

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2009**

Mayor Huber called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., November 10, 2009. Councilmembers present: Turpin, Gilmour, Camarata, and Gay.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Robin Newcomb and Police Officer Nierman.

Mayor Huber led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the minutes from the October 27, 2009, regular meeting. Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Councilmember Gay – Mission Statement

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

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

Rick Hink asked if he needs to re-apply for the council position. Clerk Treasurer Newcomb explained he needs to bring in a letter of interest to City Hall.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Library Board – Marylou Gilmour explained Becky Bosch was named as the new chairperson for the library. There is a vacancy on the board. Elaine O’Neal has submitted a letter of interest. Councilmember Gay moved to approve hiring her and Councilmember Turpin seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

December 5th the Winter Fest and Spaghetti Feed will be held at the Community Hall. Santa Claus will also attend this.

Councilmember Turpin moved to approve the surplus list and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

Lisa Parks, Planner – She attended the Kittitas County Planning Commission Public Hearing regarding the UGA compliance for the City of Kittitas. They recommended supporting option 1 which maintains the city’s comprehensive plan as the city adopted it and they should have a decision soon. The COG will be looking at re-allocating population and will be an important step for the City of Kittitas. This meeting will be November 18th at 7:00 p.m. The commissioners will have a hearing on this December 1st at 2:00 p.m.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PRELIMINARY PUBLIC HEARING -- Review/Discuss 2010 Budget –The public hearing was opened at 7:11 p.m. Richard Hink asked if the police department pays water, sewer, and power. Clerk Treasurer Newcomb explained they are on the same meter as City Hall.

He also asked why the fire department budgeted \$1,500 for gas and why we have to purchase \$15,000 of mutual aid equipment. It wasn't like this in the past he said. He would like this explained better. Councilmember Gay explained we have to have like for like equipment. Rick Hink explained in the past if he needed a piece of equipment he just called Ellensburg. Councilmember Turpin believes we should see what the mutual aid agreement says before we spend this much money for equipment and asked if anybody has tried to get this agreement. Both the Mayor and Chief Carbajal have tried several times to contact Chief Sinclair with KVFR. Councilmember Gilmour believes we should bypass Chief Sinclair and go directly to the board. Mayor Huber stated we will set up a meeting with the board to discuss this.

Rick Hink stated all of the fire engines that KVFR has right now are newer than ours so it is still going to cost us. Councilmember Gilmour also asked if Cle Elum and Thorp would train our volunteers so we wouldn't have to pay \$9,000 to train them. Councilmember Camarata explained the training budget is to send them to school and not for their local training. They are two different items. Councilmember Turpin doesn't understand why in 2007 we spent money on radios and now we are budgeting them again for 2010. He also thought the Fire Department would be purchasing the radios over several years but has budgeted them all this year. Councilmember Gilmour stated if he had been on the council ten times it was ten times of buying radios.

Mayor Huber explained these questions need to be answered by Chief Carbajal since it is his budget and to come into City Hall for a copy of the mutual aid equipment list.

The public hearing was closed at 7:25.

Councilmember Turpin has concern on the WWTP project and when the loan will have to be start being paid back. He asked if we should start budgeting in 2010 for this loan payment. It was explained that the first payment doesn't start until one year after the project is finished.

Councilmember Gilmour asked if we knew how much yet to budget for the audit and why water/sewer hookups aren't in the budget. These possible revenues could be put in if the council wants but isn't required.

Mayor Huber explained that the City of Ellensburg did not pay for a portion of the City of Kittitas' Kittcom fee for 2009. The last council meeting there was a misunderstanding on this.

MISSION STATEMENT – Councilmember Gay had some suggestions on changing the mission statement. He would like it to be labeled the vision statement. He will make the changes and bring it to the next meeting.

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NEW BUSINESS

Farmview/Cascade View Final Plat Approval – Our planner, Lisa Parks, explained this is a re-plat of the original plat. The development is officially approved. This is a closed record proceeding where the council looks to make sure the conditions of the hearing examiner have been met. If they have been met council would instruct the mayor to sign off on it. Council is not allowed to make any changes of the approval. The recommendation is based on a review by all staff to approve this final plat with the conditions of an approved financial surety agreement and make sure all fees are paid to the city. Councilmember Gilmour asked about streetlights. Lisa Parks explained this was to be taken care of with the original plat. Randy Bergren explained these lights would be installed during the development. Councilmember Gilmour asked what it would take to lower the size of the lots allowed in the city to 7,000 square feet. Lisa Parks explained that the Planning Commission can look at this again at a later date. Councilmember Turpin moved to approve this final plat and the mayor signing it and for it to be subject to the City receiving the financial guarantee and that all fees are paid to the city. Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 1

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of October Payroll and November Draws – Checks #7496 to #7509, #E881014 to #E881025, and #E990191 to #E990192 for \$34,318.33 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Gay and seconded by Councilmember Camarata seconded the motion. Check #7501 was voided. The motion passed 3 yes and Councilmember Turpin voted no. Councilmember Turpin believes union employees are getting raises without council approval. Union contracts are approved by council but not individual union employee raises. He disagrees with this. The letter dated June 2, 2009, from the Teamsters Union states “The wage scale and step for the City Clerk/Treasurer should be at a level 32 Step D, which is three years experience in that position. Once the City Clerk/Treasurer reach’s four years of experience she would move to the next step in the progression”. On October 10, 2009, Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb moved to level 32 Step E as this was her four year anniversary.

Approval of November Bills –Checks #13486 to #13512, #E771030 \$18,587.26 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Turpin and seconded by Councilmember Camarata. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

MAYORS REPORT

Voting – Mayor Huber thanked the citizens for voting. He also explained there was a USDA RD event a couple of weeks ago and they presented the city with the loan/grant award plaque.

Energy Grant – The city received the energy grant and we will know next week how much we will receive.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSION

None

ADJOURN

Councilmember Turpin moved to adjourn the November 10, 2009, meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Camarata. The motion passed 4 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Frederick Huber

Clerk/Treasurer
