

City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Special Session Minutes
May 30, 2006

The Special Session Meeting of the Kittitas City Council began at 6:30 p.m., May 30, 2006, at Community Hall. Mayor Cousart along with council members Gilmour, Gay, Huber, and Helland were present. Councilmember Simpson was absent.

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

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Union Negotiations – 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

Caribou Creek DOT Grant – Councilmember Helland moved to approve the Mayor to sign the agreement for the \$300,000 DOT grant on the Caribou Creek Bridge Project and it was seconded by Councilmember Huber. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

Police Chief Applicants – The Mayor reported the City has received three applications for the police chief position. Bill Wuester with Canfield & Associates suggested we get an “agreement” rather than a “contract” when we hire a police chief.

Procedural Code/Hearing Examiner -- Lisa Parks, a principal planner and owner of Alliance Consulting Group, explained the options we have if we decide to go with a hearing examiner:

1. Have the Hearing Examiner make a suggestion and Council make the final decision.
2. Have the Hearing Examiner make the final decision and the appeal would go to Council.
3. Have the Hearing Examiner make the final decision and the appeal would go to Superior Court.

She explained a Hearing Examiner would lower the risk of the City being successfully challenged in Court. This process would still have the Council make the laws but would have the Hearing Examiner make sure the laws are followed according to the Code Book on an objective point of view. Also, this would allow Council to be free to discuss development happening in the City without influencing decisions to be made.

Council agreed they would make a decision on which procedure to use at the next special meeting on June 6, 2006, so a public meeting could be held at the June 27, 2006 meeting.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Huber moved to adjourn the May 30, 2006 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 4 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Robert E Cousart _____

Clerk/Treasurer _____