

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2008**

1. OPENING

Mayor Pete Poulsen opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

A. FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Poulsen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

Councilmembers present were Adam Smee, Dominic Ciancibelli, Chuck Hutchinson, Don Purvis, and Bud Gish. City staff present were Director of Public Works Carl McCrary, Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster, and Police Chief Bruce Hall. Members of the public present are listed on the sign-in sheet.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Poulsen announced the Council will be going into executive session to discuss litigation and contract negotiations for about 20 minutes. City Attorney Paul Brachvogel will be contacted by telephone to participate. An additional 5 minutes was requested. The meeting resumed at 7:24 p.m.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS – None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. 2009 Budget and 2009-2014 Capital Facilities Plan

Mayor Poulsen opened the public hearing on the 2009 Budget and 2009-2014 Capital Facilities Plan. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster stated that the changes and adjustments related to the reduction of the cost-of-living wage increase, hiring freeze and other cutbacks or adjustments to the budget have been included in the updated spreadsheet. Mayor Poulsen asked if the Council had any questions. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli addressed the issues with the Library noting that back in 2003 the book budget was \$5300; the staff are not eligible for employee benefits; and the City charges them \$1500 for rent annually. He announced he would be donating his salary back to the City to help the Library. He wants to be sure that the Library is not being discriminated against or treated any differently than the other departments. The Library has grown over the years and is servicing more people than ever. Clerk/Treasurer

McMaster explained that all departments have made cuts, and it is necessary for the Library to pay its share of expenditures such as the rent. Also, the staff at the Library is only part-time, and the current Librarian has stated that she doesn't want the medical benefits. The Police Department will not be getting new vehicles and will not fill the community service officer position. Chief Hall did not have a final impact of the cuts in his department at this time. The community service officer dealt with many cold calls, the dog calls, code violations, and other issues aiding the officers in the department. The cuts have to be looked at as to how they relate to the City's overall needs. The Library is a great asset to the community. The Council all agreed. Councilmember Don Purvis noted that this is a golden opportunity for the citizens to step up and contribute to the Library. Envision Kalama will be looking at ways to help the Library at their meeting later in the week.

FOLK member Susie Richards stated that FOLK (Friends of the Library at Kalama) was not there to support the Library's basic functions, but to provide for items they could not afford outside of the City budget. They were formed several years ago when it was felt that the City would not support the Library. They do many things in and out of the community to help promote literacy. Library aide Molli Ciancibelli noted that FOLK's mission is not to buy books for the Library, but they have been making up the difference over several years. It was noted that the Library reserve will be used to help fund the Library in 2009 and perhaps the Library should have purchased a new computer this year using that money.

Clerk/Treasurer McMaster stated that all department heads have been asked to spend cautiously over the next several months as the projected revenues are unpredictable. Mayor Poulsen added that hard choices have had to be made. There is no way to guarantee the projected revenues. He stated that the City would not balance the budget on the back of the Library as it is a very small portion of the City's budget. Things could get worse, and the City is doing all it can to avoid any layoffs. It is hoped that the economy will turn around.

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary noted that he hears on the street how much citizens who live up on the hills appreciate the snow plow getting up to them, so they can get out when the weather is bad. These are costs that come from the same funds that support the Library and Police. We, the City and the citizens are all in this together. The City is working hard to provide the services and avoid having to make choices between services.

The Capital Facilities Plan was briefly discussed. Many items are on hold for at least the first part of the year. The work to paint the ceiling in the reservoir will have to be done in the spring so the City has the necessary capacity in the summer. This project is an exception. This work will be funded from the water reserve funds. Kalama citizen Jim Dickey noted the citizens are doing their part by taking on the raise in the property taxes and utility rates whether willingly or not. Mayor Poulsen voiced his appreciation to the citizens who are supportive of the community where they live.

Mayor Poulsen continued the public hearing to December 17, 2008 at which time the budget will be passed.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS - None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Heritage Days – Chamber Report

Mayor Pete Poulsen asked for some additional information on why the City should provided the full \$2000 as requested when the event only cost the Chamber less than \$900 due to concerns with whether this is an appropriate expense of public funds. Chamber Board member Kristine Fitzpatrick explained that the costs for advertising and marketing were requested from the City, and these are equal to the \$2000. The Chamber took a risk with the expenses related to the beer garden and were lucky that they were able to make a profit off it. The Chamber is looking at doing more marketing for the community in the future and hope to use the funds to this end. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster voiced her concern that the City will providing the Chamber with the “profit” on the event. The Mayor and Councilmembers felt the promise of the funds was made and the Chamber has fulfilled their part of the deal. So in good faith the funds will be paid to the Chamber. Councilmember Don Purvis noted that over the years there is often some confusion over what is requested, and in an effort to make it easier for both the City and those requesting funds he has drafted a request form for the City staff and Mayor to review and consider using.

B. Wallis Engineering – Addendum to Agreement – Authorize Mayor to Sign

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary explained that the engineers found the preliminary design for the project was not adequate and had to do additional work, and there were also some extra consultant hours. Originally the recommendation was to pay them an additional \$7000 but after some additional negotiations the sum of \$10,000 was settled on. The original request from Wallis Engineering was for \$30,000. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the Council authorize the Mayor to sign the addendum and pay the additional funds upon receipt of the as-built drawings and the job is completed satisfactorily. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded, and the motion carried.

C. Appointments to the Parks & Rec Committee and Planning Commission - Tabled to December 17, 2008

8. NEW BUSINESS - None

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 520 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Kalama replacing Resolution No. 507 relating to fees and charges imposed by the City of Kalama and establishing the following fees and charges for the services set forth herein beginning January 1, 2009

The resolution was read by Title. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council adopt Resolution No. 520 as read. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli seconded the motion. There was some discussion of concerns with increasing the rental fee on the Community Building and whether the deposit amount should be doubled in order to cover damages. City staff would investigate what other such facilities do and get back to the Council. The motion carried.

B. Resolution No. 521 – A Resolution of the City of Kalama, Cowlitz County, Washington, setting fees for building permits and related matters

The resolution was read by title. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson made a motion the City Council adopt Resolution No. 521 as read. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded the motion. This is a resolution increasing the fees associated with building permits and the basic rates are increased one dollar. The motion carried.

10. CORRESPONDENCE - None

11. MAYOR’S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS’ REPORTS

A. Mayor Pete Poulsen reported that several staff members and citizens had been able to take a tour of the new Cameron Bottling Plant. It was quite interesting and impressive. It is very environmentally friendly, as they are able to recycle all the materials and have no emissions. They have hired locally for some positions and have many women working there as well.

B. Councilmember Adam Smee had no report.

C. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli had no report.

D. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson reported that he met with the Chief and discussed suspending the purchase of the new vehicle. He added that the he was not able to attend the Chamber after hours event.

E. Councilmember Donald Purvis reported that the Chamber has some openings on the Board and will be addressing them at the next chamber meeting.

F. Councilmember Bud Gish reported he met with Carl and discussed the reservoir ceiling and other projects.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary had no report

B. Police Chief Bruce Hall reported that new Officer Cody Traub had passed the entrance to the Police Academy and will be attending for the next 6 months. He had looked at why the department is so busy for a small town. There are over 1000 students and another 1000 workers. It is right along the I-5 corridor. They aid surrounding communities when necessary. Each jurisdiction has different demographics. Chief Hall also noted that the confiscated Dakota is being looked at for needed repairs. The dog has been busy as well for the department.

C. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported she had been working on the budget and the financial software update for which they have just received the payroll portion. LCC has published the new classes to be held in Kalama which include the aerobics and some new art classes. Ms. McMaster also noted the invitation to the City Christmas party from the Kalama Goodwill Club.

D. City Attorney Paul Brachvogel was absent.

13. CONSENT AGENDA -

Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including the claims vouchers totaling \$298,845.65 and the payroll vouchers totaling \$120,270.92 for November of 2008 and the minutes of the November 19, 2008 City Council meeting. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded, and the motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the tape can be made available for listening.

Pete Poulsen - Mayor

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer