

**City of Kittitas
Council Meeting Minutes
March 26, 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 26, 2019. Councilmembers present: John Camarata, Rich Coleman, Lou Whitford and Councilmember Liz Smith. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer.

The meeting was re-convened until February 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. due to the Candlelight Vigil for the Thompson and Chavez families who were shot in Kittitas last Tuesday.

Mayor Cort led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Cort called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. February 27, 2019. Councilmember present: Lou Whitford, John Camarata, Rich Coleman and Liz Smith. Staff present Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer, Anna Franz Attorney, Chief Chris Taylor and Aaron Nelson Police.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED FEBRUARY
26th, 2019**

MOTION: Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated February 26th, 2019; second by Councilmember Camarata.
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 Whitford.
Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS

- Elliott Kooy from Kooy's Irrigation introduced himself and Justin Kooy, the manager. They will be opening a store front for Kooy's Irrigation in the Main Stop Restaurant soon. They also have a store in Quincy. They would like to invite Council and the Public to come down and take a look at what they will be doing.
- Councilmember Whitford inquired if Justin Kooy lives in Kittitas. It was stated no he lives in Ephrata and will travel every day. Councilmember Whitford would like to have a discussion after the meeting to talk about the potential improvements at Exit 115.

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- Mayor Cort welcomed the new business to the City of Kittitas.
- Hal Henning Police Chief in Sand Point Alaska gave his heartfelt condolences to the City of Kittitas regarding the recent police officer shooting. He went on to say what an amazing job Chief Taylor has done during this trying time and with keeping everything together.

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

A. Staff Reports (informational only)

Lynette Johnson – Librarian

| | Jan. | | | Feb. | | |
|-----------------------|------|--------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| | City | County | Total | City | County | Total |
| Total Cards Used | 81 | 44 | 125 | 64 | 34 | 98 |
| Children (Attendance) | 23 | 10 | 33 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Adult (Attendance) | 93 | 36 | 129 | 64 | 14 | 78 |
| Easy Reader | 13 | 7 | 20 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| Juvenile Fiction | 12 | 2 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Juvenile Non-Fiction | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Young Adult | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Adult Fiction | 89 | 108 | 197 | 83 | 97 | 180 |
| Adult Non-Fiction | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Videos | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DVD's | 59 | 1 | 60 | 56 | 0 | 56 |
| Magazines | 6 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 1/2 hr. Computer Use | 114 | 9 | 123 | 134 | 0 | 134 |
| Card Numbers Used | 17 | 2 | 19 | 18 | 0 | 18 |
| Returns | | | 227 | | | 148 |
| CDs Books | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Online Checkout | 11 | 82 | 93 | 15 | 76 | 91 |
| Online Cards Used | 7 | 30 | 37 | 10 | 29 | 39 |
| Volunteer Hrs. | | | 52.5 | | | 55.5 |
| Comm Serv Hrs. | | | 0 | | | 0 |

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| | Jan. | | | Feb. | | |
|-----------------------------|------|--------|---------|------|--------|--------|
| | City | County | Total | City | County | Total |
| Library Manager Hrs. | | | 76 | | | 80 |
| Money Received | | | \$ 0.15 | | | \$2.80 |
| Surplus Books | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Items Processed | | | 76 | | | 147 |
| Donated Items | | | 31 | | | 59 |
| New Card Issues | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Move-Out | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Active Cards | | | 908 | | | 908 |
| Cup Of Cocoa | | | 0 | | | 176 |
| Summer Reading | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Story Hour | | | 34 | | | 8 |
| Halloween/Child | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Halloween/Adult | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Christmas in Kittitas/Child | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Christmas in Kittitas/Adult | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Days Open | | | 18 | | | 16 |

Martin Thacker – WWTP

Water Department-

- Nothing new for the water department. Asking questions and preparing for upcoming annual reports.
- See included 5-year plan.

Cross Connection Control Department-

- Passed the Cross-Connection Specialist exam and now compliant to the department of health.
- I've been asking questions about the existing cross connection plan, as well as looking at other municipalities. Began work on updating – rewriting ours.
- Catching up on stacks of paperwork in regards to exploring software upgrade, current software is from 2008.

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Wastewater Department-

- SBR #2 is broken down. The actuator has been purchased and in our possession. Pump Tech is scheduled to assist with the installation.
- We've been working on our Accreditation renewal and exam.
- See included 5-year plan.
- Councilmember was happy to see the 5 year plan. Mayor Cort stated that Martin is diligent about turning in his report and other departments will be turning in their 5 year plans as well.

Chris Taylor – Chief of Police

- Chief Taylor introduced Aaron Nelson the new lateral police officer. He came at a bad time since Officer Chavez was shot in the leg and off work, but also a good time to start for the Kittitas Police Department since we are short staffed.
- Officer Nelson introduced himself stating he had worked for Bonney Lake for some time and then Skagit Valley. His commute was long as he lived in Roslyn. He recently sold his house in Roslyn and bought property in Hidden Valley. He will be building a house soon. He is married with two small children. Officer Nelson comes with experience in EVOC training, crisis intervention, he is also a FTO.
- Councilmember Whitford is excited that Officer Nelson is on staff
- Chief Taylor states the City has good insurance benefits that is one reason Officer Nelson took the job he will be able to see his family every day and not have to commute such long distances. He brings a lot of experience to the Kittitas Police Department. Officer Chavez set the bar high for an entry level police and Officer Nelson set the bar high for a lateral officer. Soon the City of Kittitas will be fully staffed.
- Officer Chavez is recovering and getting rest. He will start physical therapy next week.

B. Budget Report

- Councilmember Camarata stated the budget was looking good.

C. Treasurer's Report

- No Comment

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Super Load/Truck Route

- There have been 3-4 super loads that have come thru the City of Kittitas. It was explained that the County has a super load permit application and each time they pay a \$750 fee for these types of loads.
- Discussion was had about the truck route and the amount of trucks that use Main Street. It was also discussed that the City could adopt a code to ban compression breaks.
- Chief Taylor stated that he could request Commercial Truck State Patrol division to come thru town and patrol for a few days.
- Anna Franz City Attorney stated that the City is still waiting on Gray & Osborne to finish reviewing the truck routes and super load issue, and then Council will be better prepared to make a decision. Anna Franz also stated that the state has a routing program which tells the trucks the best way to go. She could get that information to Council.
- Councilmember Smith would like to have this information so Council could work closely with them to adhere to the rules.
- Chief Taylor stated that the super loads are over maxed on everything.

B. Vehicle Use Policy

- Councilmember Smith inquired as to past practice when Chief Nierman took the car home.
- Councilmember Whitford is in support of Police taking the vehicles home it is a benefit and the response time will be better.
- Mayor Cort stated that the attorney stated there were pros and cons. In the police policy it states they must live within a 10 mile radius in order to take a car home. It also states that the Mayor can make the decision on a case by case basis.

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- Chief Taylor said that if he was not allowed to take the car he would have to leave his uniform, guns etc. in a locker and that will take an additional 15 minutes to get ready to respond to a call. It is also in the plans for Officer Nelson to build his current home and then sell in the next couple years and be closer to work.
- Hal Henning visiting Chief from Sand Point Alaska stated that the incident that happened last week with Officer Chavez getting shot and if you have to respond with your personal car there is more liability and the response time could have been longer.
- Councilmember Camarata stated that the personal cars would not have a radio and make communication harder.
- Council decided to wait until a clearer policy was defined.

MOTION: Councilmember Smith made a motion to table the matter until a clearer vehicle use policy was presented; second by Councilmember Whitford.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

C. April Child Abuse Month Proclamation

- This proclamation is for April Child Abuse

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the Child Abuse Proclamation; second by Councilmember Whitford.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

PAYMENT APPROVALS

A. February Bank EFT's \$6,116,.04

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

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

B. March 12th Payables \$77,357.41

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve March 12th Payables; second by Councilmember Smith.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

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C. February Payroll/March Mid-Month Draws \$45,771.91

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve February Payroll/March Mid-Month Draws; second by Councilmember Smith.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

D. March 26th Payables via EFT \$42,173.14

MOTION: Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve March 26th Payables via EFT; second by Councilmember Smith.

Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Cort would like Council to study the handout regarding vacant buildings within the City of Kittitas and look at what other Cities do with this issue.
- Mayor Cort attended the COG training and spoke with the COG members about the City needing more grant money to go with the sewer project as prices have increased since the original grant was awarded. This will be on the next COG agenda.
- There have not been any Council applications turned in for the vacant position. Discussion was had about posting it in the paper, putting a note on the water bill. Council agreed to extend the application time until April 17th.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Councilmember Camarata attended the Law & Justice meeting and the discussion was on opioid overdose this was presented at the meeting.
- The COG meeting went over the training on how to grade the COG applications.
- Councilmember Smith stated it was time to start talking about the care and watering of the plants. Councilmember Smith will make contact with Becky from FFA and look for volunteers.
- The Town Hall Meeting will be April 27th at City Hall at 9:00 a.m.
- Councilmember Smith is concerned about the pot holes around the City.

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- Councilmember Smith would like to choose a date for a possible city wide clean up.
- Attorney Anna Franz mentioned that our union book does not allow for any leave sharing and this is something the staff and union should consider.

MOTION: Councilmember Coleman made a motion to adjourn; second by Councilmember Camarata. Motion Carried: 4 yes 0 no.

ADJOURN: 7:50 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor Pat Cort

Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer