

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2014**

COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Huber called the Council Meeting of the Kittitas City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. October 14, 2014. Councilmembers present: Ben Whitehurst, Jaimi Huber, Jerry Lael, John Camarata and Darrell McLean. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer, Bryan Nash – PW, Michelle Geiger – Building Official, and Becky Bosch – Library Board and Mike Meskimen – Gray & Osborne. Mayor Huber led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Councilmember J. Huber made a motion to approve the minutes from September 23, 2014 Council meeting; Second by Councilmember Lael.
Motion carried: 4 yes 1 abstention from Councilmember Camarata due to absence.

ADDITIONS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Huber would like to add under New Business G. Christmas in Kittitas and H. Library Surplus List.

MOTION: Councilmember Lael made a motion to approve the agenda as amended under New Business G. Christmas in Kittitas and H. Library Surplus List; Second by Councilmember Camarata.
Motion carried: 5 yes 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

Tiny Allphin might have some comments under the Livestock Ordinance.

Brenda McPherson inquired about the mural at Johnny's as to if it was a legal sign and that it is not finished and not attractive. Mayor Huber stated she would look at the Code.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

A. Staff Reports

Becky Bosch – Library

- Movies are up.
- The Library Board has questions on the grant with the Community Hall/Library. Mayor Huber stated she would contact Cal Jordan and see when he is available to meet with Council and the Library Board.
- The Gilmour Memorial Library is the only library without a card reader and the Board is hoping this could be purchased at a later date.

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Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer

- Reported on the classes she attended at the WFOA Conference on a scholarship.

Michelle Geiger – Building Official

- Councilmember Lael inquired about the violation at Johnny's and Michelle explained they did not get required permits, but have since complied.

Bryan Nash – Public Works

- Bryan has concerns about Wi-Fi used at the Community Hall/Library and City Hall.
- Bryan attended the Road & Street Conference on a TIB scholarship. He could not attend all days due to the schedule at the City.
- Lewis Street is complete and he is getting all reimbursements turned in.
- The crosswalks at Johnny's were installed using a thermal heat application.
- Irrigation will be done by the end of the week.
- S. Main sidewalks, curbs and gutters are being installed; Granite poured sidewalks today and will be out next Monday. The fire hydrant was removed today and will be replaced after the sidewalks are complete.
- The picnic shelter needs the roof installed.
- Bryan ordered parts for the leak at the Public Works site and had a meeting with Gibbs about possibly rerouting the line that is currently in their field.
- The stubs have been installed for the street lights in the Alpine area.
- The Street crew filled in the pot holes on East First and the water main repair by the park was filled in also.
- The solenoid in the Fire Department was fixed.

B. Budget Report

None

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C. Treasurer's Report

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Public Works Building #4 A, B & C

- Mayor Huber explained to Council the City received one bid from Belsaas & Smith and it came in slightly higher than expected. Since 2010 the City has been discussing a new PW Building and in September of 2013 under the direction of Mayor Gilmour council had Andriotti draw up some plans and those plans were sent out for bid. Mayor Huber has spoken with Mattawa and they just constructed a 40 x 40 building with no heat or floor for \$179,000. Mayor Huber, Bryan and Michelle met with Belsaas & Smith to see if a change order could be done to meet the original estimate of \$140,000; there was nothing that could be taken out of the bid to reduce the price.
- Councilmember Mclean and Camarata met with Bryan and Michelle to discuss the building. Councilmember Camarata believes public works needs a safe place to work on equipment and be out of the weather; Councilmember Camarata also believed that the City could budget for some of the increased amount into the 2015 budget. Councilmember McLean stated that it would make work more efficient and the amount is pittance in terms of cost, McLean believes it would be well worth the investment and public works could change the oil inside and park the vehicles inside as well. They could also work on repair projects during the winter.
- Councilmember J. Huber asked where the vehicles are parked now and if they are parked outside subjecting them to UV damage. Bryan stated that there is a small storage area down there but the liquids, paint etc. will need to be brought to City Hall. Councilmember Lael inquired about the price and what more needed to be done, Bryan explained the site work, permits, furniture and some tools.
- Mayor Huber stated that Public Works has spent approximately \$9,000 to date on demolition and saved a lot of money by doing it themselves. Councilmember Lael is concerned about the City stretching itself to thin; Mayor Huber stated that in her time on Council she has not seen the fund balance at the level it is at this time of year. Councilmember Whitehurst thought it was a good idea to have a building it is unsafe to work on equipment without a proper building, it will increase morale, productivity, theft and vandalism would all be a benefit, the downside is cost.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to increase the borrowed amount through RCAC to \$105,000; second by Councilmember McLean.
Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

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A. Palmerio Park - Dugouts

- Mayor Huber presented the letter Chief Nierman gave Council regarding the health and safety issues at Palmerio Park and would like Council to approve destruction of the hazards. Councilmember J. Huber inquired about the Parks Committee being involved and Bryan explained it would be going on the reader board soon. Councilmember J. Huber also asked about the Fire Department doing training, discussion was had about the cost of the training and it might be easier to just demolish, Councilmember Whitehurst was going to ask Chief Ciraluo if possibly they could do chain saw training.
- Officer Taylor thinks that demolition should happen.
- Tiny Allphin asked if some picnic tables could be placed there.
- Bryan asked Council what the priority was; they agreed it was taking the wood structure down first.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to demolish the structures at Palmerio Park; second by Councilmember J. Huber.
Motion Carried 5 yes 0 no.

B. Livestock Ordinance 14-022 #5 A & B

- Michelle Building Official stated that the ordinance had some discrepancies in the code, one area you could not have chickens and the other area you could with a permit. The City currently does not have a permit process. Rural Residential zone allows for livestock. The city of Ellensburg allows chickens. Mayor Huber explained that Ellensburg is not surrounded by rural areas like Kittitas. Michelle also explained that there is a definition of livestock currently in the code. This amendment would make it so property's over 1 acre you could have livestock with a permit.
- Discussion was had regarding allowing chickens and not allowing chickens.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to table for further discussion.
Motion carried: 5 yes 0 no.

C. Christmas in Kittitas

- Brenda McPherson and Friends of the Library would like to help the City of Kittitas with Christmas in Kittitas this year. It will be the first Saturday in December. Mayor Huber would like the police/fire and PW to help with planning the event so City is represented in the event.
- Councilmember Lael would like to see a copy of the email regarding liability coverage on this

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event.

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the event Christmas in Kittitas with confirmation that the City will be covered under their insurance; Second by Councilmember J. Huber.
Motion carried: 5 yes 0 no.

D. Weed & Rubbish Ordinance 14-023 #6 A & B

- Michelle Building Official stated that there was not a definition of rubbish in the Kittitas Municipal Code, so for clarification it was changed to junk it also took into consideration of the height of weeds.

MOTION: Councilmember J. Huber made a motion to approve Ordinance 14-023: Second by Councilmember Lael.
Motion carried: 5 yes 0 no.

E. Social media/Technology Policy #7

- Mayor Huber stated that the County adopted a policy 10 years ago and Kittitas is behind and this would be a great place to start.
- Councilmember J. Huber inquired about revisions and Mayor Huber stated that as they come up they will be brought before Council.

MOTION: Councilmember Lael made a motion to accept the Technology Policy; Second by Councilmember J. Huber.
Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

F. 2015 Budget Planning & Revenue Discussion #8 A & B

- Mayor Huber would like each department head to present their budget narrative before Council on a Special Study Session November 4th and then Council will meet again on November 6th to discuss the budget.
- The first Public Hearing will be November 25th for the 2015 Budget, and then possibly on the December 9th meeting have the final Public Hearing on adopting the 2015 Budget.
- Cal Jordan could possibly come present to Council and Library Board the Community Hall/Library Renovation Project.
- The Council meeting on November 11th will have to be changed to November 10th as that is a legal holiday.

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- Mayor Huber would like to consider possibly having some of Michelle's wage paid from the 3/10's money as she is working with Code Issues.
- Mayor Huber will be speaking with DOE regarding a recent inspection and the O & M Manual for the plant states two full time employees at 2900 hours, there are actually 2080 in a work year so this will need clarification.

G. Union Negotiations #9

- Mayor Huber spoke with Wayne and he has not seen any proposed increases in benefits, but will get them to the City if he sees any. The union has opened negotiations for 2015 contract. Councilmember J. Huber inquired if she should abstain from negotiations; Mayor Huber explained that J. Huber has the right to be involved in negotiations.
- A copy of the contract was given to Council where they left off last April and Council will have an Executive Session October 28th for Union Negotiations beginning at 6:00 p.m.

H. Library Surplus

- Becky Bosh stated that Lynette has been busy and went through all the duplicate books and VHS tapes that have not been checked out in over 10 years. Councilmember J. Huber inquired about what happens with the books and Becky explained that there is a company that recycles them.

MOTION: Councilmember Leal made a motion to accept the library surplus list; Second by Councilmember Camarata.
Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

PAYMENT APPROVALS

A. October 14, 2014 payables \$20,530.41 #10

MOTION: Councilmember Lael made a motion to approve October payables; Second by Councilmember McLean.
Motion carried: 5 yes 0 no.

B. September Payroll/October Mid-Month Draws \$48,382.58 #11 A & B

MOTION: Councilmember Lael made a motion to approve September Payroll/October Mid-Month Draws; Second by Councilmember Camarata.
Motion carried 5 yes 0 no.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

- November 10th Evergreen Rural Water will be at City Hall to meet with staff.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Councilmember Lael inquired about Mike Varnum's hours, Mayor Huber explained staff was watching it closely and forgot to bring the hours to the meeting but he was still within his allowable hours.

ADJOURN: 9:07 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor Huber

Debbie L. Lee Clerk/Treasurer