

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2018**

COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Cort led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Cort called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. April 24, 2018. Councilmembers present: John Camarata, Lou Whitford, Jerry Gilmour, Liz Smith and Ben Whitehurst. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer, Michelle Geiger – Safebuilt and Chris Taylor – Chief of Police.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED
APRIL 10, 2018**

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated April 10, 2018; second by Councilmember Camarata.
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WORK/STUDY MEETING DATED APRIL 10, 2018

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated April 10, 2018; 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 Whitehurst.
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

- Brenda McPherson was concerned the City did not have a lodging tax in place and is possibly missing out on revenue. This would be collected on Air B and B's and the two rooms that Brenda rents out.
- Council will look at adopting a lodging tax at the next meeting.

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REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS

A. Staff Reports (informational only)

Chris Taylor – Chief of Police

- Chief Taylor is continuing the search for a third officer. Chief Taylor has been talking with a potential lateral officer and if this falls thru he will post for entry level. It is difficult to get lateral officers to apply as the pay scale is not the best. Entry level will need to pass a physical test, oral board, background check, poly, and psyche and then go to the academy in Spokane or Burien. The academy is a 5 month class.
- Officer Whetstine has completed DUI training and will be taking some firearm instructor training.
- Chief Taylor attended mid-management and first level training.
- Chief Taylor reported that he attended the Law & Justice meeting and will be submitting grant money to help with the purchase of laptops.
- Code enforcement issues will be coming up with weeds and rubbish. Officer Whetstine has been towing some cars that have been abandoned on the streets.

Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer

- Clerk Debbie reported that she and Mayor Cort attended the BIAS Annual Report Class in Yakima.
- Elain Becker was hired as the new utility billing clerk, her training has started

Brenda Bach – WWTP

Water Department-

- There is some construction work that has started at the water tower by Verizon wireless. It's the control building being built in the south west corner of the water tower compound for the cell tower that will be installed on the top of the tower this summer.

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- The leak in the Gibb Pasture (Cat-tail area) south of the John Wayne trail turned out to be 3 separate leaks. The water leaks (2) in the Gibb pasture (cat-tail area) have been completed. Of the 2 leaks the larger one which was cut out and new pipe was inserted and second smaller one had a stainless steel repair band installed to close off that leak. There was also a leak that had started to bubble up “IN” their Timothy field south of the cat tail leak when the water main jogs with two (90°) turns through their timothy field and over to the public works building has also been completed. So 3 leaks have been repaired on that old, very shallow water main that is to be thankfully replaced next year.

Cross Connection Control Department-

- Just on going reporting and record keeping, with pictures, being added to the residents and commercial accounts.

Wastewater Department-

- No new news on our discharge permit from Department of Ecology.
- We had a problem with the 80 gallon air compressor that runs the valves on the Aqua-Filter in the plant. The start capacitor and the pressure switch had to be replaced. The smaller portable air compressor helped run the Aqua-Filter until we could get the main compressor fixed. But we still needed to operate the aqua-filter manually during some extended cycles to help it process the water before being discharged to Cooke Creek.
- Spring is in the air and we'll be bringing out the pressure washer and doing some spring cleaning inside and outside of the plant. We get a lot of build-up during the winter months that need that extra spit shine to get ready for the increased algae growth that comes with the summer sun.
- Councilmember Gilmour inquired as to how big the leak was that Public Works fixed in Gibbs field. It was approximately 6 gallons per minute.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Livestock Ordinance

- During the work study meeting Council made changes to the proposed Ordinance to read dog/pot belly pig instead of animal. Animal was too broad of a name.
- Discussion was had about licensing pot belly pigs and citizens to have a variance if they had any combination of dog/pot belly pig of two or more.
- Updated language in both the livestock code and animal codes will be presented at the next council meeting for adoption.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing Package of Kittitas Municipal Code Amendments

- Mayor Cort read aloud the proposed zoning code changes.
- The public hearing was opened at 7:20 and closed at 7:21 with no public comment.
- Councilmember Smith had noticed the illustration of the garbage can receptacle and wondered why Cahill Manor did not keep their garbage cans this way. It was explained that this code that is being updated is for the Gateway Commercial area.
- Chief Taylor stated that his might be a code issue and he will look into the issue of the cans being knocked over and garbage spread everywhere.

B. Ordinance 18-005 Amend Title 17 Zoning Codes

MOTION: Councilmember Whitehurst made a motion to approve Ordinance 18-005; second by Councilmember Smith.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

- Councilmember Whitford wanted to thank the planning commission and Michelle for all of the work that was done on this code change. Mayor Cort stated the same.

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C. New Water/Sewer Connection 904 Rainier Drive Marin Hines

MOTION: Councilmember Gilmour approved the new water/sewer connection at 904 Rainier; second by Councilmember Whitford.
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

D. March 2018 Surplus Library Books

MOTION: Councilmember Whitehurst made a motion to approve the March 2018 Library Book Surplus list; second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

PAYMENT APPROVALS

A. April 24, 2018 EFT Payables \$22,649.52

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve April 24, payables: second by Councilmember Gilmour.
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

- Councilmember Gilmour asked why if the City has a dump truck why do we pay to have someone deliver the sand. It was explained that by the time they put fuel in the dump truck and time spent it was probably the same price.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Cort reported that Public Works fixed the second leak in the cattails.
- The server will be installed at City Hall on May 3rd.
- Mayor Cort suggested to Council that they consider increasing the cost of the business license as this has not been addressed in years.
- Councilmember Whitehurst will submit his letter of resignation. His last meeting will be the 2nd meeting in May.

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- Mayor Cort met with the State Parks and Matt Manweller regarding the Train Depot lease. Everyone came to the agreement that they would revise the current lease and add 4 events that will allow vendors in the park and free vendor parking. The four events that will be listed are burnouts, Christmas in Kittitas, trail riders and friends of the depot. This was not previously addressed in the original lease. They also talked about getting money in the biennium to help with a foundation and roof to restore the depot. Matt Manweller also stated he is aware of some historical money that is available.
- The parks would like the City to show them how much is being spent on upkeep of the park. For example watering and mowing time.
- The trestle is being repaired so this will make the John Wayne Trail continual after Kittitas; this should help with more visitors to Kittitas.
- The trail riders will be coming in May.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Councilmember Camarata reported that he attended the Law & Justice meeting they are working on what to dedicate the 1% of the 1/10 revenue. The County also had an emergency management training session regarding an active shooter and that went well.
- August is National Night Out and Kittitas County would like the City of Kittitas to be a part of that.
- Councilmember Camarata also attended the COG meeting and they will be voting on the application process at the next meeting. COG will make a call for applications after this process is approved.
- Councilmember Smith worked with the school FFA on Earth Day and replaced all of the soil in the planters; they did not remove any plants that are currently in the planters they will add existing plants to these.
- Councilmember Smith also stated that this is a good project for FFA as they have to fulfill a community service project as part of their grade.
- Councilmember Whitford and Mayor Cort are working on a trailer to haul the water that will make watering the plants easier.

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

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

ADJOURN: 7:42 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor Pat Cort

Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer