

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2006**

Mayor Cousart called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., September 12, 2006. Councilmembers present; Gay, Gilmour, Huber, and Helland. Councilmember Simpson was absent.

Staff present was City Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb, Public Works Lead Bosch, Police Chief Mike Studer, and WWTP Operator Howard.

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2006, meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2006, special meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Mark Hill – Proposed Car Wash
Mary Buetel – Parking permit for trailer parking
Joann Menth – Stop sign at 1st and Pierce Streets
Treasurer's Report

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Police Department

Police Chief Studer started his position as Chief of Police on Monday, September 11, 2006. Andy Bayne our paid reserve will be leaving on September 20th. Councilmember Gay suggested to Police Chief Studer to do an assessment of the personnel in the Police Department and report back to Council what he thinks will be needed for additional police officers. Councilmember Huber suggested re-filling Andy Bayne's contract since it is already in place.

Public Works Lead Bosch

Public Works Lead Bosch explained our attorney does not recommend using "children at play" signs as they can portray a false sense of security to children. It was suggested to possibly replace them with speed limit signs which would give additional speed limit signs in these areas of children playing.

He also reported the ordinances on stop signs throughout the City and the school zone need to be revised due to changes that have happened. Our attorney will revise these ordinances.

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Public Works Lead Bosch presented to Council a surplus listing of old equipment. Council suggested before surplusing these items to check into the policy that needs to be followed in doing so.

The Operating Engineers School is still interested in working with the City of Kittitas in getting some of the dirt streets paved possibly next year. Public Works Lead Bosch asked if there would be a couple of Councilmembers that would be willing to help with this project.

The new school is still waiting for the flashing light that has been ordered to be installed in front of the new school.

Council agreed that the Kittitas School District should be liable for City costs associated with the lift station that is installed at the new school.

Library Board

Chairperson Marylou Gilmour requested a surplus list of library books be approved by Council. Councilmember Helland moved to approve this list and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

She also explained that Kittitas County Headstart would like the Library to provide a story time for the students.

Chairperson Gilmour also requested to use the Library's carry forward balance (emergency reserves) from 2005 for new shelving at the Library.

Gray & Osborne

Jeff Stevens reported he is working on the water system plan along with Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb.

The WWTP construction is a little behind schedule. Gray & Osborne will be sending a letter to the contractor about their concerns of getting behind.

On the new street project we received one bid from Superior Asphalt. It came in almost \$100,000 over what was estimated. Jeff talked with TIB and there are no more grants available for this year. They both suggest we negotiate with Superior Asphalt and take the sidewalks out of the project for now rather than going back out to bid without the sidewalks. This would involve a redesign which would cost time and money. There is \$600,000 available for both construction and engineering and the bid came in at \$691,172.50 for Caribou Creek to Patrick Avenue and Patrick Avenue from Main Street to County Road 81. This does not include approximately \$100,000 which will be the engineering costs. If the sidewalks were taken out for now it would cut the cost about \$200,000 which TIB said they would have funding available for next year. There was one bid protest from Columbia Asphalt because they missed the bid

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closing. They had asked to move the bidding from 9/1/06 to 9/12/06 which was done. The 2nd addendum which explained the new bid time of 10:00 a.m. they didn't receive until 9/11/06. Jeff explained this needs to be passed by the City attorney and Gray & Osborne's attorney but he doesn't feel it will be an issue because Columbia Asphalt did receive all of the information before the actual bidding. Based on the recommendation from our engineer, Councilmember Huber suggested to move forward with the one bid and to negotiate with Superior Asphalt to not do the sidewalks for now after consultation with our attorney.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hearing Examiner Contract – Councilmember Huber moved to approve Mayor Cousart to sign the hearing examiner contract and Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes with Councilmember Gilmour abstaining.

Joann Menth – Joann Menth is again requesting a stop sign to be placed at 1st and Pierce Streets. Police Chief Studer said he would check into it.

Mark Hill – Mark expressed he doesn't feel he gets appropriate service from the City and our planner, Lisa Parks. Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb explained there must be an email issue as Lisa had sent several emails to him and they were not returned. Mayor Cousart suggested that Mark come into the office and talk to him about the situation.

Budget Ideas – Some budget ideas were discussed as follows:

Councilmember Helland – Put an emphasis on the police and street budgets

Councilmember Huber – Get a 3rd police officer

Councilmember Gilmour – Remodel the bathrooms in the Community Hall and City Hall, remodel the new courtroom/Council Chambers, new Police Office, Community Hall, Clerf building roof, and the drinking fountain

Councilmember Gay – Water rights, streets, sidewalks, parks, and remodel office buildings

Citizen suggestions – consolidate our Fire Department with Fire District #2

TAPE 1 SIDE 1 ENDS

NEW BUSINESS

Kevin Gibb UGA Letter – Councilmember Helland moved to approve Mayor Cousart to sign a letter on behalf of Kevin Gibb's property coming into the City of Kittitas UGA.

Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no. Also it was noted that the City of Kittitas should have representation at the Commissioner's September meeting regarding UGA approvals.

Mary Buetel – 15.08.050 restricts parking travel trailers in the City. Mary Buetel felt she was not treated fairly because when her father came to visit her she didn't register his RV with the

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City. She said that other RV's were parked throughout the City and didn't understand why. It was explained to her that the ordinance is for people living in the RV's and not RV's that are parked without occupancy.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Approval of Bills – Checks 11195 to 11231 and 990830 to 990831 for \$153,395.67 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

Approval of WWTP Pay Estimate #5 – Councilmember Helland moved to approve the WWTP Pay Estimate #5 for \$101,483.00 and it was seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

Approval of Payroll – Checks 6787 to 6814 and 999061 to 999064 for \$31,376.24 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no. Check 6786 was voided.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session started at 8:25 p.m. to discuss the 2007 union contract. No action was taken and the session ended at 8:32 p.m.

MAYORS REPORT

IACC Conference – Mayor Cousart requested any ideas on projects that could be taken to this conference at the end of October.

Jerry Harris – Jerry Harris who works for the County has had several citizens interested in disaster preparedness. She suggested having a public meeting on this topic and Council agreed.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Kevin Gibb/UGA – It was suggested again that the City of Kittitas needs representation at the Commissioners meeting in September regarding Kevin Gibb's property going into the City of Kittitas UGA.

Marie Smith Trailer Park – There was concern expressed again that Marie Smith's Trailer Park isn't complying with City Code. It was suggested that Public Works Lead Bosch and/or Police Office Shuart take pictures of this park.

County Health Department – It was suggested that Mayor Cousart contact the Health Department to see if they will offer their County services to the citizens of Kittitas.

