the Code Book was discussed. It would cost \$2,514.00. Councilmember Keys motioned to approve the Codification as long as funds are available in the budget. Seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

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Councilmember Gilmour brought up the letter from County for striping the streets. It was discussed that maybe we could do it with our new machine. Utility worker Val Bosch stated that it would not make straight enough lines for that big of a job. It was determined to table the discussion until we could get an actual cost from the County.

Councilmember Gilmour asked about the fruit stand signs out by the interchange. The owners have been asked to remove them. The Mayor will contact the owners to make sure they are removed and also they are removed immediately after use this year.

Councilmember Gilmour regarding the problems with MD Jackson's construction. In particular a fence that is too high, manhole in fenced area where pump goes, dirty streets from construction, broken pipe & Kay's sidewalk. It was discussed that these matters are being addressed.

New Business

Discussion was brought up regarding the resignation of Mary Lou Gilmour, Clerk/Treasurer. There was question about the replacement of Connie Ackerman, Office Assistant to the Clerk. Mayor Cousart stated that the position that Connie had was *temporary* and it was determined that there was need to hire a permanent part-time assistant. There was also concern about the violation of code 2.44.190 regarding nepotism. There was also discussion about the release of Tom Howard from his job. Again, as Tom Howard is Cecil's brother, it was in violation of code 2.44.190 regarding related employees working together.

Mayor Cousart brought up the need to find someone to handle the 6 year street plan renewal. A volunteer was asked for from the council. There was none.

Mayor Cousart brought up the need for a new KCCOG representative. A volunteer was asked for from the council. There was none.

George Bottcher asked for permission to tear up the sidewalk in front of the Oddfellows Lodge in which he is remodeling. It was stated that in order to put a new foundation under the building, he needed more room on the sidewalk side. The sidewalk is cracked anyway and in need of replacement. Councilmember Arington motioned that he be allowed to tear up the sidewalk on the condition that better barriers are put up around the site to keep people safe from injury. Seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council. It was also noted that the replacement of the sidewalk and expenses incurred would be dealt with at a later time. George Bottcher also requested ideas for use of the building.

Councilmember Gilmour brought up discussion on the following items:

The sign out in front of City Hall. Possible using a ladder to install letters as the stick seems to be hard on it.

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Use of work orders. Mayor Cousart explained that the work order book wasn't working and any work being requested should be brought to the attention of the Mayor. Councilmember Arington suggested that we design a form of our own for citizen work orders or concerns. Chief Dunnagan proposed redesigning the citizen complaint form. Mayor Cousart brought up prior work orders regarding the water meter installation and drinking fountain at the park. These are being addressed and scheduled as time allows. The dead end signs at the end of Okanogan & Spokane should not be taken out as they are dead end streets. The debris at the WTP has been removed and all burnable is gone.

Approval of Payroll

Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the payment of January 2005 retroactive pay, check number 6061 through 6066 in the amount of \$177.69. Seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the Mid-month draw for February 2005, check numbers 6057 in the amount of \$252.32. Seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

Councilmember Gilmour motioned to approve the February 2005 payroll, check numbers 6067 through 6095 in the amount of \$23,636.86. Seconded by Councilmember Keys and approved by council.

Councilmember Arington motioned to approve the March 2005 bills, check numbers 10127 through 10179 in the amount of \$48,696.18. Seconded by Councilmember Gilmour and approved by council.

Executive Session

Executive Session called at 8:45 p.m. to discuss personnel estimated to last 15 minutes. A five minute extension was need.

Reconvene

Regular session reconvened at 9:05 p.m. No decisions were made as a result of this session.

Mayor Report

Grace Wilson wants to plant a tree in the park in honor of Mel Wilson. She would like the city to take part the Saturday before Mothers Day.

Question about what to do with the dirt area in front of the City Hall. Ideas are grass or possibly rock.

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There is a meeting set up regarding the school project for Tuesday, March 15th at 2:00pm to discuss the conditional use permit. It was suggested that it be postponed until a later date and time as there are too many council member out of town that would not be able to attend. Mayor Cousart said he would try to reschedule.

There is a meeting on Monday, March 21st, 1:00pm at the Badger Pocket Bridge with the Gibb Brothers, Kittitas County Conservation District, Fish Wildlife and our engineers.

Fire Department FEMA Grant. Grant due by March 31, 2005. Need exact costs to the city. Is it in the best interest to trade the pump truck for a brush truck? Mayor Cousart will get more information and present it at the March 22, 2005 council meeting.

Council Discussion

Councilmember Arington asked what steps have been taken for drought measures. Maybe we should start it sooner than normal.

Adjourn

Councilmember Arington moved to adjourn the March 11, 2005 council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Keys and approved by council. Meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Attest: Mayor _____
Clerk/Treasurer _____
Councilmembers _____

