

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2011**

Mayor Camarata called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., April 26, 2011.
Councilmembers present: Helland, Hink, Gilmour and Huber. Councilmember Gay was approved to be late for the meeting.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb and Police Chief Nierman.

Mayor Camarata led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Huber moved to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2011 regular meeting.
Councilmember Helland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no,

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Councilmember Hink moved to approve the agenda and Councilmember Gilmour seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

Tina Morefield - Planning Commission

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Treasurer's Report – See handout

Monthly Budget Discussion – Revenue Review

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Selection of City Engineer – Councilmember Gilmour asked if we did this already. It was explained that was for the sidewalk project. Councilmember Huber moved to approve hiring Gray & Osborne and Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. Councilmember Helland explained he looked at a couple of different cities and thinks it is a time for a change. He was pleased with HLA. He talked with the City of Naches who is pleased with HLA. They switched to them from Gray & Osborne. Councilmember Huber would like specifics as to what he likes about HLA. Councilmember Helland doesn't believe the as-builts were done right and also doesn't believe we should have had to pay for a piece of pipe they didn't know about. The motion passed 3 yes and Councilmember Helland voting no.

NEW BUSINESS

Five K Electric Change Order #1 \$5,660.00
Five K Electric Change Order #2 \$2,171.04
Tri Ply Construction Change Order #5 \$2,415.79
Tri Ply Construction Change Order #6 \$1,592.75
Meyer's Roofing Change Order #4 \$12,616.15

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Operator – Mayor Camarata explained he would like to eliminate this position and hire an equipment operator. Councilmember Hell and asked if we have someone to run the equipment. Our part time operator can run all the equipment except the grader. Tiny Allphin suggested an equipment opera tor will not want to do labor work so he suggested hiring an equipment operator/laborer. Councilmember Helland suggested getting the job descriptions for public works lead and the part time operator and creating a new job description. Council member Helland and Gilmour offered to work on re-writing this job description.

Hiring Part Time Street Helper – Councilmember Helland moved to approve hiring Merle Baumgartner as the part time street helper at \$12.48 per hour. This position is budgeted for 768 hours for the year. Councilmember Hink seconded the mot ion. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

Hiring of Part Time Administrator – Mayor Camarata explained a councilmember recommended this to him. He also explained the attorney and architect recommends this also. In addition, two of the granting agencies are concerned with having someone able to manage the grants. It would be over \$4,000 per month for 30 hours a week to hire a part time administrator. Councilmember Huber doesn't think we should be listening to our architect on this subject. She also explained small cities can't afford a city administrator and where in the budget will this come from. Councilmember Gilmour explained this position would be the Mayor's helper. Councilmember Gilmour moved to approve hiring a part time administrator. Councilmember Helland explained the City of Naches made their administrator pay contingent on performance. Councilmember Huber explained at budget time we were crunched just hiring the part time librarian, clerk, and street helper. Councilmember Huber explained we need to look at the finances first to see if we can afford it and Council agreed. She also explained you can't expect a city administrator to know how to write grants. Mayor Camarata explained one of the administrators interested in this position wants a 6 month contract at \$35 per hour.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT

Approval of April Bills – Checks # 14534 to # 14559 and #E773113 for \$62,817.61 were moved to be approved by Councilmember Huber and seconded by Councilmember Hink. The motion passed 5 yes and 0 no.

END OF TAPE I SIDE 1

MAYORS REPORT

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Personnel Policy – Mayor Camarata asked if there is any discussion on personnel policies this week. Council will discuss this at the next meeting.

Tri Ply Construction Negotiations – Mayor Camarata explained we are negotiating with Tri Ply Construction on the final contract.

Street Lighting – Councilmember Helland would like to see more street lighting in the city. Councilmember Huber suggested writing a letter to the PUD Commissioners.

Palmiero Park – Councilmember Helland suggests taking out the fence at Palmiero Park.

Community Garden – Some citizens would like to continue with the community garden. They need to contact the Mayor.

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Street Sweeping – Mayor Camarata explained we will wash the streets and then have the City of Ellensburg sweep them.

Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb – Councilmember Huber and Gay thanked Clerk/Treasurer Newcomb for her service and appreciate everything that Robin has done for the City. Councilmember Gay also thanked Robin for getting the annual report done prior to leaving.

Water Rights Negotiation – Councilmember Gilmour asked where we are with the water rights negotiations.

Planning Commission – Tina Morefield explained the planning commission would like more support from the city council. The planning commission will give a monthly or quarterly review in the future.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Attest: Mayor John Camarata

Clerk/Treasurer
