

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 22, 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. August 22, 2017. Councilmembers present: Pat Cort, Ben Whitehurst, Liz Smith and John Camarata. Jerry Gilmour was not present (unexcused). Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer, Michelle Geiger – Safebuilt, Tim Schmidt – Interim Fire Chief and Brenda Bach – WWTP Waste Water Treatment Plant.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED  
AUGUST 8, 2017**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated August 8, 2017; second by Councilmember Cort.  
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WORK/STUDY MEETING DATED  
AUGUST 8, 2017**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated August 8, 2017; second by Councilmember Cort.  
Motion Carried: 4 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 Cort.  
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS**

- None

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**REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

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

**Brenda Bach – WWTP**

• **Water Department-**

- The water tower project has started today and will last about 1- 1 ½ weeks to complete. Great to see the much needed work is getting done.

• **Cross Connection Control Department-**

- No new news, inspections ongoing and records updated. With an addition of photos being added to all cross-connection locations within the City limits.

• **Wastewater Department-**

- We received the new PLC board and Conley Engineering showed us how to pull the old one out, and to install the new one correctly. With the new board we had some programming changes and install calibrations to adjust through Conley did and the level sensors are up and running. Which saves on overtime because we can get all the information remotely to adjust the plant as need be?
- We had a motor go out on one of the Effluent pumps which we replaced and now have a spare that we are looking into having it rebuilt as long as it is cost effective, that way we will have a spare on the shelf. The new motor was 900.00 dollars. Last year I had Conley Engineering add some programming changes so the Plants PLC that will automatically switch to the other pump in case of a breakdown. The existing programming did not have that capability, which now it does so we can keep the plant running smoothly during unforeseen breakdowns.
- Starting next week we will be doing our fall lift station maintenance, and or any repairs needed before the school gets underway. It's that time already.

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**Michelle Geiger – Safebuilt**

- Pacific Loop is almost completely developed. Zirkle Fruit purchased the last of the available lots. No occupancy will be granted until the street lights are installed and the pathway completed.
- George Botcher has been working on his building on Main Street, Baily’s Bibliomania has started to move their books in but occupancy has not been approved yet.
- The issues with the trailer parks are being addressed with the Mayor and attorney and hopefully a solution will be met with those.

**Tim Schmidt – Fire Chief**

- The burnouts were a success. They were staffed by the Fire Department. The Department passed out handouts and let the kids have a photo opportunity with the fire truck.
- The day room and kitchen have been cleaned.
- Inventory has been started and they are making a list of surplus items.
- In the past two weeks there have been two burn complaints and four EMS calls.
- Mayor Whitford informed Chief Schmidt that September and October is when the City starts to work on the budget and to be mindful of the inventory list.
- Discussion was had about the Fire Department merger and how this would affect the budget.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**None**

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**PAYMENT APPROVALS**

**A. August 22, 2017 Payables \$89,247.87**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve August 22, 2017 Payables; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Whitford informed Council that Road #81 expanded to include a bike path which will add about 5-6 additional feet. A fog line has been painted and this will help with safety from pedestrians who walk from Rainier Estates. Mayor Whitford is thankful to Kittitas County for making this upgrade.
- Mayor Whitford will have a float in the parade which will include the winner from last year's Trunk or Treat. His pickup will be decorated and currently there are about 12 children who will be dressed in Halloween costumes. The theme will also include Christmas in Kittitas and the Burnouts.
- Budget meetings will start in September.
- The Chamber of Commerce will bring out another kiosk which will include a map; the second kiosk at City Hall will have City event news placed in it.
- Police Chief Nierman has accepted a job offer in Alaska and will be done with his employment in the next several weeks.
- The new police officer will start October 1<sup>st</sup> after all of his pre-employment testing.
- Mayor Whitford will be meeting with Chief Nierman Thursday morning to go over all of the details about advertising for the open position and how the transition will happen.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

- Councilmember Camarata informed Council that he attended the Law & Justice meeting which was about mental health, chemical dependency and the concern for overdoses. A budget on mental health was presented.

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- Councilmember Camarata attended the COG (Council of Governments) meeting and there was not any new business so it was a very short meeting. The County Public Works will help with grant stuff.
- Council was asking about the new digital sign and when it would be installed. Mayor Whitford will talk with Scott Moore at tomorrow's staff meeting.
- Councilmember Smith asked if she could post the Town Hall Meeting on the City of Kittitas Facebook Page. Council agreed this was a good idea.
- Councilmember Smith asked how long Chief Nierman has been with the City, Councilmember Camarata thought either 2005 or 2007.
- Councilmember Smith also had some ideas about hiring another person in the office, it had something to do with new moms that nurse and possibly could bring their small children to work with them.
- Councilmember Whitehurst stated that the burnouts went well. There were two medical issues.
- Councilmember Whitehurst asked if the City was any closer to hiring another Public Works employee. It was explained that some more applications have come in and Mike and Scott have been looking them over.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to adjourn; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**ADJOURN: 7:25 p.m.**

**Attest:**

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Mayor Whitford

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Debbie L. Lee Clerk/Treasurer