

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2009**

Mayor Camarata called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., December 8, 2009. Councilmembers present: Gilmour, Gay, Helland, Huber, and Lovell.

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

Mayor Camarata led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve the minutes from the November 24, 2009, regular meeting. Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Councilmember Gilmour – New Business

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

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

Dorothy Nicholas – There were a lot of dogs running around during the Gazebo Christmas lighting and she would like to see these dogs on leashes in the future.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Library Board – Chairperson Becky Bosch thanked Mayor Camarata for coming to the library board meeting the other night. The library should receive around \$4,000 in revenue from the county for 2010.

There were about 60 people at the Winterfest Spaghetti Feed on Saturday. They had to clean up the hall prior to this function.

Usage is up in the library especially computer usage.

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

Gray & Osborne – Mike Meskimen reported they received a thank you, which included some pictures, from the city for their participation in the Operating Engineer Paving Project. Gray & Osborne framed these pictures for the city.

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He also explained the Caribou Creek Bridge Project started back in 2003. As the project was added on to the dollar amount increased to \$2,327,665.52. The various granting agencies were Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), Department of Fish & Wildlife (FRIMA), Department of Transportation (DOT), and Council of Governments (COG).

Councilmember Gay moved to approve the Caribou Creek Bridge Change Order #11 for \$0 and Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Council thanked Gray & Osborne for their hard work on this project and for seeking out the majority of the grant funds.

Public Works Lead Bosch explained we received the bids for the landscaping of the bridge project. This is the last piece of the Caribou Creek Bridge Project.

Mike Meskimen explained now that the project is complete, the maintenance on the water diversion structure should be turned over to the Gibbs.

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the acceptance of the Caribou Creek Bridge Project as complete and Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

**7:22 P.M. -- EXECUTIVE SESSION- 30 MINUTES – WARM SPRINGS CONTRACT
NEGOTIATIONS**

**7:46 P.M. – MAYOR CAMARATA ANNOUNCED THE RECONVENE OF THE COUNCIL
MEETING**

Councilmember Gay moved to approve Gray & Osborne and/or Larry Martin to contact the Clerf's attorney about a possible water purchase and to contact West Water Research about an appraisal. Councilmember Coy seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 09-020 2010 Budget – The public hearing was held on November 24th for this ordinance. Councilmember Gilmour asked if we were going to reduce the B&O Tax. Mayor Camarata explained that wasn't going to happen. Councilmember Gay moved to approve this ordinance and Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Mission Statement -- Councilmember Gay explained he made a few changes from last year and handed each council member a copy. Councilmember Huber moved to approve the revised Mission Statement and Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Councilmember Gay moved to have Council go into executive session to discuss the union contract and Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

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7:56 P.M. MAYOR CAMARATA ANNOUNCED COUNCIL WILL GO TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR 15 MINUTES TO DISCUSS THE PLANNING AND ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGY TO BE TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL DURING THE COURSE OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND NEGOTIATIONS.

8:10 P.M. – MAYOR CAMARATA ANNOUNCED THE RECONVENE OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

Union Contract – Councilmember Gay moved to approve a counter offer on the union contract to pay 90% of health insurance cost, no pay increase for 2010, 2% for 2011, and a 3% for 2012. Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. Councilmember Gilmour requested splitting Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Brenda Bach to 50% street and 50% water/sewer since there is little work for two people at the wastewater treatment plant. There is concern because Department of Ecology requires two full-time employees at the wastewater treatment plant. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

2010 EMS Interlocal Agreement – Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve this interlocal agreement and Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Water Issues – Councilmember Gilmour is worried about the well sitting and not running. He would like to get it fixed. It needs to be discussed further as DOE needs to be consulted.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of November Payroll and December Draws – Checks #7510 to #7534, #E881191 to #E881213, and #E991201 to #E991202 for \$39,386.42 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay seconded the motion. Checks #7531 and #7532 were voided. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Approval of December Bills – Checks #13537 to #13558 for \$38,854.58 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

MAYORS REPORT

COG Members – Mayor Camarata explained we need a 2nd COG member. Councilmember Huber volunteered to be the second member and Council agreed. Councilmember Gilmour asked if we could get some money for the Car Show and Fiddlers. Councilmember Huber said the hotel/motel tax would be good for these events.

Councilmember Huber explained we need to get the sewer line installed to the south end of town and this would be a good type of project for COG funds.

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Mayor Camarata explained we had a citizen state at the last meeting we didn't advertise the vacant councilmember positions correctly. He read the ad and stated that we did follow the procedure correctly.

The City Hall is now gutted completely and Mayor Camarata thanked Councilmember Gilmour, Public Works Lead Bosch, and Huber Construction for their hard work. There were other volunteers also including Daryl Dees, Fire Chief Carbajal and his crew, and Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager Cecil Howard.

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE 1 – 8:33 P.M.

It is possible we will have to hire someone to finish demolishing the inside of the Fire Station. If they are hired specifically for this project it would have to be prevailing wage.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

ADJOURN

Councilmember Helland moved to adjourn the December 8, 2009, meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gay. The motion passed 5 yes 0 no. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Attest: Mayor John Camarata _____

Clerk/Treasurer _____