

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2008**

Pro-Tem Mayor Gay called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., October 14, 2008. Councilmembers present: Turpin, Gilmour, and Camarata and Mayor Pro-tem Gay. Councilmember Alvord and Mayor Arington were absent.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb.

Pro Tem Mayor Gay led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2008, regular meeting and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the absence of Councilmember Alvord and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

No additions to agenda.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Library Board – Chairperson Marylou Gilmour reported they have 20 new volunteers for the library. Eight of those went through a training course.

She is requesting to run a small article in the newspaper to announce the library is still open to the public.
Council agreed.

The library board will be meeting with the Commissioners on September 22nd.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the surplus list and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Pro-tem Mayor Gay suggested we put on the reader board that the library is still open to the public.

Marylou also requested for Public Works Lead Bosch to put a light up on the west side of the library.

Fire Department – Chief Carbajal asked Council what they would like to do with the

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broken door at the Fire Station. Council agreed to wait for the remodel to get it fixed.

Staff Reports-- See handout

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Gambling Tax – Mayor Pro Tem Gay explained he talked to Bob McCollum at the Time Out Saloon about the gambling tax. He agreed to pay \$1,500 per year flat rate to the city for the gambling tax fee. Council agreed to check again with MRSC to see if renaming it a license fee would be more appropriate than a gambling tax since it is a flat fee.

Fire Department Grant Committee Report – Council agreed to postpone this until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 08-026 – 2008 Budget Amendment #7 – The public hearing was opened for discussion. Hearing no discussion, the public hearing was closed. Councilmember Camarata moved to approve this revised ordinance and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Draft of Title 16/Subdivision Code – The Planning Committee has provided a draft of the subdivision code Title 16 to the Council for their review. A workshop was scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on October 28, 2008, to discuss this revised code prior to the regular council meeting.

The public hearing for the subdivision code is scheduled for the council meeting on December 9, 2008.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of September Payroll and October Draws – Checks #7331 to #7343, #889081 to #889098, and #991081 to #991083 for \$47,231.42 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Gilmour and seconded by Councilmember Turpin. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

Approval of October Bills – Checks #12793 to #12828, and #770926, #770928, #770929, #771003, and #771031 for \$137,513.55 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Camarata and seconded by Councilmember Turpin. The motion passed 3 yes and 0 no.

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MAYORS REPORT

Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce – Mayor Pro Tem Gay explained the 2009 billing for the Chamber of Commerce is \$283. Council agreed to postpone this decision.

Proposed Budget – A draft of the 2009 budget was passed out to Council. Because of Mayor Aringtons absence at this meeting, he submitted a memo to Council explaining some items in the 2009 budget. Let the record show that this proposed budget is predicated upon replacement of interfund loans, restoration of beginning balances, building the current expense fund for the future by imposing a 20% utility tax, and increasing the water/sewer rates by 6% to cover operating costs.

Utility Tax – Councilmember Turpin explained a 20% utility tax would generate about \$100,000 per year. This would, as noted above, repay interfund loans, restore beginning balances, and building the current expense fund for the future. He would like it to be reviewed annually or every other year.

Water/Sewer Rates—Councilmember Turpin explained a 6% increase in water/sewer rates would be needed for the increase in water/sewer operating costs.

Councilmember Turpin explained he doesn't know how we got in this situation and said some other suggestions would be to eliminate the paid fire chief position and/or cutting the clerk/treasurer to half time.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Economic Development Group – There are a couple of meetings coming up if anyone is interested in attending. Contact Councilmember Turpin for information.

Palmiero Park – Councilmember Turpin explained there is a company possibly totally or partially funding improvements to this park. He would like to see some of the REET money go towards Palmiero Park also. Councilmember Gilmour explained there has been quite a bit of vandalism in the past at this park.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Turpin moved to adjourn the October 14, 2008, meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Camarata. The motion passed 3 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Attest: Pro-Tem Mayor Gay

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Clerk/Treasurer
