

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2009**

Mayor Huber called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., August 25, 2009. Councilmembers present: Turpin, Gilmour, Camarata, Alvord, and Gay.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb.

Mayor Huber led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2009, regular meeting without the suggested amendment and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2009, special meeting and Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

CTED Energy Efficiency Block Grant – Councilmember Turpin

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

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

Marylou Gilmour – She was wondering when we will get a flag put back up at City Hall. It would be nice for it to be up for Labor Day. Public Works Lead Bosch will get a hold of the telephone company to use their truck.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Delinquent Report – See handout – Councilmember Turpin wondered if it was possible to only show those customers that are over 30 days past due.

Treasurer's Report – See handout – Mayor Huber explained we have received approximately \$16,000 from Cole's Crossing I and approximately \$8,000 from Farmview for building permit revenue. This has put this revenue over what was budgeted.

Mayor Huber also stated dog license revenue is over budget. Councilmember Gilmour explained he is still getting complaints from the land owners that have renters who have dogs but they are getting the notices. He believes the dog owner should receive the notice and not the landowner but quite a few of the owners have the rental property in their name. The letter did state one of the reasons they are receiving the notice is because they are the owner of property where a dog is located. Councilmember Turpin suggested possibly putting the notice on the house rather than mailing it.

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Councilmember Alvord explained we are under budget in several areas and is pleased. Mayor Huber explained there will be some unexpected labor costs due to some unforeseen circumstances.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fireworks – Councilmember Turpin believes our ordinance should be limited to July 4th and December 31st which would copy Kittitas County’s ordinance. Public Works Lead Bosch explained he and Chief Studer are looking for the owner of Alpine Estates as there is some fire danger in that area. Councilmember Alvord moved to have this ordinance drawn up with these dates which match the Kittitas County Ordinance and to charge \$100 permit fee to the fireworks stand in addition to the business license fee. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Small Communities in Rural Counties Grant – This grant can be written for public safety which is police/fire, environmental quality, recreation and community life, and economic development. Mayor Huber explained he believes it would be nice to focus on a project in place rather than a new project. This grant can be used for fire, police, and public works but 40% of the grant is based on “ready to go” (engineering and design complete, environmental reviews complete, bid documents ready etc.) projects. Mayor Huber explained he told Cal Jordan that City Hall’s interior demolition will be complete by September 10. Councilmember Gilmour would like to see a new building for Public Works. Councilmember Turpin expressed concern because the Fire Department Grant has been waiting for over a year. Mayor Huber explained to Council that Cal Jordan can’t finalize the set of prints until the building is demolished inside. Councilmember Alvord moved to approve applying for this grant to be used for the Police Department and Fire Department remodel and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 and Councilmember Gilmour voting no.

Councilmember Alvord moved to require our architect, Cal Jordan, to present us with plans by the end of September and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Gilmour explained the reason Cal Jordan wants to wait on the plans until after the demolition of the interior of the building because of what they might find inside the walls especially in the Fire Department.

Councilmember Alvord suggested posting a notice for volunteers on the demolition. City Hall will be moving Friday, August 28. The Fire Department door needs to be put in at the Heistand Building.

Councilmember moved to approve resolution #09-014R for the Small Communities in Rural Counties Grant and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Library Fund – Utilities – Marylou Gilmour passed out a letter explaining the year to date of the expenses of the library and an estimate of the remainder of the year. The library is asking for financial assistance for 2010 for the library. She is unsure what the county will give next year and would like to see a transfer from the general fund to the library fund. They are hoping the Gates Grant will issue grants in 2010 for new computers.

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 1 – 7:45 p.m.

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Councilmember Alvord asked if they ever have had any community events. Marylou Gilmour explained it is hard to get much support in this city. September 2nd is the date the Regional Library Board is meeting in Kittitas and the library will submit their budget at that time. Councilmember Gay explained he would like to support the library in 2010 but doesn't have enough budget information at this time. Councilmember Turpin would like to see the city give the library some money in 2009 even though they have been great on their expenditures. He believes we should be supporting the library like we are supporting every department in this city this year. Councilmember Gay disagrees giving the library money when it still has money in its fund as this is a tough argument to make. He would like to see some other projects completed like the Community Hall Roof or help in the office. Mayor Huber explained if the library does not receive money from the county the city then would have to pay utilities, insurance, etc. on the library like it does with the Community Hall. What the county gives to the City of Kittitas library is based on what percent of county residents use the library and it is around 60%. Councilmember Gilmour moved to have the city transfer \$2,500 from the general fund to the library fund for 2009 as they provide a service just like the police, fire, and water/sewer. Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 yes and Councilmember Gay and Alvord voting no. A budget amendment ordinance will be presented for approval at the next council meeting.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve having Cal Jordan apply for the Energy Assistance Block Grant for the Fire Station, Police Department, and Public Works if the funds are available for all three and Councilmember Alvord seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

Development/Pre Application Fees – Currently, the city pays for any planning fees prior to a developer submitting an application (which is the pre-application stage). Councilmember Alvord believes part of the pre development cost is part of doing business. Councilmember Gilmour asked when the improvements will be done at Farmview. It was explained they need to be done with them on the two units being built prior to getting their certificate of occupancy permit. A suggestion was stating the city would pay the first few hours in the pre-application stage and after so many the developer is responsible for the costs. Also discussed was if big retail development would come in and how they would be charged in the pre-application stage. Council suggested getting our planner, Lisa Parks, opinion on this.

UGA Report/Resolution – Councilmember Gilmour explained he talked to Jan at the county regarding the UGA and she suggested not doing anything until after the meeting tomorrow. There is a meeting tomorrow and there will be recommendations on what the City of Kittitas should do. Councilmember Turpin explained he talked with Paul Jewell, one of the County Commissioners, and he said don't pay to have a report and resolution done until the council meets with the commissioners and the county public works. The county thinks they have it where they want it to be right now and want to pass it by Council so a decision can be made. Councilmember Alvord explained we have heard this before from the county. The county wants to go to each community individually to help them make a decision. Mayor Huber explained any costs should be paid by the county. Council suggested holding off on this and having the mayor calling the commissioners to set up a time to meet. It was also suggested having everyone involved in the process attend this meeting including our planner, Lisa Parks.

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 2 – 8:30 p.m.

