

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2008**

Mayor Arington called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., June 24, 2008. Councilmembers present; Gilmour, Gay, Turpin, and Camarata.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb, Officer Shuart, Officer Poole, and Chief Studer.

Mayor Arington led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2008, regular meeting and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Councilmember Turpin – Caribou Creek

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the edited agenda and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

CTED Rural Loan Funds – Kenny Spain with Washington State Community, Trade, and Economic Development explained the Rural Loan Funds Program the state provides. Their commercial lending goes out to local businesses and they are federally funded from USDA, HUD, US Forest Service and a few other agencies. The Rural Washington Loan Fund comes from HUD for local businesses.

The funding comes from HUD which goes to the state for businesses. It then is granted to the local government as a one-time pass thru federal loan and there is no liability to the jurisdiction. The funds MUST run through the local jurisdiction. There is a 3 party agreement and all paperwork is prepared by CTED. Some other businesses that have taken advantage are Canopy Country RV, Shoemaker Manufacturing, and Homestead. The local jurisdiction also can receive funds to compensate them for the work they do in this process including advertising for the public hearings. The business makes their loan payments to a contracting agent. If they go into arrears then CTED would come back into the picture. NEPA and SEPA would be required also which CTED prepares.

CTED has been involved in this program since 1986 and have done about 100 loans. The maximum loan they can grant is \$1,000,000 and the business must put in 10% of the loan. The interest rate is usually around prime and is a fixed rate. Johnny's Serv-U is

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interested in this program. Councilmember Gay moved to approve this loan process and hold a public hearing for the CTED Rural Loan Fund Program and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no. The public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2008.

Appointment of Councilmember – The 1st candidate, Pat Alvord, explained her interest in this position.

Mayor Arington requested we move this appointment to the next meeting since the 2nd candidate, Tony Nicholas, was not available for this meeting. This was continued to the meeting on July 8th. Council agreed to leave this open for new applicants also.

Police Department – Chief Studer explained that Officer Shuart has completed his service with the City of Kittitas. He will finish his last week on vacation.

Chief Studer presented Officer Shuart a certificate for his time of service and explained what a tremendous officer he has been. He will remain as a reserve officer. In addition, Mayor Arington also presented him with a proclamation -- Monday, June 30, 2008, will be Jerry Shuart III day.

Staff Reports – See handouts – Councilmember Gilmour doesn't agree with getting rid of the aid car and believes if we do that the EMS Grant will probably go away. Mayor Arington will check into this.

Treasurer's Report – See handouts

Delinquent Report – See handout

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Gray & Osborne – Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the #5 amendment to Gray & Osborne's engineering services and Councilmember Turpin seconded it. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no. This will leave just under \$10,000 in grant money from the WWTP project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hiring of Police Officers – Following the recommendations of the hiring committee, Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve hiring of Officer Shuart's replacement, which will be Shayne Poole, and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no. The beginning rate for this full-time union position will be Range 32 Step C which is \$3,076.61 per month (\$17.75/hr.). On his year anniversary he will move to Range 32 Step D.

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NEW BUSINESS

Community Church 100th Anniversary – Mayor Arington explained this has been moved to a future date.

Interlocal Agreement – Mutual Aid and Mobilization with other law enforcement agencies – Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve this interlocal agreement and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

Caribou Creek – Councilmember Turpin explained there were children swimming at the new bridge this last weekend. He suggested we post a “no swimming” sign. Council agreed to post a sign. Mayor Arington will contact the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of June Bills – Checks #12594 to #12619 and #770530 to #770531 for \$80,267.05 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Gay and seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

MAYORS REPORT

Court Clerk – Veronica Acevedo has been hired as the permanent, part-time court clerk at \$13.00 per hour. She has district court experience. Her first day was June 23, 2008.

Public Works Lead Position – Mayor Arington explained that Public Works Val Bosch has been promoted to the Public Works Lead Union Position on June 11, 2008. This is a step 32 in the union contract and is \$3,563.56 per month (\$20.56 per hour).

Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) – The County disburses this tax to the local government agencies. It has been recommended that we budget in 2009 for Community Hall repair/remodel and have a well, developed plan in place. This will have to go out to public bid for the contractor.

ASPEN – Mayor Arington explained that ASPEN would like to have a “community resource fair” on August 2nd to promote community awareness of available resources.

Trailer Parks – Mayor Arington would like to do a study of our ordinances over the next couple of months and clean them up in the trailer parks. He believes being proactive will work much better than reactive as we have in the past. Councilmember Gilmour explained Seattle didn’t renew business licenses on some apartment buildings that were not up to code. Councilmember Camarata believes that all trailer parks should have

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business licenses.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Public Hearings – Councilmember Camarata explained we should follow the handout on public hearings and only have them when required.

Annexation on Gibb Property – Future Wise filed another dispute on the Gibb Property coming into our UGA along with other properties.

Letter to the Editor – Councilmember Gay will be writing a letter to the editor for everyone to sign.

4-H Groups – Councilmember Gilmour suggested having the 4-H groups do some community service for our City since they use the Community Hall at no charge.

Temporary Help – Councilmember Gilmour suggested that all help be approved by Council so hiring “temporary help” won’t be abused in the future. No action was taken.

Council agreed that the WWTP position should be corrected and be made a union full-time permanent position. Mayor Arington will take care of this.

Drinking Fountain – Councilmember Gilmour explained there is an old drinking fountain that could be used at the Community Hall if Council would like to.

Block Watch – Councilmember Turpin explained the block watch is getting close to being ready.

Park Funds – Councilmember Turpin explained there is an interested citizen that has knowledge about receiving park funds and contacting legislation.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Camarata moved to adjourn the June 24, 2008, meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Turpin. The motion passed 4 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned 8:35 at p.m.

Attest: Mayor Arington _____

Clerk/Treasurer _____