

City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2006

Mayor Cousart called the Meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., May 23, 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 Simpson moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2006, meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2006 special meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no with Councilmember Simpson and Councilmember Huber abstaining.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

1. Councilmember Simpson – 400 block Spokane Street trailer park

PUBLIC HEARING ON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT

Lisa Parks, our planner, explained that Joyce Phillips with CTED has another grant for the City of Kittitas in the amount of \$1,250.

Some of the ideas for the comprehensive plan that were suggested are:

1. Where do we want our main roads to go in the future?
2. What are some future annexations/UGA amendments/zoning changes the City would like?
3. Can we promote commercial/retail to our City?
4. Update some of the older/existing areas of the City in addition to the new/developed areas
5. Charge developer fees to increase revenues
6. Pave the dirt streets
7. Upgrade the City facilities (City Hall, Fire Hall, and Community Hall)
8. Improve existing parks and possibly develop new parks
9. Extend City sewer to the entire City – Councilmember Huber reported we could apply for COG money (rural sales & use tax) for this project
10. Revamp our water source

Lisa also explained that impact fees work really well in larger communities but not always the smaller ones. When the fees are collected it must be for a specific project and if this project isn't completed within six years then the fees must be paid back with interest.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Police Department

No Report

Library Board

Chairperson Marylou Gilmour reported they had eight applicants for the assistant library position. After interviewing four of them the Board decided to hire Emily Garland who is a sophomore in College and majoring in library science. Councilmember Simpson moved to approve the hiring and it was seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Simpson moved to approve the surplus list of books and it was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Marylou also reported the Board will be putting on the Summer Reading Program and volunteers are welcome.

Utility Worker Bosch

Utility Worker Bosch explained our options for the dust abatement. Protac did Spokane Street and Railroad Avenue. Councilmember Simpson suggested we get one or two more bids so we have something to compare to.

There are eight trees to be pulled out of the creeks. Department of Fish & Wildlife would like us to wait until November when the creek is low. Utility Worker Bosch needs to check and see who is liable for this work.

He also reported he would like to increase the annual billing to Department of Parks to \$1,000.

The City will be applying for a safety grant that is available through Canfield & Associates, our insurance agency.

Kyle with Puget Sound Energy will be working close with Utility Worker Bosch on future projects so they stay within our easement.

Gray & Osborne

Jeff Stevens reported they are working on the water system planning grant and we will probably have a public hearing on it the 2nd meeting in June.

Nancy Morter explained the construction on the WWTP is now about 3-4 weeks into construction and going well. There has been one change order which was the UV Lamps.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Hall Roof – Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the capital facilities budget be used for the City Hall Roof and the remainder for the handicap bathroom. It was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Union Negotiations – moved to the May 30th meeting.

Ordinance 06-011 – Councilmember Gay moved to approve this ordinance Amending Supplement uses and Yard Requirements. It was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Chief Advertising – There have been three people interested in the Chief of Police job. Councilmember Huber talked to Clay Myers with the Kittitas County Sheriff's Department and he suggested asking these applicants what their five year goal is for the City of Kittitas. He also explained that line officers and chiefs have two very different roles and not everyone can do both.

Clay Myers/Bill Wuester – Clay Myers also spoke with the Mayor and offered to help the police department with the police budgeting. Bill Wuester will meet with the Mayor to strategize on Chief hiring.

Liquor License Transfer/Johnny's Serv-U to Hwang – Councilmember Huber moved to approve the license transfer for the sale of Johnny's Serv-U to Hwang. Councilmember Simpson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Ordinance 06-015 Brown Annexation – Councilmember Huber moved to approve the Brown Annexation ordinance and it was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Insurance Renewal – Canfield & Associates offered a \$5,000 savings on our liability insurance if we lower our liability to \$5,000,000. Council suggested the Mayor check with MRSC as a second opinion on this matter.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Approval of Bills – Check 10980 for \$46,492.34 to PWTF for error in electronic payment they sent to us and checks 10981 to 11008 for \$13,645.71 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no. Check 11003 was voided.

MAYORS REPORT

Jeremy Combs KVCH hospital bill from September 2005 – Councilmember Huber suggested we have Rocky Jackson review the attorney and union's opinion on payment of this bill. Councilmember Simpson moved to approve this action and it was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Farmview – Gray & Osborne Billings – Mayor Cousart reported that the zoning ordinance (Title 17) does state that developers are responsible for pass thru fees incurred by engineers and other professionals.

Jeremy Combs work schedule – Council agreed that worker Jeremy Combs should be working more with Utility Worker Bosch this time of year than at the WWTP.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Tom Gritzan – Mr. Gritzan would like to put a duplex on his property located at Railroad Avenue and King Street. He is a few hundred feet short of the required 8,000 square feet needed for the duplex and is requesting some of the City’s property to comply with the City code. Council suggested Mr. Gritzan brings in his plans for them to review.

Senator Joyce Mulliken – Councilmember Helland suggested the Mayor contact Senator Mulliken regarding a grant for Community Hall renovation. He spoke with her briefly and she said to write her a letter explaining exactly what the City is looking for.

Special Sessions – There will be a special session on May 30th with our planner Lisa Parks and possibly again on June 6th to meet with Clay Myers from the Sheriff’s Office regarding the hiring of a police chief.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Helland moved to adjourn the May 23, 2006 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Robert E Cousart _____
Clerk/Treasurer _____