

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2019**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Camarata led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Camarata called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. September 10th, 2019. Councilmembers present: Rich Coleman, Holly Beard, Richard Hink, Peter Schuetz and Lou Whitford. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer, Aaron Nelson – Police, Ben Chavez – Police.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED  
AUGUST 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 & WORK STUDY MINUTES DATED AUGUST 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Beard made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019; second by Councilmember Whitford.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019; second by Councilmember Beard.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**ADDITIONS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Event application for Trunk or Treat needs to be added under New Business D.  
Body Cam Policy needs to be added under New Business E.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve the agenda as amended adding Event application for Trunk or Treat under New Business D. and Body Cam Policy under New Business E. Second by Councilmember Schuetz.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS**

- Citizen Bob Shuda questioned how the City was covered with 24 hour police protection with only three officers. Does the City plan to hire more officers.
- Mayor Camarata stated that Council will be looking at the budget starting in October and will see if the budget can support more officers.

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**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**A. Budget Report**

- Mayor Camarata stated that Council will start looking at the budget next month for the year 2020.
- There were no comments on the Budget Report.

**B. Treasurer's Report**

- No Comment

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Letter of Support Kittitas County Noxious Weed Board**

- Mayor Camarata informed Council that he would need a motion to sign the letter of support for the Kittitas County Noxious Weed Board.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Coleman made a motion to approve Mayor Camarata to sign the letter of support; second by Councilmember Beard.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Livestock Permit Beck/McLean**

- Beck/McLean did not show up to the Council meeting.
- Councilmember Whitford thought it would be important to have the applicant present in case anyone had questions.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Coleman made a motion to table this permit application until the next meeting; second by Councilmember Whitford.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

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**B. Ordinance 19-011 “Legal Representation of Employees”**

- This Ordinance came at the request of the City Attorney Katherine Kenison.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve Ordinance 19-011; second by Councilmember Beard.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**C. Gateway Zoning**

- Councilmember Coleman felt that overall the Gateway Zoning Code is pretty standard for new construction. He would like to see exemptions made for older existing buildings. The issues of the sidewalks being 15 feet wide should be re-written as there are some existing sidewalks that are not the same size and he believes it should be the same dimensions on both sides of the street.
- Councilmember Coleman is not a fan of modern street lights.
- Councilmember Coleman also stated that parking lot striping should be grandfathered.
- Councilmember Hink believes the section that needs to be addressed the most is the outside storage. Having an enclosed building for storage is not feasible, he believes there should be some kind of privacy fencing, and otherwise he feels the City is turning away business.
- Councilmember Whitford asked what the goal of Council’s discussion tonight was.
- Councilmember Hink stated that the goal was to give guidance to the planning commission and have them meet.
- Mayor Camarata stated he would give the list of concerns to the planning commission.
- Councilmember Beard said she feels the goals are sidewalks, storage, and lighting. Councilmember Beard stated that light pollution is not good for star gazing and there are ways to fix that.
- Councilmember Coleman felt that individual exemptions should be considered.
- Councilmember Beard felt that that idea would be a slippery slope.
- Councilmember Whitford stated that the commercial area is different than the residential area for lighting. Councilmember Whitford believes that the lights that were recently placed on Pacific Loop are taking light pollution into consideration.

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**PAYMENT APPROVALS**

**A. August Bank EFT's \$8,708.09**

- Councilmember Hink questioned what RCAC was. It was explained that it is the payment for the Public Works Shop.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve August Bank EFT's; second by Councilmember Beard.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**B. September 2019 Payables \$10,945.41**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve September Payables via EFT; second by Councilmember Coleman.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**C. August Payroll/September Mid-Month Draw \$55,577.14**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitford made a motion to approve August Payroll/September Mid-Month Draws; second by Councilmember Beard.

Motion Carried: 5 yes 0 no.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Camarata reported that he would be attending the Mayor's Conference in Leavenworth next Monday and Tuesday.
- Clerk/Treasurer Debbie Lee will be attending the WFOA Conference in Yakima next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- Councilmember Beard and Coleman will be attending the Elected Officials Training in Yakima in the coming month.
- COG approved the additional grant money requested for the Sewer Extension Project.

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- Mayor Camarata stated that the employees would like to open the union contract early as there are a couple items that they want to address; the City Attorney felt it best if the contract was opened early for this. Council was on board with this idea. Mayor Camarata stated he would need one representative from the Council and he will assist with the negotiations.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

- Councilmember Coleman stated that he and Councilmember Beard drew a map of where they would like the planters placed on Main Street. This would make it easier to water and maintained. Council will then work on the placement of PVC pipe in the middle to hold the flags and banners on certain holidays.
- Councilmember Beard stated that they will first focus on moving and getting perennials planted.
- Discussion was had regarding the flags and needing a light on them if left out overnight, they said for now they could be picked up every night until a solution was found.
- Councilmember Hink inquired as to the last discussion regarding the striping and crack sealing. Mayor Camarata said that some of the striping got completed by the school zones but then it started raining so that project was delayed for a couple of days. Crack Sealing will not be done this year.
- Councilmember Whitford stated she would leave a sign-up sheet in the lobby for the Trunk or Treat Event.

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

**ADJOURN: 7:30 p.m.**

**Attest:**

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Mayor John Camarata

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Debbie Lee Clerk/Treasurer