

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2017**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Whitford led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Whitford called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. May 9, 2017. Councilmembers present: Jerry Gilmour, Pat Cort, John Camarata, Ben Whitehurst and Jasen Carlson. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer, Michelle Geiger – Safe Built and Amy McGuffin – Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED  
APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Councilmember Cort would like to have the minutes amended to read that Councilmember Cort and Councilmember Carlson made a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to amend the regular Council Meeting minutes dated April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017; second by Councilmember Gilmour.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WORK/STUDY MEETING DATED  
APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017; second by Councilmember Gilmour.  
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 Whitehurst.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS**

Citizen Gary Gleason asked if Council would consider making an ordinance for ATV's (all-terrain vehicles) to be allowed on City streets. Gary stated that they have to be street legal and have working headlights, blinkers, etc. Gary also stated that he has spoken with Chief Nierman and he does not have a problem with this. Gary will get the City information from other cities for Council to consider.

Mayor Whitford felt this was what small towns are all about and this would be something to consider.

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**REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**A. Special Guest – Amy McGuffin Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce**

- Amy gave a presentation on the branding of the City. This was made possible thru a tourism grant that was awarded to the City of Kittitas.
- Four weeks ago there was a Town Hall Meeting that broke into round table discussions; they met with youth, business owners, and resident to get a collective collaboration of ideas on branding and tourism for the City of Kittitas.
- Amy stated this was a draft presentation open for changes or suggestions.
- They based this new logo on colors, roots and heritage of the City, talked about banners on Main Street, an updated mural on Johnny's which Lee is open to and painting the planters and planting plants with colors that are consistent with the proposed color scheme. This will revitalize Main Street.
- A new website, visitkittitas.com, will be launched and this will have activities available in or near the City of Kittitas. For example the windfarm, Trinity Farms, Olmstead Park, hiking, biking and ATV riding.
- 80% of the U-Pick farms are located near the City of Kittitas.
- The Chamber highly suggests the City look at the current zoning and allowable use at Palmerio Park to make dry tent camping available at this location.
- This branding and new vision is a collaboration and will need the community to work together to make this happen.
- Mayor Whitford thought everything presented looked amazing and liked the idea of roots and trees growing at the same time.
- Councilmember Cort asked if there was a way for Kittitas to be specific but that there was a benefit to be under the counties umbrella.
- Dry camping would need to be hosted by someone to take care of maintenance and reservations. This would also be a way to provide lodging tax revenue to the City of Kittitas.
- Gail Johnson inquired about opportunity for events at the Palmerio Park.

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- A new event is coming to the City on June 5<sup>th</sup> Chris Marchel is allowing the Circus to set up on his property and some of the revenue from this will come to the City.
- A new downtown association has been formed at the City of Kittitas and this will also help with the Milwaukee Train Depot. Grants are more readily available for historic and educational purposes.
- Amy will bring the signage up to put at the kiosk at City Hall.
- A citizen who would not state her name was upset that the sidewalks and streets have not yet been cleaned and the City is spending time on this branding project. This is a grant funded project.
- Mayor Whitford explained that it was a long winter and there is a time set aside to have Ellensburg come clean the streets at a later date. Discussion was had on how much is on everyone's plate and that it sometimes takes longer to get things done, limited resources are also a problem.
- Gail Johnson was asking if the boy scouts could volunteer. Gail offered to take care of scheduling the care of the planters around town this year.
- Mayor Whitford stated that the Queen of Spades garden club is having their plant sale this weekend and anything they don't sell they will donate to the City of Kittitas.
- Councilmember Cort stated that June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Town Hall Meeting and they will work on forming committees and groups to help with projects around town.

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

**Brenda Bach – Waste Water Treatment Plant**

**1. Water Department-**

Continue to have erratic Chlorine regulating issues at the tower. And this is a safety concern because of the health hazard in regulating Chlorine gas and the dangers it imposes on our employee's and the residents. Our appointment for our annual service at the tower is May 16<sup>th</sup>. We have 2 quotes for replacement of equipment, one from correct equipment for \$3,380.40, and one from Coast Controls for \$2,138.40, install costs are additional on both.

**2. Cross Connection Control Department-**

Replaced Backflow at the Wastewater treatment plant. Looked like it had a flaw from the factory

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and was miss-aligned and eventually could not make a complete seal and the seal failed. Could not be repaired because the seal was part of the housing case and is not a replaceable part. New one was inspected and installed and working correctly.

**3. Wastewater Department-**

- A. We are having problems with the security system mostly on the weekends communicating with Moon Security. They are sending out a technician next Thursday to troubleshoot communication issues. Currently we are updating our call-list as well, Jerry was still on the call list, and has now been removed.
  
- B. We have our spare jet pump repaired and returned from pump tech, and have new instructions as to maintenance while it is stored in the motor room. We are reorganizing our work area to accommodate room for our spares to keep them on the spot ready and accessible for maintenance and organization. We are building a new work bench to replace the old kitchen cabinet (work bench) from the old wastewater treatment building so we have the room to re-build pumps as needed.
  
- C. We are replacing all 9 of the sodium vapor energy monster lights at the plant with more efficient LED lights in the main pump and motor room.
  
- D. Have repaired one manhole (wastewater) by the Plant which had a lot of ground water leaking in. Found a 2” hole in the side that wasn’t plugged and contributed to the water leaking in, and repaired multiple cracks.

**Police Department – No staff present**

- Officer Dave Anderson (#402) has chosen to retire after nearly 6 years with the KPD. His service has been exemplary and much appreciated by all. We will be re-advertising for a lateral officer. If there are no suitable candidates, we will advertise for a new hire.
  
- Our new patrol vehicles are here. Logos are soon to arrive. This picture shows what they will look like when completed.

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- In March Chief Nierman attended the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Law Enforcement “Command College” presented by Wa State Criminal Justice Training Commission and the FBI. The 5 day training focused on Leadership and Management, the differences between the two and the challenges to be both a leader and a manager in today’s law enforcement community.

Recent Code enforcement activity/contacts.

- Garbage related 3
- Dog at large 2
- Dog License 5
- Barking dog 2
- Abandoned/Junk Vehicle 2
- Non-conforming use 2

Law enforcement activity from 04/25/17 – 05/08/17

Nature	Area	Agency	Reported
ANIMAL			
PROBLEM	KPD	KPD	12:28:23 05/01/17
BURGLARY	KPD	KPD	21:35:31 05/01/17
DOMESTIC	KPD	KPD	12:03:28 04/30/17
THREATS	KPD	KPD	16:58:51 04/30/17
CODE			
VIOLATION	CLE	KPD	10:47:01 05/03/17
CODE	KPD	KPD	10:55:31 05/03/17

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VIOLATION			
DOMESTIC	KPD	KPD	13:00:09 05/02/17
HARASSMENT	KPD	KPD	16:26:42 05/02/17
VERBAL			
DISPUTE	KPD	KPD	16:28:27 04/29/17
DOMESTIC	KPD	KPD	19:33:46 04/27/17
DOMESTIC	KPD	KPD	20:35:30 04/27/17
CIVIL			
MATTER	KPD	KPD	09:39:53 04/27/17
AGENCY			
ASSIST	KPD	KPD	13:59:35 04/27/17
VOID	KPD	KPD	16:52:53 04/28/17
UNLAWFUL			
PHONE	KPD	KPD	11:14:26 04/29/17
CITIZEN			
ASSIST	KPD	KPD	08:12:48 04/28/17
SUSPICIOUS	KPD	KPD	16:06:29 04/28/17
DISABLED			
VEH	KPD	KPD	13:01:25 05/08/17
TRAFFIC			
STOP	KPD	KPD	14:25:56 05/08/17
ASSAULT	KPD	KPD	15:21:03 05/07/17
DOMESTIC	KPD	KPD	17:04:02 05/07/17
TRAFFIC			
STOP	KPD	KPD	20:15:45 05/08/17
TRAFFIC			
STOP	KPD	KPD	21:34:54 05/08/17
CODE			
VIOLATION	KPD	KPD	15:38:15 05/08/17
TRAFFIC			
STOP	KPD	KPD	17:49:16 05/08/17
HARASSMENT	KPD	KPD	09:57:51 05/07/17
ACCIDENT-			
INJURY	KPD	KPD	09:42:05 05/05/17
TRAFFIC			
STOP	KPD	KPD	20:31:10 05/05/17
DRIVING	KPD	KPD	12:20:47 05/03/17
RECOVER-			
STOLEN	KPD	KPD	16:28:11 05/04/17
DISABLED			
VEH	KPD	KPD	18:38:41 05/06/17
CODE	KPD	KPD	19:41:39 05/06/17

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VIOLATION CITIZEN ASSIST SUICIDAL SUBJ	KPD	KPD	14:10:30 05/06/17
	KPD	KPD	16:22:13 05/06/17

- The two new police cars were received today. They do not have graphics on them yet
- Chris Taylor is returning to his previous position as Police Officer effective May 1, 2017.

**C. Budget Report (informational)**

- The City should be at 34% in all departments.

**D. Treasurer's Report (informational)**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Cintas Cleaning**

- Councilmember Camarata looked at the budget and he felt that \$300 could come from Administrations budget, Police, Fire, Water and Sewer departments to help cover the cost of this service.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to have Cintas clean City Hall bathrooms and provide rug service; second by Councilmember Camarata.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Special Event Permit**

- Councilmember Cort asked if there was power and water available.
- Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce will be purchasing the necessary insurance for this event.

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- Mayor Whitford stated that they have presold 300 tickets and the Circus has a dollar threshold that they need to make to cover expenses and after that the City will receive the remainder, Mayor Whitford was hoping that this money could go towards the purchase of the paint to paint the mural on Johnny's and possible some banners.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the Special Event Permit; second by Councilmember Cort.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**PAYMENT APPROVALS**

**A. May 9, 2017 Payables \$9,768.65**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to pay May 9, 2017 payables; second by Councilmember Gilmour.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**B. April EFT's \$5,497.35**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to pay April 2017 EFT's; second by Councilmember Gilmour.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**C. April Payroll/May Mid-Month Draws \$47,597.80**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to pay April Payroll/May Mid-Month Draws; second by Councilmember Camarata.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Whitford informed Council that the Circus was coming to town on June 5th and that the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce is supporting this.
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a Town Hall Meeting at the Community Hall.



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**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

- Councilmember Gilmour inquired about the lights on Pacific Loop, Mayor Whitford informed Councilmember Gilmour that a variance was granted and they are moving forward on installing the lights.
- Councilmember Camarata stated there was a COG (Council of Government) meeting tomorrow night. He also informed Council that anyone that is up for re-election need to file for office to be on the primary.
- Councilmember Gilmour asked where the City was at on the bid for the painting of the water tower. Mayor Whitford said she would talk with Brenda at the staff meeting in the morning.
- Councilmember Cort said the train depot meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> at the VFW was at 10:00 a.m. and they discussed the organization and they will go under the downtown association that was formed and can use their nonprofit status.
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> the Kittitas Friends of the Depot will have a meet and greet with the John Wayne Trail Riders.
- Councilmember Cort stated that some members of the Kittitas Friends of the Train Depot will be going up to South Cle Elum to tour the Train Depot.
- Councilmember Cort is also working on the tallying of the survey that was sent out to the citizens of Kittitas.
- Councilmember Gilmour was concerned that he had not heard that Officer Taylor was coming back and that Officer Anderson had given his notice.
- Mayor Whitford stated that Chief Nierman had posted the job and did not receive any applicants and Officer Taylor had requested to come back. Officer Anderson gave his notice to be able to spend more time with his family; he will still help the city as a reserve officer.
- Discussion was had about emergency contact lists, the creek needing to be cleaned out and the bridge that needs some repair.
- Mayor Whitford stated that the City has gotten some relief from Fish and Wildlife on the Cooke Creek Project.

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**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to adjourn; second by Councilmember Gilmour.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**ADJOURN: 8:15 p.m.**

**Attest:**

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Mayor Whitford

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Debbie L. Lee Clerk/Treasurer