

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 3, 2010**

1. OPENING

Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Hutchinson opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmembers present were Adam Smee, Don Purvis, and Bud Gish. Mayor Pete Poulsen and Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli were absent. 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 - None

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

A. Learn to Swim Program - Carolyn Reynoldson

Long-time Kalama resident Carolyn Reynoldson addressed the Council to inform them of the success of the Kalama Community Learn to Swim program. This is for all Kalama elementary students and is provided free of charge. Over the years more than 300 children have gone through the program. Ms. Reynoldson told of one child's success at conquering his fear of the water through the program. She also told how the program received a donation of over \$300 from a Beaverton fifth grader as part of a school assignment. It takes a donation of \$35 to sponsor one child, and they are in need of donations to continue. This would be a tax deductible donation. She provided her contact information for those that wanted to donate.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Garbage Rate Increase

Waste Control Operations Manager Ken Young and owner Joe Willis made the presentation to the Council. Mr Young began by thanking the Council and City staff for the great relationship between Waste Control and the City. The rate increase has been approved by the Washington State Utilities Commission, which regulates the rates for garbage service throughout the state. The process was started back in October, and the Commission only approved the rates at the end of January. The increase is 90 cents on a 32 gallon cart, 50 cents on a 60 gallon cart, and 65 cents on a 90 gallon cart for residential users per month. The rates have not been increased since 2003, but Waste Control has seen the same increases in costs such as fuel and medical benefits as the City has. Area growth allowed them to absorb the increases until the last year when growth declined rapidly. These rates should be in place for at least 2 to 3 years but it depends on

fuel costs, tipping fees and the growth rate of the area. It was noted that at some point in the future when the landfill closes, the garbage will start to be shipped eastward.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson asked about the percentage of recycling being seen. At this time only Longview and Woodland offer curbside recycling, but there have many issues with contamination of the materials. Some of this could be helped with additional education of the public. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary asked if Waste Control would consider partnering with the City for a camera to monitor the recycling site at the City shop. This is used quite extensively by the residents. Mr. Willis noted that they are currently in discussions with the County about monitoring the sites and also adding more sites. He invited Mr. McCrary to get involved with these discussions. Using cameras could be considered. It was noted that both Longview and Woodland charge an additional fee for the curbside recycling.

Mr. Doug Sessions of 105 Summit Drive stated that while he sees the need for the increase in rates, he is against it. He would like to see the City get into a curbside recycling program. The current site at the City Shop does not include a receptacle for glass which he feels is needed. He added that the one for newspapers could be replaced and leave the collection of newspapers for the Lions. Mr. Willis explained that the problem with glass is that it becomes a draw for kids and then a hazard when it gets broken. Glass has to be separated by color and is very labor intensive. There is not a good market for glass either. If Cameron Glass were to re-open that would provide another market. Mr. Sessions asked about recycling of yard waste. Mr. Willis responded that there is not currently a market for it in Cowlitz County. Local retailer Swanson Bark might develop something in the future. Waste Control does currently take leaves, grass and woody debris. They will consider more once there is a market for it.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson thanked Mr. Young and Mr. Willis. The hearing was closed at 7:29 pm.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

American Veterans Traveling Tribute

LaCenter Mayor Jim Irish presented information on the American Veterans Traveling Tribute which is being brought to LaCenter in August. It is a replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington DC, but it also included those who served in all the wars. It will be in LaCenter from August 4 through August 8th and will arrive with an escort by the Freedom Riders (800 plus motorcycles), a military escort and a police escort. Mayor Irish is requesting the Council's help with getting the word out of the event. He explained that many veterans have not had an opportunity to get closure from their war experiences. Many find this closure when they visit the memorial wall, as he did several years ago. He hopes this will provide an opportunity to many who may never have the opportunity to travel to Washington DC. Many organizations are volunteering to help. LaCenter's Chamber is also involved. There are only a few areas

where this will be in the Northwest. LaCenter is sponsoring the event and accepting donations to help with the cost. Mayor Irish assured everyone that this event will not include any political speeches.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. 2-Million Gallon Reservoir Change Order 1

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary explained that in the past he has requested the authority to approve small change orders on projects like this. He did not for this one. This change order involves a welding issue that had to be addressed, and he recommends it be approved for the \$4500. Councilmember Adam Smee made a motion the City Council approve the Change Order for \$4500. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded, and the motion carried.

B. Parking Code Update - Recommendations from Planning Commission

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster briefly reviewed the changes that are recommended by the Planning Commission which had been discussed at the workshop on February 24, 2010. The main changes were allowing the inclusion of the surrounding 200 feet from a property to be included in the parking calculations and taking those areas not available to the public out of the business square footage calculations when determining number of required spaces. Mr. Doug Sessions asked if a suggestion for utilizing some of the no-parking areas for motorcycle or sub-compact parking had been included. This has not been included in the changes, but was discussed at the workshop. There are some concerns with state regulations and fire codes to be reviewed. The main concern is to be sure that those backing out would not hit someone in a crosswalk. The ordinance for adoption will be presented later in the meeting.

C. City Hall Re-Roof - Authorization to Bid

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster asked the Council to authorize putting the Re-Roof of City Hall to bid. The architect, Barrantine, Bates Lee, has nearly completed the specifications and drawings, so the next step is to put out a call for bids. The estimate is near the \$70,000 from a year and a half ago. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council authorize the City Hall ReRoof be put out to bid upon completion of the plans and specifications. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded. Councilmember Adam Smee asked if there were any changes to the building included in the plans. Other than removing the fish and numbers at the top there are no changes. The motion carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Safe Schools Grant Renewal

Police Chief Bruce Hall explained this will be the third year of a four year grant program. Each year the City receives \$9000. In the last two years the City has not been able to utilize the funds a great deal due to time and staff shortages. The funds have carried over and the City has over \$25,000 at this time. The hardest part of utilizing the funds, is having sustainability. The funding could be used to hire a school resource officer, but once the grant is gone, the City would not be able to keep the position. Other jurisdictions are facing the same problems. Chief Hall continued that he has been working with the School to find ways to use the money. Currently it will cover costs for any overtime put in to cover school functions. He is requesting the City authorize the signing of the Grant. He will find ways to utilize the funds. This is a federal grant from the Justice Department. Councilmember Adam Smee made a motion the City authorizes the Mayor to sign the Safe Schools Grant. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded, and the motion carried.

B. Mosquito Control Board Request for Support Letter

Kalama's representative on the Mosquito Control Board, Dan Ohall presented information on a Department of Ecology proposal for a rule change that would prevent some of the spraying for mosquitoes near waterways. The Board believes that this is not necessary and will make the prevention of disease carrying mosquitoes harder. County boards all over the state are also objecting to the broad rule change. The chemicals currently being used have not been proved to cause any harm. It dissipates after two hours in the sun. Chemicals sold over the counter are more dangerous to the environment. The new regulations are not based on records of contamination. Mosquito Control Board Representative Dana Churchel explained that with their limited funding and the cost of the chemicals, they are very careful with how it is used. They test areas prior to spraying which determines how much they will spray and for how long. They also won't spray if the wind is blowing in such a way as to put the chemical in a water way. It is the request of the Board that the City Council sign a letter to be sent to the Department of Ecology objecting to the rule change. A letter from House of Representatives has been submitted with such an objection as well. The Council agreed to send a letter objecting to the rule change.

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance No. 1252 - An Ordinance of the City of Kalama, Washington amending Kalama Municipal Code Chapter 17.44 Parking And Sidewalk Requirements to meet the needs of the growing community.

Ordinance No. 1252 was read by Title. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 1252 as read by the City Clerk. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

B. Resolution No. 546 - A Resolution of the Kalama City council of the City of Kalama adopting new rates for providing garbage service to the residents of Kalama.

Resolution No. 546 was read by Title. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council adopt Resolution No. 546 as read by the City Clerk. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

10. CORRESPONDENCE – None

11. MAYOR’S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS’ REPORTS

- A.** Mayor Pete Poulsen was absent
- B.** Councilmember Adam Smee had no report.
- C.** Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli was absent.
- D.** Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson had no report.
- E.** Councilmember Donald Purvis had no report.

F. Councilmember Bud Gish reported a Public Works Committee meeting had been held. They discussed the tearing out of the sidewalk at City Hall which should be completed in a few days depending on the weather; the crosswalk near the Deli which needs to be redone; the trees have been moved; and the shrubs are to be removed and replaced; the Sauer Road waterline is 99% completed; and the crew has replaced 140 water meters. Councilmember Gish noted the placing of the rocks on the vault areas in the downtown area looks nice. He added that the Community Building needs to have the skirting and a foundation beam replaced, but there are limited funds available to correct the problems. The crew has also started working on the vault at the Meeker Drive Bridge but is waiting on some parts. Councilmember Purvis asked about the replacing of the shrubs and if the ones removed could be used elsewhere. Director of Public Works noted that the shrubs put in were the wrong ones, and so the contractor is removing them at his expense to replace with the correct ones. Those removed will be taken by the contractor.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A.** Director of Public Works Carl McCrary reported he had discovered that there are two additional parking spaces in the area by Cowlitz Bank which he will have painted. His crew is currently working in the old police building painting and cleaning it up. He noted that redoing the crosswalk at the Deli will probably require grinding and repaving as they have not found a way to remove it.
- B.** Police Chief Bruce Hall reported that a Town Hall Meeting will be held here in Kalama on March 23, 2010 on the subject of Underage Drinking. This is the main topic, but the discussion will include other issues including drug use. This is being put on by the Substance Abuse Coalition, and the school is participating.
- C.** Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster provided the Treasurer’s report, adding that the

City is seeing some good signs of recovery. We have received four new home permits already which has the permit revenues at 70% of the projection and provided for over 100% of the projected sewer connection fees. Business and animal licenses which are due in January have come in well. The City has also received an application for a subdivision which is still being processed. She will be watching expenses for the Community Building and planning costs. Ms. McMaster noted that her staff had found the meter replacement by Public Works to be challenging as it added a lot of manual billings. It is very time consuming. The staff is also preparing to be short staffed for 3 months when Krystall is on maternity leave. She added that she is working on several code revisions, will be starting the annual report, and she and Susan will be working on cleaning up files at City Hall. Also, the City will not be required to have an audit in 2010.

D. City Attorney Paul Brachvogel was absent

13. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including Claims Vouchers Totaling 67,175.91, Payroll Vouchers totaling \$65,005.76, the City Council minutes of February 17, 2010 and the City Council/Planning Commission Workshop minutes of February 24, 2010. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the tape can be made available for listening.

Chuck Hutchinson – Mayor Pro Tem

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer