

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2019**

**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. February 12, 2019. Councilmembers present: John Camarata, Rich Coleman, Jerry Gilmour, Lou Whitford and Councilmember Liz Smith. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer and Anna Franz – City Attorney.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 & THE WORK STUDY MINUTES FROM JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019; second by Councilmember Camarata.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 deleting Ben Whitehurst as being present and adding Councilmember Coleman; 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 Whitford.  
Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS**

- None

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2019**

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

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

**Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer**

- Debbie reported to Council that there is a leak in the City Hall roof. A contractor has been contacted and hopefully the work will begin soon.
- Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Lee and Pat Cort will be attending the Bias Conference next week from February 19-21<sup>st</sup>. City Hall will be open half days next week.

**Special Guest – Cory Wright – Kittitas County Commissioners I-90 Letter of Support**

- Cory Wright is representing District One and would like the City of Kittitas to support the addition of a third lane from Cle Elum to Easton. The City of Kittitas would join Kittitas County, the City of Ellensburg and Cle Elum who are also supporting this additional lane request.
- The goal is to increase access to recreation and freight mobility into the areas of Kittitas County.
- Councilmember Whitford inquired as to where the funding would be coming from. Cory Wright stated this is at a state level which is approximately \$500 million with an annual maintenance cost of \$10 million per year. This initiative is going thru the transportation committee.
- Surface roads in Upper County are grid locked during back up times and when they are not grid locked there is excessive speeding on the roads.
- The County Commissioners thought this was the best way to solve these problems.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Gilmour made a motion to approve Mayor Cort signing this letter of support; second by Councilmember Smith.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

- Cory Wright thanked the City of Kittitas for their support on this project.

**B. Budget Report**

- No Comment

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2019**

**C. Treasurer's Report**

- No Comment

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Ordinance 19-001 Rates & Charges**

- This Ordinance needs to be brought before Council again due to the previous meeting Mayor Cort broke the tie vote, this is against RCW 35A.12.120.
- Councilmember Gilmour asked if this would go before Council again in April. Mayor Camarata stated that it did not need to go before Council as it is stated in the code it will be increased by 2% unless Council votes no to not increase the rates due to inflation.
- Councilmember Smith would like to make the wording say low income and or senior citizen. Not have to be both low income and senior citizen to get the discount. (Council is responsible for looking into this)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Smith made a motion to approve Ordinance 19-001; second by Councilmember Camarata.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 1 no (Councilmember Gilmour)

**NEW BUSINESS**

- No New Business

**PAYMENT APPROVALS**

**A. January Bank EFT \$15,342.25**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Smith made a motion to approve January Bank EFT's; second by Councilmember Camarata.

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2019**

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no

**B. January Payroll/February Mid-Month Draw \$47,205.94**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve January Payroll/February Mid-Month Draw; second by Councilmember Camarata.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**C. February 12<sup>th</sup>, Payables via EFT \$11,319.99**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve February 12<sup>th</sup>, Payables via EFT; second by Councilmember Camarata.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Cort reported that Chief Taylor has a lateral Police Officer who is interested in the job and has started the background and testing that is necessary.
- Officer Ben Chavez graduated from the academy and is doing his FTO Field Training with the County. Councilmember Whitford inquired as to how long the training is and it was stated 3 months.
- Chief Taylor received a grant to purchase a sector scanner and printer with a value of \$655.
- Mayor Cort would like to meet with the Chamber of Commerce, City of Kittitas Police and Public Works to discuss the Burn Out's this year, Mayor Cort would also like have the City attorney present.
- Mayor Cort will be meeting someone who tracks the history of graffiti at train depots the first weekend in March; this person will take photos of any markings inside the train depot.
- Mayor Cort asked Council what their thoughts were on Daniel Menth plowing snow for the City. Liability and costs were discussed. It was decided that it was not cost effective to hire Daniel Menth to plow for the City.

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2019**

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

- Councilmember Gilmour wanted to know who the TV belonged to in the Community Hall. Councilmember Whitford stated that the Church had purchased the TV and was leaving it there for the City to use.
- Councilmember Gilmour also said that the fiddlers would not be coming to the City of Kittitas this year; he felt maybe someone was too busy on the behalf of the fiddlers and dropped the ball for planning ahead and securing the City of Kittitas as a site. The fiddlers will be in Moses Lake again this year.
- Councilmember Whitford informed Council she will be gone during Easter and will need help with the petting zoo part of the Easter celebration.
- Councilmember Smith inquired about the citizen who was interested in the making of a bike park by the train depot. Mayor Cort said that she has mentioned this to the State and they thought this was a good idea.
- Councilmember Gilmour wanted to know the rules, regulations and priorities of shoveling and plowing during snow times. He stated that the sidewalks have not been cleared off in front of the school, it was noted that that is not the job of the City, it is the adjacent property owners responsibility. He got frustrated and left the meeting.
- Councilmember Camarata stated he would be attending the COG and Law & Justice meetings coming up.

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

**ADJOURN: 7:36 p.m.**

**Attest:**

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Mayor Pat Cort

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Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer