

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 25, 2015**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Huber led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Huber called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. August 25, 2015. Councilmembers present: Ben Whitehurst, J. Huber, John Camarata, Jerry Lael and Darrell McLean. Staff present: Michelle Geiger – Building Official, Brent Nierman – Chief of Police, Christ Taylor – K9 Police Department and Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 25, 2015**

**MOTION:** Councilmember J. Huber made a motion to approve the minutes; second by Councilmember Camarata.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**ADDITIONS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; second by Councilmember Lael.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS**

- None

**REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**A. Staff Reports (informational only)**

**Michelle Geiger – Building Official**

- Verizon and Colockum Craft Brewery have submitted their CUP's. The City is still working on the access part for Verizon.
- There are a couple of Boundary Linde Adjustments that have been submitted.
- Councilmember Lael inquired about the lease for Verizon and is it something that other interested parties could use, Michelle explained that the lease is specific to Verizon and if anyone else was interested they would have to have a different lease. Mayor Huber and Bryan need to look over this lease and see if they want to make any changes or additions.
- Councilmember Lael asked about the progress on the Spokane trailer park. Michelle explained that there is an issue with ownership and they are trying to straighten that out. The attorney does call Michelle and check on the progress of the cleanup.

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**Brent Nierman – Chief of Police**

- Chief Nierman informed Council that Officer Taylor received a thumbs up in the Daily Record for going above and beyond the call of duty.
- Chief Nierman explained to Council that Lucy the K9 dog will be doing an active search in the Council room for demonstration. Lucy trains once per month with other agencies and when she puts her special collar on she knows that she will be working. The Police Department acquired some methamphetamine and sent it to the state lab to be certified. They keep this in a locked box in the safe and only use for training purposes. They placed the drug in the Council room about 45 minutes before the Council Meeting, which gave it time to leave its scent. Officer Taylor let Lucy in the room and conducted the search. Lucy was successful and alerted very quickly.
- Daniel Menth asked if Lucy is a tracking dog too, Officer Taylor said no only drugs.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Ordinance 15-031 “Fireworks” Language**

- Michelle informed Council that they had requested to eliminate the footage distance requirement and the language regarding churches, schools, parks etc.
- Mayor Huber explained the reason this came about is that they recently changed the Ordinance to read in case of extreme fire danger the Mayor or his designee can curtail the fireworks due to weather.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the language change in Ordinance 15-031; second by Councilmember McLean.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**B. Police Department Surplus (4) Laptops Kittcom**

- Chief Nierman explained to Council that these computers were purchased through grant programs and is now obsolete. Kittcom can use the parts and be converted for solely one purpose like checking towers, once the CJIS information is deleted. Chief Nierman would like to surplus these to Kittcom for zero dollars.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lael approved the surplus of the laptops to Kittcom; second by Councilmember J. Huber.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Eagle Scout Project – Sean Tinne**

- Sean explained to Council that he was achieving his Life Scout Badge. He has talked with Jose Preciado and Bryan Nash regarding his project. Bryan will be doing flow testing on the fire hydrants; Sean will paint the bottoms yellow and the tops a certain color dependent on the amount of flow that comes out of the hydrant. The City will provide the paint, Sean will ask for donations for the supplies. His fellow troop members will assist Sean with the project. They will GPS the hydrants and make a map as well. They hope to start September 26<sup>th</sup> and be completed by October 17<sup>th</sup>. They will be working in the afternoon.
- Mayor Huber thanked them and said this could not have come at a better time.

**B. Yakima Basin Integrated Plan – Paul Jewell**

- No one attended.

**C. 15-030R Fee Schedule For Fire Life Safety Inspections**

- Michelle explained to Council that this was not included in the original Resolution. This is a 25% reduction of the fee if there are not any violations found during the Fire Inspections.
- Councilmember Lael inquired if this deduction would be enough to cover Michelle's wages; Michelle thought it would since the inspection would take less time without violations.

**MOTION:** Councilmember J. Huber made a motion to approve Resolution 15-030R; second by Councilmember McLean.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 1 no. (Councilmember Camarata)

**PAYMENT APPROVALS**

**A. August 25, 2015 Payables \$46,828.15**

- Councilmember Lael inquired about the Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue invoice. Mayor Huber explained that KVFR had to respond to a house fire in City limits due to all of our volunteers being unavailable. Councilmember Lael would like someone to approach the homeowners to see if their insurance policy covers Fire Department Response. Jerry said that most insurance policies have this clause. Mayor Huber stated duly noted.

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- Mayor Huber stated that a crane was down at the plant Monday and that the sewer plant has had a lot of repairs this year.
- Councilmember Lael also inquired about the Bi-Mart bill, it was explained that it was for drinks for the workers, canned air horns for safety, etc. during the burnouts.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 payables; second by Councilmember J. Huber.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- The Verizon Lease was included in the Council packets for information only.
- Mayor Huber and Bryan met with the school board and met the new Superintendent and Grade School Principal. They have agreed to pay ½ of the match money for the sidewalks on the Patrick Avenue Project which is \$17,500.00; they also will be working on a “Safe Passage to School”.
- Mayor Huber read a letter from New Life Assembly Church thanking the City and Business who helped with the Summer Lunch in the Park Program.
- The Boy Scouts asked Council some questions.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

None

**ADJOURN: 7:37 p.m.**

**Attest:**

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Mayor Huber

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Debbie L. Lee Clerk/Treasurer