

City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2005

Mayor Cousart called the regular Meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. May 24th, 2005. Councilmembers present; Allphin, Gilmour, Helland, Huber and Keys.

Staff present; Clerk/Treasurer Piercy, Police Chief Dunnagan, Utility Worker Bosch

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of May 10, 2005; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Allphin. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no.

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the minutes of the special Council Meeting of April 29, 2005 the motion was seconded by Councilmember Allphin. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no.

Additions to Agenda

Councilmember Gilmour asked to address items under old and new business.

Councilmember Allphin asked to address items under old and new business.

Councilmember Huber asked to address items under council discussion.

Report of Officers

Police Chief Dunnagan:

Deferred to Old Business and Council Discussion

Library Board Report

Incoming Library Board President, Maxine Steele, addresses Library issues. The board is asking for the following:

- a. Increase in Librarian's salary;
- b. Hiring of a part-time assistant that would be compensated;
- c. Increase yearly budget via budget amendment;
- d. Increase library hours to 28 hours per week

Discussion followed with Board member Gilmour asking for the ending balance from 2004 Library funds of approximately \$4,900 to be used to off-set the proposed increase in the Library Managers salary and to pay a part-time assistant. Discussion followed. Council addressed the Library Manager concerning her former request for a leave of absence in June 2005. Council discussed the steps to be taken to hire a part time employee for the Library. Motion was made by Councilmember Huber that at Mayor Cousart's discretion, he will appoint two Councilmembers to create a job description for a part-time library assistant, confirm the available budget and to start the hiring process. Further discussion followed concerning the appropriate guidelines and procedures of hiring employees. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no. Motion was made by Councilmember Gilmour to increase the Library Managers salary by \$75.00 per month; motion was seconded by Councilmember Allphin. Councilmember Gilmour seconded. Increase effective date June 1, 2005. The motions passed 5 yes 0 no.

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Utility Worker Val Bosch

1. Deferred to Mayor's Discussion.
2. Utility Worker Val Bosch answered questions and concerns by the City Council regarding the KHS sewer tie-in.

Correspondence, Complaints and Applications

1. Platt Review – Cole Crossing (Guest Property Preliminary Plat Application). Ron and Kevin Guest submitted plans for proposed development, Cole's Crossing. Reviewed Plat Map with the council. Discussion followed. Ron Guest indicated that he would be submitting plans to the City for a preliminary plat review on Wednesday, May 25, 2005.

Old Business

1. Water Rationing: Code read - 13.04.240 – Mayor Cousart comments on whether or not the City should consider water rationing for the months of June, July, and August. Are the water meters a sufficient deterrent? Discussion followed. Motion made by Councilmember Allphin that the City not institutes any further water rationing this year and to monitor usage for the future. Seconded by Councilmember Huber. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no.
2. Bare/Marchel RV & Storage Park: Applicants clarified with City Council their intention to go forward with the development of the RV and Storage Park located at Exit 115. Applicant will submit design with the conditional use permit application in the near future.
3. Gayetta Hink: Submitted petition to the City Council signed by citizens of the City requesting continued enforcement of Dog Ordinance 6.04.210 prohibiting Pit Bull breed dogs within the city limits. Discussion followed. Councilmembers advised Police Chief Dunnagan to thoroughly investigate this issue. Council agreed that a future public hearing may be necessary in order to allow for public testimony. Further discussion followed with comments from the Police Chief, Steve Dunnagan.
4. Councilmember Tiny Allphin expressed concern over the insurance claim for the theft of private tools from a city facility. Discussion followed.

New Business

1. Councilmember Gilmour expressed concern over City staff work hours. Discussion followed.
2. Councilmember Gilmour suggested the City consider eliminating City policy as it relates to nepotism. Discussion followed; Council agreed to discuss this topic further under Council Discussion.
3. Councilmember Allphin questioned the issuance of RV permits and general Code Enforcement by the City. Discussion followed; it was noted that the City had terminated the former Services Contract with Kittitas County which covered Code Enforcement. Council directed the Mayor to send a letter the County Commissioners to request help with code enforcement with Health Department Issues.

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Approval of Payroll

1. Mid-Month Draw_2005
Councilmember Huber moved to approve: Motion was seconded by Councilmember Keys.
Approved 5 yes and 0 no.

Approval of Bills

1. Check numbers 10303 through 10327 in the amount of \$16,566.61. Councilmember Huber moved to approve the bills; motion was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. Approved 4 yes and 1 no.

Mayors Report

1. The Mayor reported that the City had received a request from the organizers of the Whisky Dick Triathlon to assist with traffic control and other issues. The Mayor had sent a fax (email format) advising that the City would accommodate.
2. The Mayor reported that the sidewalk installation was done at Kay Brozovich residence.

Council Discussion

1. Utility Worker Bosch addressed the Council concerning the issue of the Benton/Wrangler Estates outstanding punch list items. Discussion followed with Councilmember Huber making a motion that prior to future issuance of Certificate of Occupancy's on the remaining lots all of the outstanding items be completed. Councilmember Allphin seconded that motion. Approved 5 yes and 0 no.
2. Discussion of City Hall landscaping. Councilmember Huber suggested the City contact the High School Horticultural Club or the local 4-H clubs to see if they could volunteer to assist the City in the clean of the City Hall landscaping. Councilmember Huber suggested that the City check with local businesses for available discounts on landscape materials.
3. Councilmember Gilmour requested that future City Council meetings be held at the Community Hall location. No discussion followed.
4. Police Chief Dunnagan commented on Dog Ordinance 6.04.210. Chief Dunnagan read an article from the Seattle Times referencing proposed legislation that would outlaw the exiting ban on specific breeds imposed by insurance companies. Such bans have been deemed unconstitutional. Discussion followed.
5. Police Chief suggests hiring a provisional officer for the summer. Discussion followed.
6. Police Chief commented on the need for the City to purchase a computer "server" that will be beneficial for all City Hall offices and employees. The "server" would enable the City employees to communicate effectively and to insure proper "back-up" of computer files on a daily basis.
7. Councilmember Huber requests consideration by the Council that the current Office Assistant employee be allowed to work full time to assist the Clerk/Treasurer to get "caught up" up with City work. Discussion followed. Councilmember Huber makes a motion to increase the permanent part-time Office Assistant hours to full time for three (3) months. Councilmember Allphin seconded the motion. The Mayor and City Clerk have been instructed to obtain an opinion from MRSC regarding the change in employment status from part time to full time
Approved 5 yes and 0 no.
8. Councilmember Gilmour comments on the water/sewer hookup fees and the additional costs associated with time and material. Discussion followed. It was agreed by Council that it is

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appropriate, as per Ordinance 13.04.060, Item 3, for the City to charge for additional labor and material when installing a new water/sewer connection.

9. Warren Wood addressed the City Councilmembers about installing water meters on Road 81. Council instructed Utility Worker Val Bosch to itemize the cost of installation of water line and individual water meters to the Road 81 home owners and to report at the next Council meeting scheduled for June 14, 2005.
10. Council discussed the proposed Jack Miller plat and development standards. Discussion followed.
11. Councilmember Gilmour discussed the dangers of George Bottcher's raised building, located at 307 & 309 N Main Street. Discussion followed.

Adjourn

1. Councilmember Todd Keys moved to adjourn the May 24th, 2005 Council Meeting; seconded by Councilmember Linda Huber; Approved 5 yes and 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Attest: Mayor Robert E Cousart _____

Clerk/Treasurer Janice Piercy _____

Councilmembers:

Jerry Gilmour _____

Todd Keys _____

Linda Huber _____

Tiny Allphin _____

Tony Helland _____