

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2006**

Mayor Cousart called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., October 24, 2006. Councilmembers present; Gay, Gilmour, Huber, Simpson, and Helland.

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

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:05 p.m. the public hearing for the CDBG eligible grant projects was opened to the public. Cal Jordan with Cal Jordan Associates led the hearing discussing the options available to the City. Some items of discussion were:

1. The local match usually is between 13% to 25%. The Fire Department match could be the cost of the Clerf Building.
2. The application is due (postmarked) by November 16, 2006.
3. At least 51% has to benefit low-moderate income families.
4. Even though the grant can be up to \$1,000,000, the grants are usually funded around \$500,000 or lower.

The public hearing was closed at 7:55 p.m. Councilmember Simpson moved to approve the use of CDBG programs to pursue the fire facility improvement. Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

TAPE 1 SIDE 1 ENDS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Helland moved to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2006, meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Huber. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Police

Police Chief Studer reported his department has received 3 applications for the new police officer position. He will continue to advertise through the end of November.

His department is working with the Housing Authority in removing a disruptive tenant.

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Police Chief Studer also reported that his department has started putting more time into code enforcement and currently are working on Railroad and Clark Streets.

Public Works Lead Val Bosch

Public Works Lead Bosch announced the New Streets Project Phase 2 should finish up this week or next with the striping.

Cole's Crossing II still has some unfinished items. Tony with Cascade Irrigation District suggests holding the bond until they get these items finished.

The school contacted Public Works Lead Bosch about their lift station being down. It was a plugged drain. Councilmember Gilmour suggested the Mayor send a letter to the school stating we need training on the lift station they installed.

A copy of the planning commission minutes were distributed to Council. They would like to increase the planning commission to 5 members instead of 3. Council voted for the additional 2 members as follows: Tina Morefield 5 votes, Tiny Allphin 2 votes, and Gary Gleason Jr. 3 votes.

Gray & Osborne sent the City a letter regarding the Wrangler Lift Station which could cost anywhere from \$40,000 on up to \$120,000 in repairs. Councilmember Simpson moved to approve having the Department of Labor & Industries Electrical Inspector re-inspect the lift station and it was seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 06-023– Amending School Zone Ordinance, was read by title and section only. The public hearing was opened and there were no comments. The public hearing was closed. Councilmember Gay moved to approve the ordinance amendment and it was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Mission Statement – Councilmembers Simpson and Gay made suggestions on changes to the proposed mission statement. Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb will type a rough draft for the Councilmembers to review.

Preliminary Budget – There will be a special meeting Thursday, October 26, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the 2007 budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing—Property Tax Levy – The public hearing for the property tax levy was opened. After discussion, the public hearing was closed. Councilmember Huber moved to approve the tax at 1% and Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

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END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 2

Ordinance 06-029– 2006 budget amendments was tabled until the November 14th meeting.

Chaplain Service Requested Support – Councilmember Huber suggested the Mayor contact Bert Marx with the Kittitas County Sheriff’s Department for more information on the chaplain services.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Approval of Bills – Checks 11288 to 11315 for \$327,111.83 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Simpson and seconded by Councilmember Helland. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

MAYORS REPORT

2007 Teamster Agreement – Mayor Cousart and Council agreed looking into a 3 year agreement with the Union would be a good idea. The next step will be the Union making a proposal to the City for the 2007 agreement.

Burn Situation at the WWTP – There have been quite a bit of non-burning items dumped at the dumpsite at the WWTP (tires etc.) Council agreed as of December 1, 2006, there will be no more dumping allowed at the WWTP especially since the burn ban for the entire City will go into effect December 31, 2006.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

City Newsletter -- Councilmember Simpson suggested a City newsletter be distributed either monthly or quarterly either by mail or available at the Post Office and City Hall.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Helland moved to adjourn the October 24, 2006, meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Simpson. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Robert E Cousart _____
Clerk/Treasurer _____