

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2011**

Mayor Tony Helland called the meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., December 13, 2011. Councilmember's present was Jerry Gilmour, Rick Hink, Jeff Gay, Linda Huber and Teresa McCollum.

Staff present was Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Lee; Brenda Bach – WWTP; Bryan Nash – Public Works; Guests present: Jeff of Gray & Osborne and Wayne Johnson of Teamsters.

Mayor Tony Helland led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes from November 22, 2011.

Motion by: Councilmember Gilmour; seconded by Councilmember Gay.

Motion Carried: 4 yes, 1 abstention (due to absence)

AMENDMENT TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Helland suggested additions and changes to the agenda:

Corrections to agenda under:

#6 Unfinished Business

A. Gray & Osborne Lift Station - Amendment No.2 to Contract Engineering Services.

D. 2012 Budget – Final #3 11-015 Public Hearing.

MOTION: To approve the amended agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Gay; seconded by Councilmember Huber.

Motion Carried: 5 yes; 0 no

MOTION: To approve the December 13, 2011, agenda as amended.

Motion by Councilmember Gay; seconded by Councilmember Huber.

Motion Carried: 5 yes, 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

No speakers.

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REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

- A. **Staff Reports:**
- a. **Library** – Becky Bosch reported that the Christmas party is Saturday, December 17, 2011. Spaghetti feed from 4pm to 7 pm. The lighting of the tree starts at 4 pm. There is a Facebook page for the library and the library hours will stay the same. Good article regarding the Christmas Party in the paper. The Mayor requested that the paper gets the information that the lights were donated by PSE.
 - b. **Waste Water Treatment Plant** – Mayor Helland reported with Brenda that there is an issue with the plant that could turn into a big issue. A valve is sticking 10 feet off the ground and not easy to get to. The repair will require a crane to reach it. Approximate cost is \$350 per hour with a two hour minimum.
- B. **Budget Reports** – 2011 Budget Position dated 12/09/2011
- C. **Treasurer's Report #2** – Documents attached – Per council there is no need for bank statement to be attached.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **Gray & Osborne Lift Station** – Amendment No.2 to Contract Engineering Services. Jeff from Gray & Osborne reported that the task would consist of surveying the existing manholes in the southwest part of town to determine manhole rim and invert elevations. See Exhibit A, Scope of Work, Benton Street Lift Station Planning Analysis. Discussion by council members regarding first and second pump failures, and suggestion by Nancy from G & O (two years ago) that it would cost approximately \$400,000 to repair. Question if there would be a way to catch the garbage before it goes into the pump. This may be worth a try.

MOTION: to direct the Mayor to work with staff to find a minimal approach to a solution to the problem.

Motion made by Councilperson Huber; seconded by Councilperson Gilmour.

Motion carried: 5 yes; 0 no.

MOTION: to table the contract for Engineering Services (12/13/2011) with Gray & Osborne until March 2012.

Motion made by Councilperson Huber, seconded by Gilmour.

Motion Carried: 4 yes; 1 no (Gay)

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- B. **Wayne Johnson – Union (health insurance)** – Adjourned to Executive Session for ten minutes. Back in Regular Session at 7:40 p.m. Councilperson Gay announced that no decisions were made in Executive Session. Councilperson Gay reported that regarding union negotiations, the health insurance costs went up \$66 a month per employee this year.

MOTION: Move to have the employee pay for half the cost of the increase and the City of Kittitas cover the other 50% of the increase in medical premiums.
Motion made by Councilperson Gay; seconded Councilperson Huber
Motion Carried: 3 yes; 2 no (Gilmour/Hink)

- C. **PSE Easements** – Mayor Helland and Councilperson Huber met with Ms. Warren who explained detail of the concerns that Huber had about the disparity of the payments and made it clear that she wasn't going any higher. She did answer the main question that the overhead lines don't impact so much as in ground.

- D. **2012 Budget – Final #3** – 11-015 Public Hearing. Hearing began at 7:43 p.m. No comments. Public Hearing 11-015 closed at 7:44 p.m.

MOTION: Motion to approve Ordinance 11-015, which is an ordinance adopting the budget for the City of Kittitas, Washington, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.
Motion by Councilperson Huber; seconded by Councilperson Gay.
Motion carried: 5 yes; 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

- Councilperson Gilmour would like to see the entrance to the City of Kittitas from the freeway be cleaned up so it looks presentable. When the weather is better the Council will discuss this further.

- A. **Charter Communication** – Amend Cable TV Franchise Ordinance #97-546. #4.

MOTION: to have the Mayor of Kittitas sign on behalf of the City of Kittitas for the ongoing month-to-month Franchise agreement with Charter Communications.
Motion by Councilmember Huber; seconded by Councilmember Gay.
Motion Carried: 5 yes; 0 no.

Councilmember Gay suggested that the City of Kittitas re-negotiate this contract in 2012.

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- B. Barking Dog Complaint (#5): This letter was also addressed to the Council members. Discussion of the code that a variance is needed to have three dogs. This will be handled by the Code Enforcer.

PAYMENT APPROVALS

- A. **December 13, 2011, Bills: \$42,195.53 (#6)** - Discussion regarding Five K check for \$1437.00 was voided and rewritten to Washington State Dept of Revenue (ck # 14990). Also discussion regarding Intolight checks being sent back due to wrong amounts given to us by Intolight. The council wants to be sure we are not paying them for more than was in the bid. When the next set of checks is returned, the council will review.

MOTION: Move to pay December 13, 2011, bills in the amount of \$42,195.53.
Motion by Councilmember Huber; seconded by Councilmember Hink
Motion Carried: 5 yes, 0 no.

- B. **November Payroll/Mid-Month Draw – End of Year Comp Time Payout \$46,525.59 (#7):**

MOTION: Move to approve November Payroll/Mid-Month Draw-End of Year Comp Time in the amount of \$46,525.59.
Motion by Councilmember Gay; seconded by Hink.
Motion Carried: 5 yes; 0 no

Councilmember Huber asked if the volunteer fire department pay was included in there. Answer Yes. She also thanked the Volunteer Fire personnel.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- There will be a second Council Meeting in December on December 27, 2011.
- We did not get any TIB dollars. We were not that far off because we needed a score of 64 and we got a score of 59.
- After the first of the year, I gave the council two different personnel policies as models for a policy that we will be adopting.
- In the Council packet there is a memo dated December 2, 2011, from Attorney Katherine Kenison regarding Kittitas Transportation Benefit District. Please review this information for your research. Prosser, Moses Lake and other smaller cities have already adopted. Councilmember Gay indicated that there are only 13 cities (6%) have adopted this increase in car tabs. The \$21 increase in cost of tabs is a 50% increase on vehicle tabs. Councilperson Huber stated that the law is structured to be passed at the city government level at this time. You can write to your representative to ask them to put the motion out there to change the law.

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COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- New Council Members will be sworn in at the next meeting.
- UGA met yesterday with County Commissioners. Our planner and our attorney think that it is doable.
- Hink talked to the assessor today and property values are going down.

Adjourn at 8:15pm

Attest:

Mayor Helland

Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Lee