

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2011**

Mayor Helland called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. September 27, 2011. Councilmember's present was Gilmour, Hink, Gay and Huber.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Lee, Officer Taylor, and Utility Worker Nash.

Mayor Helland led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Hink made a motion to approve the minutes from September 13, 2011, Councilmember Huber seconded the motion. The motion carries 4 yes and 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Mayor Helland asked to move #6 unfinished business to #4. Councilmember Gay moved to approve the amended agenda, Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. The motion carries 4 yes 0 no.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Vacant Council Seat – Seat #2 will be filled, three applications have been submitted. Theresa Jacobson, Pat Cort and Barney Utter. Mayor Helland asked if Council wanted to interview them, Gilmour asked if you could interview in an open meeting, Mayor Helland said it could be done. Councilmember Gay made a motion to nominate Linda Huber for the open Council Seat, Gay thinks her knowledge is important to the Council, Councilmember Hink seconded the motion for position #2. Mayor Helland asked if there was any discussion. Councilmember Gilmour stated how that could be done if there has been no resignation, Councilmember Huber said that the motion would be on the acceptance of Huber to seat #2 then she would resign her current seat. Pat Cort was curious as to why at the time of needing to sign up for re-election Huber did not sign up? Councilmember Huber stated she had three interviews at a job that would be very time consuming, and she was notified Thursday night of filling week that she did not get the job. Huber felt if she was to take a job with another taxing entity her council position would conflict with that. She also stated she should feel like she should spend more time with her family, and the very next week they went into executive session on water rights and Huber felt like help, so then she felt guilty. It was moved and seconded contingent on Huber's resignation from her current seat, to be elected into seat #2. 3 yes 1 no Councilmember Gilmour. Mayor Helland asked both Theresa and Barney if they would like their names in Council position #3. Mayor Helland stated he knew Barney for 2 ½ years, Councilmember Gay asked if Mayor Helland was prepared to swear in a new Councilmember tonight, Gay stated that the City needed to accept Huber's resignation and then swear her in to seat #2. Mayor Helland asked Pat Cort if she would like to be considered, if she got the position she would serve the current term and then once elected for the new position Cort would have to resign the position and be re-sworn back in. Pat Cort stated yes she would be interested. Councilmember Gay asked clerk/treasurer Debbie Lee to read Councilmember Huber's letter of resignation. Councilmember Gay moved to accept Huber's resignation, Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. 3 yes 0 no Councilmember Gilmour. Mayor Helland proceeded to swear in Councilmember Huber to seat #3. Mayor Helland stated the City has 3 candidates Pat Cort, Theresa Jacobson and Barney Utter. Councilmember Gay thanked all three candidates for wanting to be considered for the Council position; he knew all three for a number of years.

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Councilmember Gay thought the candidates should all say something about themselves. Pat Cort stated that she has lived in Kittitas for 4 years, she has been researching the City's water district and WTP, has been attending Council meetings, not afraid of a challenge. She has been on the Parks and Garden committee for 3 years. She listens to what people have to say. Theresa Jacobson has lived in Kittitas for 25 years, has a family business, hair salon, and Laundromat. Her father was a liaison for the city of Kittitas. She has raised her children in Kittitas. She understands it takes money; co-ordination would like to see the town grow. Barney Utter stated he has lived in Kittitas for 2 ½ years moved here from Idaho, he managed a RV park he was asked to be on Council in Potlatch, his wife was transferred to Ellensburg, He thinks he could bring a lot of ideas and he is retired so he could help out wherever needed. Councilmember Gay asked Pat Cort what changes she would like to see, she stated more community involvement. Councilmember Gay asked if Theresa could change 1 or 2 things she stated she would like to close the communication gap and make it a solid chain, and get more information out to the community and possibly more people would fill the gap citizens and businesses. Councilmember Gay asked Barney what skills he had to assist the City. Mr. Utter stated that he has worked with the public in the RV Park, taking ideas and made a lot of improvements, and finds the council very interesting. Mayor Helland asked if anyone had any more questions. Councilmember Gay nominated Theresa Jacobson for seat #3, Councilmember Gilmour seconded the nomination, moved and seconded that Theresa Jacobson is nominated. Councilmember Huber asked the question that the position would be open in January 2012 and be a quick turnaround. Councilmember Huber said the seat would be vacated in 90 days, Councilmember Gay thought it would make logical sense to put Theresa in the position for the next two months. There was a motion and a second 4 yes 0 no. Mayor Helland proceeded to swear in Theresa Jacobson to position #3.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

McKenzie Morse – concerned that there is another daycare/after school business coming to town, she is planning on opening her in April of next year. The other business is looking at a place about zoning codes. Ms. Morse was asking if the zoning could be changed. Council explained that competition is good, and that if a variance is required they would have to look at it at that time if it benefited the City of Kittitas. Councilmember Huber was confused as to what Ms. Morse was asking? Councilmember Huber explained that it would make the council quazi judicial and they are not in the position to re assure Ms. Morse of anything.

STAFF REPORTS

Parks & Garden- Pat Cort presented the Council with their ordinance for the Park and Gaden Committee, Mayor Helland will send the ordinance to the City attorney for review. Mayor Helland said the presentation was a very good one. Pat stated there was a sign-up sheet if anyone was interested in joining the committee. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for the ordinance after the City's attorney looks over it.

Streets- King Street is making headway and the crew is making their way towards 3rd street. Councilmember Hink was curious to what the alarm was about, Bryan the Utility Worker did not know.

Three month projection- Councilmember Gilmour was concerned who was going to pay for the audit, Mayor Helland said the City will worry about that when it comes, Gilmour was confused as to why is says 2011. The City has already paid for the previous audit. Councilmember Huber thanked the clerk/treasurer for getting the

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information out; she asked about the budget timeline possibly having something ready for the last meeting in October, he would consider having another retreat, to meet informally.

Councilmember Gay asked for a 5 minute recess.

NEW BUSINESS

Farmview – asking for a release of their development bond. Councilmember Gay did not quite understand, Councilmember Gilmour said he was not done; there are not any street lights, no pathways and no park. Mayor Helland's fear is that Randy Bergman takes the money somewhere else and not finish the job. Councilmember Huber assumes there is a developmental agreement. Randy Bergman said that the bond was only for sidewalks per the RPD (Rural Plan Development). This matter is tabled until the planner tells the City that the requirements have been met. Council had discussion regarding the sidewalks.

Allphin – Did not come to the meeting due to a family emergency.

Payment Approvals – September 27, 2011 bills 14,107.02 Councilmember Gay made a motion to approve September's bills, Councilmember Hink seconded the motion. Councilmember Gilmour \$1500 more in the Vac truck does it work, Mayor Helland told Gilmour that there was \$10,000 in the budget to fix the truck it's in the budget and until he gets done with it, not much can be done. Councilmember Huber stated that the Mayor could use his best judgment on what to do. 4 yes 0 no.

MAYORS REPORT

Cell phones – Department heads have cell phone/walkie-talkie type phones and they work good, official use only.

Wasp problem – Mayor Helland asked if the problem continues, does the City have council approval to call Orkin. Yes.

Soil Test – Still have not gotten the results back from the soil test on the fuel tank that was found.

Fire Department – The washing machine that was purchased was not in the construction budget. Mayor Helland will discuss this with the Fire Chief.

Speed Limit – possibly lowering the speed limit to 20 mph for the entire City. It has to be done by ordinance. This is coming on the recommendation of the Police Chief. Discussion was had about 20 mph being justified, and the speed limit in the School Zone.

CD – maturing at the end of the month, Council needs to make a decision as to what to do about this. Cash Balance and terms of all CD's by next meeting.

Cal- Gray & Osborne – looked at the parking lot and the measurements are not right, catch basin is in the wrong spot. The fix is to take out the road cone used as a coupler/replace. Columbia Asphalt will try to tweak

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it to make it work. Gray & Osborne is to get back with the City to see if grade could be made. Councilmember Huber was concerned if the City was to lose points for a green building would it take grant money away. Mayor Helland said everything is repairable.

Personnel Policy – Kathryn the City attorney is sending a turnkey personnel policy, and a Community Hall agreement, and working more on the marijuana issue.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

GMA – move forward as intervener instead of a spectator the City needs to make sure that they have all their ducks in a row.

Kathryn the City Attorney and the Planner – will be at the next meeting

Councilmember Gilmour – was wondering about the map/boundary, review it with Council

Councilmember Huber – attended the Law & Justice meeting regarding the 3/10's it ends 12/31/13 if Kittitas wants to be represented we need to show the results. Also the City should look for other funding they have a new sexual assault nurse examiner-training grant \$35,000. There is going to be \$12,000 per year to keep this funding, Councilmember Huber wants to make sure the City doesn't get overcharged for these services.

Councilmember Gilmour – would like to have the reader board thank the New Life Kids for their hard work, he took them some ice cream bars, and Allphin's donated for pizza. Theresa Jacobson will contact the Daily Record for the thumbs up, and she will collect the money for pizza.

Councilmember Gilmour – would like to have the Mayor contact the Water Attorney about the water rights, call Larry Martin.

Councilmember Gay – thought about letting the residences vote for streets and sidewalks, Councilmember Gilmour stated the City was too poor to raise a bond. Councilmember Gay will look into a LID local improvement District.

Councilmember Hink – would like to thank Arda for getting the Coke machine in City Hall

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Attest: Mayor Helland

Clerk/Treasurer
