

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pro-Tem Camarata led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Pro-Tem Camarata called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. January 23, 2018. Councilmembers present: Lou Whitford, Jerry Gilmour and Liz Smith. Councilmember Ben Whitehurst was absent. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer, Michelle Geiger – Safebuilt and Chris Taylor – Chief of Police.

MOTION: Councilmember Whitford made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmember Whitehurst; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED
JANUARY 9, 2018**

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated January 9, 2018; second by Councilmember Whitford.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WORK/STUDY MEETING DATED
JANUARY 9, 2018**

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated January 9, 2018; second by Councilmember Whitford.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

ADDITIONS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

- None

REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS

A. Staff Reports (informational only)

Chris Taylor Chief of Police

- Chief Taylor is working towards hiring the third officer to start the end of April beginning of May. Chief Taylor is utilizing a private contractor to do the background check; this will expedite the process, possibly bringing Seth Huber on as a reserve on the weekends prior to full time employment.
- Officer Whetstine is at the equivalency academy for the next 14 days and will return on February 4th this will allow him to acquire his Washington State Peace Officer Membership. Kittitas County will help with coverage during his absence.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Camarata asked about the jail costs. Chief Taylor stated that there have not been a lot of inmate costs or medical costs for the 4th quarter. Mayor Pro-Tem thought that \$1700 was a lot but it was explained that is was for the 4th quarter.
- Councilmember Smith inquired if the County responds does the City get charged. No.
- Councilmember Whitford asked how the new vehicles were doing. Chief Taylor stated that they are doing great; he has chosen to drive the Crown Vic to keep the miles down until the 3rd officer is hired.

B. Becky Carrollo - Kittitas School Planters

- Becky Carrollo presented a plan to Council regarding the planters on Main Street. She proposed a tall grass with petunias. Becky suggested putting soil and fertilizer in the planters. The students

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

who belong to FFA put together a budget and thought this would cost about \$900.00 for fertilizer, soil and plants the first year. This would possibly be an ongoing project as there are under classman who are FFA members.

- Becky Carrollo spoke with the FFA officers and they are willing to upfront half of the cost up front and looking at applying for a possible grant.
- Councilmember Smith inquired as to who would water them. Becky suggested maybe finding another service organization such as the Boy Scouts or businesses to water.
- It was also discussed about the possibility of having the shop class make wooden markers and people could donate money towards sponsoring a planter for a business or in memory of?
- Councilmember Gilmour inquired as to what happens in the fall, it was explained that the FFA group would come clean out the planters.
- Councilmember Whitford stated maybe the Queen of Spades would possibly make a donation.
- Brenda McPherson stated that the Hardware Store could probably sell the soil and fertilizes at a discount. Brenda thought that having the businesses water might be a downfall. Maybe the Rotary, New Life Church, Eagles.
- Councilmember Smith wondered if some planters could be placed along Patrick.

C. Kittitas Downtown Association – Brenda McPherson

- Brenda McPherson gave an overview of the Down Town Associations goals. This group will work on beautification of Main Street and make recommendations to Council like the Planning Commission.
- Brenda McPherson presented a handout. (see attached)
- At the Town Hall Meeting in March she will give this presentation and hopefully get some volunteers.
- Councilmember Smith asked if people want to get involved how they should go about doing this. Brenda said they can contact her.
- The Downtown Association will work with the information the branding grant provided. Design, colors, logo's etc. this will help unify Main Street.

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

- Brenda stated when she gets some volunteers they will have a meeting and set up the by-laws.
- Councilmember Whitford explained that the City needs to include I-90 and the corridor to bring people in to town. For example the Wind Farm and Olmstead State Park.

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to support the forming of the Down Town Association; second by Councilmember Whitford.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. KVFR Annexation Agreement

- The City attorney has not finished looking over the agreement.

MOTION: Councilmember Smith made a motion to table the KVFR Annexation Agreement; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PAYMENT APPROVALS

A. January 23, 2018 EFT Payables \$21,407.81

MOTION: Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve January 23, EFT Payables; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

- Councilmember Camarata inquired about the \$3,700.00 payment to the Chamber of Commerce. It was explained that this was grant money that was received for the Branding Project.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report due to Mayor Cort's absence.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Councilmember Gilmour stated that the City should act on the server and get bids in order to move ahead.
- Councilmember Gilmour wondered when the Christmas lights would be taken down.
- Councilmember Gilmour asked if the lawn mower has been fixed. Yes it has been and they used it at City Hall today.
- Councilmember Gilmour would like to find a solution to the energy efficiency of the Community Hall and Library. He has looked into replacing the windows, possibly putting a vapor barrier down, but it is overwhelming. Councilmember Gilmour wondered if it would be better to get the building on the historical registry for possible grant money.
- Councilmember Camarata attended the COG meeting and they are still working on the language for the COG grant applications.
- Councilmember Camarata attended the Law & Justice meeting and they discussed the mental health of the valley and the murder that happened in the canyon and how surveillance cameras helped solve that crime.

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to adjourn; second by Councilmember Whitford.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

ADJOURN: 7:45 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor Pat Cord

Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer