

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2009**

Pro Tem Mayor Gay called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., January 13, 2009. Councilmembers present: Turpin, Gilmour, Camarata, and Alvord.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb and Police Chief Studer.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the minutes from the December 23, 2008, regular meeting and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve letting the Hinks discuss their complaint they filed on an employee and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gay explained this is a strong mayor form of government and this is an administrative item which is handled by the Mayor. Council's duties are legislative per the Councilmember Handbook. The motion failed 3 no and 2 yes.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Caribou Creek Bridge Pay Estimate #9 for \$374,124.49.

Councilmember Camarata moved to approve the amended agenda and Councilmember Alvord seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Clay Myers – Kittitas County Sheriff Interlocal Agreement – Clay Myers with the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office explained this interlocal agreement. The City of Kittitas has territorial jurisdiction and in order to comply with the law the city needs an interlocal agreement with the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office. They would not take action on the City of Kittitas municipal code. They would enforce state law. Pro Tem Mayor explained this coverage is needed within the city. The county has handled approximately 89 calls since September 2008 within the city limits. This agreement means if there is a need for law enforcement in the city they will be here but will not provide continual coverage 24 hours a day 7 days a week. A special meeting will be held Thursday, January 15th, 2009, at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., to discuss this further. Clay Myers suggested for the city to assign a percentage rather than a fixed dollar amount of the 3/10's money for the cost of this interlocal agreement.

Police Department – Brent Nierman, a prior union police officer who was laid off last September, has first right of refusal to fill the vacant police officer position. He is willing to accept this position at the pay of \$3,168.91 per month (\$18.28 per hour) and would like to come back with only 4 months left of his probation. Councilmember Alvord moved to approve this hiring and Councilmember Turpin seconded this motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

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Mayor Pro Tem Gay explained that during the flooding Public Works Lead Bosch and Police Chief Studer helped out tremendously and wanted to say thank you.

Library Board – Chairperson Marylou Gilmour reported the volunteers have been busy and last month they processed 275 books. She explained libraries in other areas of the country also have shut down due to budget cuts. Also, there are more people utilizing libraries including video rentals.

The library will be receiving \$6,500 from the county in 2009 which is higher than what was requested.

On February 10th and 12th the library has invited the children of the community for a cup of cocoa and book to go. They also get to make a valentine.

Last year they issued 48 new library cards.

She explained the Cascade One technical support contract wasn't budgeted as they weren't aware of it. Also, the heating fuel last year was budgeted for \$3,000 and was exceeded by \$900.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the surplus list and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fire Chief Appointment Update – Prior Fire Chief Roy Carbajal is willing to come back as the Fire Chief for \$6,500 per year which is less than he was making prior to resigning. Councilmember Alvord moved to approve hiring him and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no. Roy would like the city to enter into an agreement with Kittitas County Fire District #2. There will be more discussion on this at a later date.

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 1

Mayor Appointment – Oath of Office – There are 5 applicants for the mayor position. They are Fred Huber, Sean Turpin, Coy Lovell, Tony Helland, and Vicki Douvier. After interviewing each applicant, council voted on Fred Huber.

Personnel Committee – Councilmember Alvord explained a scope of work first needs to be defined. Other requirements are having public meetings with minutes, be a resident for at least one year, be voted in by council, and have a term of office. Some items she would like to see reviewed are job descriptions, performance reviews, salary reviews, leave of absences, and benefits review. Pro Tem Mayor suggested the council set a scope of work with an end date. Council agreed to not have an end date but give the “advisory board” certain tasks to complete. They would meet with the mayor and the mayor would bring it to the council. Councilmember Alvord moved to approve forming the personnel advisory board and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

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Linda Huber, Councilmember Alvord, Councilmember Turpin, and Tina Morefield are interested in being on this advisory board. Councilmember Camarata moved to approve these members and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 2

Surplus Process – Items needed to surplus are the 1991 Chevy Lumina, 2001 Ford Crown Victoria, and the 2004 Dodge Intrepid. Councilmember Alvord suggests advertising these surplus items in the newspaper. Pro Tem Mayor Gay suggested moving this to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

County Fire Protection – Fire Chief Carbajal would like an agreement in place with Kittitas County Fire District #2 and will continue to work on this.

Caribou Creek Bridge Pay Estimate -- Caribou Creek Bridge Pay Estimate #9 for \$374,124.49 was moved to be approved by Councilmember Turpin and seconded by Councilmember Gilmour. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of December Payroll and January Draws – Checks #7366 to #7379, #881281 to #881292, and #991091 to #991093 for \$34,417.52 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Turpin and seconded by Councilmember Camarata. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no. Checks #7372 and #7378 were voided.

Approval of December 2008 and January 2009 Bills – Checks #12954 to #12983 for \$19,050.91 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Alvord and seconded by Councilmember Camarata. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no. Councilmember Turpin asked what the update is on the lift station pump. Gray & Osborne will investigate this pump issue. A catch basket probably won't work with these pumps. They are out of the warranty period. Councilmember Gilmour thinks we need to figure this out and asked if we talked to the City of Ellensburg. Pro Tem Mayor Gay explained they don't want to get involved. We have applied for the Benton Street Lift Station and WWTP fine screen stimulus grants.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Position – Mayor Pro Tem Gay explained how much work there is for the mayor to do and was surprised as he didn't think there would need to be this much time allocated.

Flooding – A letter will be sent to the State Parks Department that work needs to be done on the bridge by the WWTP. It is too low and needs to either be raised or a culvert installed.

Volunteers – There are several residents that would like to volunteer in the city.

