

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2008**

Mayor Arington called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 6:00 p.m., December 2, 2008.

Councilmembers present; Gilmour, Turpin, Gay, Alvord, and Camarata.

Mayor Arington led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

2009 Budget Workshop

BUDGET WORK STUDY MINUTES - - 12/02/2008 at 6 p.m. at City Hall

In attendance: Mayor Steve Arington, John Camarata, Sean Turpin, Jerry Gilmour, Pat Alvord and Jeff Gay. Three citizens at beginning followed by addition of 3 more.

Mayor Arington opened meeting with flag salute/pledge. Mayor Arington identified 3 issues to discuss coming out of the public hearing on the budget of the previous week.

1. ILA for prisoner care – flat fee or itemized. Consensus was for flat fee proposal. Secondly, the increase in cost for prisoner care for the coming year's contract of \$ ___ will be moved from general expense fund to 3/10 funds. This at the recommendation of city attorney.
2. Union employee raises. After discussion, vote was unanimous for leaving the budget line items as is reflecting the union contract 3% raise for union employees but council strongly wishes to have negotiations with union representative to see about reducing or eliminating the contracted raise due to city's financial constraints. Mayor Arington will write a letter to union representative addressing this.
3. Administrative raises. It was suggested by Councilperson Alvord that in response to strong feedback from the public hearing concerning the wisdom of giving raises to any employees at the same time the city puts in place taxes and increase in fees for water/sewer, we should forgo administrative raises at this time, but have discussion no later than end of June 2009 to consider administrative raises at that time, based on potential for better financial picture at that time. Additionally, remove the raise amounts from all pertinent line items in budget but leave benefit increases in place as contingency against unforeseen need for overtime, etc. After lengthy discussion, this was voted for approval: 4 for and 1 against. This savings of \$2700 will be applied to the Fire Department budget as follows: \$2500 to Fire chief salary (bringing up to \$6500) and \$200 to training (bringing up to \$1200).

Councilperson Turpin asked that we consider adjusting the sales tax revenue projection from \$55,255 to \$65,255 (\$10,000 difference) as he feels the first figure is too low. After lengthy discussion, a compromise of \$5,000 increase in the sales tax revenue projection

