

City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Special Session Minutes  
August 29, 2006

The Special Session Meeting of the Kittitas City Council began at 7:00 p.m., August 29, 2006, at the New Life Assembly Church. Mayor Cousart along with Councilmembers Helland, Simpson, Gay, Gilmour, and Huber were present.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb, Officer Shuart, Officer Bayne, and Reserve Officer Costello.

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

Reserve Officer Costello explained to the audience what a **community block watch** is and what they can expect to get out of it. Issues that were brought up by residents were the City currently doesn't have enough police officers, crimes are happening during the day, crime is increasing, the kids seem to be getting younger, and some gang types are forming.

Some of the main points he discussed were:

1. Install block watch signs throughout the City.
2. Each street needs to have a coordinator in charge of contacting the other residents on that street and organizing meetings. Photos, names of residents in each household, and a map of the neighborhood are some items that should be gathered by each neighborhood organized.
3. The coordinator needs to keep the police department up to date with any changes of each group.
4. The citizens should be engraving belongings that can be easily stolen, taking photos of these items, and/or writing down serial numbers of these items.

Reserve Officer Costello encouraged whoever is elected as coordinator to get in contact with him and he will be available for the individual neighborhood meetings.

Also, Mayor Cousart announced that **Mike Studer** had successfully completed the hiring process for Chief of Police and would be starting in a couple of weeks or so.

Councilmember Helland moved to adjourn the August 29, 2006, meeting. Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Attest: Mayor, Robert E. Cousart \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk/Treasurer, Robin Newcomb \_\_\_\_\_