

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2007**

Mayor Cousart called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., May 8, 2007. Councilmembers present; Gilmour, Gay, and Huber. Councilmember Simpson and Councilmember Helland were absent.

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

Mayor Cousart led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2007, meeting and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Councilmember Gilmour

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Library Board – Chairperson Marylou Gilmour explained for the library annual report they had to do a physical inventory. The report has been completed and filed.

Kittitas County Commissioners have approved giving the library \$500 and will be sending a contract out for the City to sign and return.

Friends of the library had a bake sale and it was very successful.

The library recently was awarded a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for two computers. There will be a contract sent out on this also for the City to sign and return.

There are changes to the library policies which were handed out to Council. Councilmember Huber moved to approved these changes and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

There is a library board vacancy which the term would start June 1, 2007. The library board approved Terry Leader as the new library board member. Councilmember Huber moved to approve Terry Leader as the new library board member and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the library surplus list and Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

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The library has a person who needs to complete some community service work and they would like him to build new shelves for them. They would like to use their carryover fund balance on this rather than their 2007 budget.

Police – The police officers have now had a variety of training including Officer Stuart attending a gang training class.

The Mayor and Chief Studer have chosen Les Peratravich to replace Officer Beaton. They will have to start him close to the top of the scale. Chief Studer would also like to hire a paid reserve.

He explained they made a controlled drug buy at the south end of town and as a result, two people were arrested. They confiscated weapons and meth. A drug and alcohol counselor from Yakima estimated 35% of the residents of Kittitas have used meth.

A speaker will be coming to speak to students at Kittitas High School about drugs. He is a former drug addict. It will be May 18th at 8:00 a.m.

A local merchant donated \$300 for drug buy money.

Karen Archer at RSVP is coming into the office and helping out with Chief Studer's paperwork.

Gray & Osborn – Jeff Stevens reported the WWTP change order is still being reviewed by the funding agency. It should be out to the contractor later this week and is around \$45,000. There will be one more change order after this one for some small items. Councilmember Gilmour doesn't agree with paying the contractor the \$45,000. The WWTP change orders are just under 4% and typically they run 3-5% on a project this size.

The Caribou Creek Bridge Project has been discussed with Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and Kittitas County Conservation District. The negotiation is still in process as to how Schedule A, B, and C will evolve.

Public Works Lead Bosch – Cole's Crossing I (Contractor is Coy) said they will repair the sidewalks but other than that the bond should be able to be released. Councilmember Huber suggested getting a letter from Coy on these repairs. Council agreed they will release the bond once they have this in writing.

There is a Quadco meeting on May 18th. They give out grants from \$4,000 to \$12,000. Councilmember Huber suggested Public Works Lead Bosch go.

There is a bid for \$9.50 per ton for grindings on the streets which would be about \$98,000 for the town to be completed.

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Mayor Pro Tem – Mayor Cousart suggested Councilmember Huber as Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Helland won't be able to do this anymore. Councilmember Gay moved to approve Councilmember Huber as Mayor Pro Tem and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Helland won't be able to make all of the meetings due to a new job so Council agreed they need to advertise this position.

Councilmember Gay WWTP Report – Councilmember Gay spent two hours with WWTP Operator last week and it was very informational. There are a variety of reports and tests that are required by Department of Health and Department of Ecology. Councilmember Gay also suggests that the WWTP does need storage for the extra items located at the WWTP. WWTP Operator has requested a truck instead of a car in the past that would allow other uses also. The large generator at the WWTP is kept up by WWTP Operator also.

Councilmember Huber suggested checking into a storage rental for now until a decision is made. She suggested it to be up to the Mayor's discretion. Council agreed with this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 07-007 – WWTP Annexation – Lil with Alliance Consulting, our planner, suggested it would benefit the City to have the WWTP annexed into the City. It gives us more control over our own facility. No public hearing is required to annex our own facility. Councilmember Huber moved to approve this annexation and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion adding the legal description into the ordinance. The ordinance passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Comp Plan/Zoning Code/workshop dates – Lil with Alliance Consulting also explained the Planning Commission has finished their review of the comp plan amendment and has sent it out for the 60 day review. It is suggested that Council have 1-2 workshops and in addition 1-2 public workshops. Our planner was very impressed with the Planning Commission and the public on their input. The end of the 60 day review period is June 29, 2007. At that time Council can take formal action. If major amendments are made it is recommended to go back to the Planning Commission for review. Some of the major changes made were the housing element, the zoning code, and the critical areas update. The document is basically a completely new document.

The workshops were set up for Monday, May 21st and Monday, June 4th.

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NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Gilmour explained the **school has trees** that need to be watered and suggested the old fire truck be used. Council agreed.

He also asked what is going to happen with the **fire department**. Mayor Cousart said once the fire chief gets back to him he will let Council know.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of Bills – Checks #11731 to 11769 for \$13,360.56 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Approval of April Payroll/May Draw – Checks #7046 to 7059, 884071 to 884089, and 995071 to 995075 for \$39,675.64 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

MAYORS REPORT

WWTP Interlocal Agreement with Kittitas County Conservation District – Councilmember Huber moved to approve signing this agreement and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Hopesource Interlocal Senior Assistance Agreement – Councilmember Gay moved to approve the signing of this agreement and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Councilmember Gilmour asked what is happening with the **sign** at the south end of town. Public Works Lead Bosch explained that Todd Lopeman offered to repair the sign.

Councilmember Gay commented on the **employee sick leave accruals** and the size of some of them.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Gay moved to adjourn the May 8, 2007, meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Huber. The motion passed 3 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Robert E Cousart _____
Clerk/Treasurer _____