

City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 28, 2006

Mayor Cousart called the Meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., March 28, 2006. Councilmembers present; Gay, Huber, Gilmour, Simpson, and Helland.

Staff present was City Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb and Utility Worker Bosch.

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2006, meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

Linda Kelly – Possible purchase of old gas station on South Main.

Councilmember Simpson – New business regarding development issues etc.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**Jeff Stevens with Gray & Osborne**

Jeff Stevens wrote a grant to revise our water system plan. The funds requested are \$30,000 and in addition the City of Kittitas would match \$2,000. Department of Health is requesting this since our water plan expired last year. Councilmember Huber moved to approve applying for this grant and it was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no.

He also reported that some Kittitas residents have senior water rights to sell. This wouldn't cover the entire City of Kittitas but would make a dent in the amount of water that is required.

Jeff Stevens also suggested we contact Bob Clerf's attorney about the Warm Springs Water contract.

**City of Kittitas Library Board**

Chairperson Marilou Gilmour asked Mayor Cousart if we had heard anything from the County yet on the additional funds for the Summer Reading Program. He reported that he hasn't heard anything yet but will let her know as soon as he does.

**Police**

Nothing to report.

### Utility Worker Bosch

Utility Worker Bosch reported April 8<sup>th</sup> the Kittitas Flyer 4-H Club is coming to clean up the park and is requesting Utility Worker Combs to work on that day also. The Council agreed with this.

The owner of 107 Clark Street is having trouble with renters moving in and out and is requesting his water/sewer bill be reduced for those months that were charged but no one was living there. Council agreed that the landlord is responsible for the bill and should have to pay it. Councilmember Huber suggested we check into the wording of the ordinance and make sure it states we will make the renter liable until we exhaust all efforts and then proceed against the landlord.

Utility Worker Bosch also reported that Cole's Crossing I is putting in the lines for electrical, gas and irrigation.

### Linda Kelly

Linda Kelly would like to purchase the old gas station to the south of Curly's II for her design business and a second hand store. She also is requesting a variance so she can put an RV in back for some temporary office space. Eventually, she would like to build a studio apartment over the garage. Councilmember Huber suggested she get a plan into place first before Council makes a decision on the variance.

## CORRESPONDENCE, COMPLAINTS AND APPLICATIONS

Councilmember Huber moved to approve **All Mobile Auto/Ron Casario's** business license and it was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

### **TAPE 1 -- SIDE 1 ENDS ???**

Bill Highfill requested a **dog variance** for his daughter's dog. Councilmember Simpson moved to deny this variance until we can find out a time limit that he would need the variance for. Councilmember Gay seconded the denial. This denied motion was passed 5 yes and 0 no.

**Ordinance 06-006** WWTP Water and Sewer Revenue Bond in the Principal Amount of \$483,000 – Councilmember Simpson moved to approve the first reading of this ordinance and it was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

**Ordinance 06-009** Water and Sewer General Facilities -- Councilmember Helland moved to approve this ordinance and it was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**The position of Police Chief** was discussed and it was decided to hire Robert Almeida at \$4,000 per month. Councilmember Simpson moved to approve this and it was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 3 yes, Councilmember Gilmour no, and Councilmember Huber abstaining. Mr. Almeida should start around the middle of April once all

of his tests are completed. Mayor Cousart reported he talked to Officer Beaton about his provisional time being up on April 11, 2006. If the City keeps him on after this date they will have to hire him full-time and send him to the Police Academy.

Nancy Morter with Gray & Osborne explained the **UV System Option with the WWTP Construction** that requires a change order with Western Engineering Constructors. She explained the UV light system is the disinfectant system for the WWTP. The City has the option to replace not just one of the current UV systems but both of them. With that we would get a new warranty and new lamps along with the new units. Councilmember Huber moved to approve this change order and it was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Nancy Morter also reported **the WWTP construction** starts March 26, 2006. The contractor, Western Engineering Constructors, has 360 days to complete the construction.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Councilmember Simpson suggested the City have something done with **the dust and road issues** on Spokane Street near Cole's Crossing I and the Brown Property developments. He suggested the Mayor call Gabe Oh with Contour Inc. and have him take care of these issues and possibly attend the next council meeting.

### **TAPE 1 -- SIDE 2 ENDS**

Utility Worker Bosch also reported that the **water line will run down Spokane Street** between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> on the side of the road and the developer, Contour Inc., would like to get this done before paving.

Councilmember Simpson also suggested a study session with the **City of Ellensburg's Growth Management Personnel**. Council agreed for him to contact the City of Ellensburg on this issue.

He also suggested the City complete **Cole's Crossing I** before we start with the Brown Property. Contour Inc. has some obligations that need to be completed first.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Checks #10871 to #10885 for March vouchers in the amount of \$5,541.08 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 4 yes 0 no with Councilmember Simpson abstaining.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

9:20 to 9:45 p.m.

### **MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Cousart explained the quote we received from the County for road striping. The quote is for \$875 to stripe Patrick Ave and Main St. Council agreed to stripe from the intersection of Main St. and Patrick Ave. down to the John Wayne Trail which should be considerably cheaper.

It was also reported that Amy Mills, the Kittitas County Treasurer, and her husband purchased the Kittitas Post Office. Bob McCollum said he would donate the wood to go up in front on the Post Office if the City would do the labor. Councilmember Gay stated he would help Utility Worker Bosch with this task.

Mayor Cousart announced there is a workshop in Ellensburg on April 20<sup>th</sup> for “Effective City Council Meetings”. If any of the Council Members would like to attend this meeting they are to contact Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb.

Also discussed was the USDA loan for the WWTP. The interest rate dropped from 4.5% to 4.375%.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

Mayor Cousart asked the Council if the City was going to do anything with the \$2,500 grant that the City received for a new computer server. The City would have to match this amount. No decision was made.

Council decided that Officer Shuart needs to investigate the Van Wagoner residence for an illegal stove in a shed that he burns in.

**ADJOURN**

Councilmember Simpson moved to adjourn the March 28, 2006 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Robert E Cousart \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk/Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_