

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2007**

Mayor Cousart called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., August 14, 2007. Councilmembers present; Gilmour, Gay, and Huber. Councilmember Sorenson was absent.

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Lisa Parks, Planner
Councilmember Gilmour, Unfinished Business

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE LITIGATION

This session excludes the public for the purpose of discussing with legal counsel potential litigation from 7:03 to 7:18 p.m. Mayor Cousart announced another 15 minutes was needed until 7:33 p.m. Mayor Cousart announced another 10 minutes needed until 7:43 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 7:46 p.m. No action was taken.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Gray & Osborne – There was a pre-construction conference last Friday with the bridge contractor, MRM Construction. Jeff Stevens explained there will be a detour for local traffic but not heavy trucks. The detour will be upstream of the current bridge by way of a culvert. Gray & Osborne is working with Department of Fish & Wildlife on left over grant money that could be up to \$200,000. Most likely some of the irrigation pipe money will be used elsewhere on this project rather than on irrigation pipe this year.

The detour will take place around the middle of October when the irrigation water is shut off. Additional signage and lighting during the project will be the responsibility of the contractor.

Library Board – Chairperson Marylou Gilmour explained that the Regional Library

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Council Meeting Minutes
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Board will meet August 22nd, 2007.

The Summer Reading Program has ended for the summer and it was a great success.

There are two new computers from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at the Library.

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the surplus list of books and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

There is a window in the library that needs to be replaced and it was requested that Public Works Lead Bosch replace it.

In response to the complaint from the library patron on Library Manager, Maxine Steele, the library board has addressed a letter to Mayor Cousart regarding this issue.

Chairperson Marylou Gilmour explained they would like to increase Library Manager Maxine Steele's hours and pay.

Planner, Lisa Parks – Lisa explained the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing in July and is recommending a new planned development code and amended construction specifications to the City Council.

Either a workshop or public hearing can be scheduled by City Council at this time. Council agreed a workshop should be scheduled for September 25th at 6:00 p.m. and the public hearing at the 7:00 Council meeting the same night.

Lisa also explained the Gibb annexation request is progressing and the Brown Property is now continuing with their application which eventually will go in front of the hearing examiner.

Public Works Lead Val Bosch – Public Works Lead Bosch explained TIB would not approve the sidewalk project on Road 81. There is another grant that he will try and pursue.

The fire hydrant parts will be delivered later this week to repair the fire hydrant located by Councilmember Gilmour's house.

Police Department – Chief Studer explained they have received their two new vehicles from the County and should be receiving a couple of more laptops.

The Police Department had a meth arrest last week and an arrest of a member of the Dirty Thirty Gang member this last weekend.

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2007**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WWTP Storage – Department of Ecology sent the City a letter stating more storage area is needed at the WWTP. There is \$2,000 already in the 2007 budget for a storage unit.

WWTP Hire of full-time temporary trainee – The full time temporary trainee, David Cameron, was hired and will start September 11th. WWTP Howard is ill and will be hopefully taking some vacation time in September. Councilmember Gilmour knows a person that possibly could fill in for WWTP Operator Howard.

Councilmember position open – Councilmember Gilmour asked when we will be filling the 5th Council position. Councilmember Gay feels we should start the process to hire a temporary position for the 5th Council position until the November election when it will be filled. Council agreed to advertise this position in the newspaper.

Department of Ecology letter – Councilmember Gilmour thinks we should remove some of WWTP Operator Howard's duties away because of his overload of work.

NEW BUSINESS

Larry Baker – Mr. Baker was charged \$150 fee on his water bill because of the meter being covered and is disputing it even though this fee is in the City Code. The city attorney explained that we need to revise our collection process in our Code to become up to date with state law and suggests if Council wants to continue with this fee to send him to collection. Council would like Larry Baker to come to a council meeting.

Payroll Week Proclamation – Mayor Cousart read aloud the Payroll Proclamation.

Fire Department By-Laws – Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the Fire Department By-Laws and Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of Payroll and Draws – Checks #7091 to #7103, #887071 to #887088, and #998071 to #998075 for \$45,120.44 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Approval of Bills – Checks #11938 to #11993 for \$29,583.24 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no. Check #11938, #11939, and #11972 were voided.

